

Bankers to take on shipowners

A local derby is now only a few days away as Hamburg's shipowners take on its bankers in an annual football match.

The bankers are looking for revenge for defeats in the past two years by five goals to two and 10 to one, after dominating affairs in 2004 and 2005.

Our talent-spotter suggests the owners could be in for a tough match with "Martin's middle-aged men" taking on "Ingmar's rat pack".

A young and ambitious team has been put together by the bankers, led by team captain Ingmar Loges (HVB). He has signed on former national youth-team player Falk Zundel (HSH Nordbank), who was once offered a job in the Bundesliga or nation-wide league, Verbandsliga player Aykut Ekici (HVB), ex-hockey Bundesliga player Philipp Wunschmann (Schiffsbank) and SV Honisch's player of the year Christian Dybala (Bremer Landesbank).

Owners' team captain Martin Smith (Norddeutsche Vermoegen) has gone for experience and increased the average age of his team. This year will see the return of Holger Glandien (MPC Steamship), Dirk Tamke (Transeste) and Bozidar Petrovic (NSB) as well as Dirk Rossler (NSC) — whose appointment reportedly caused Wunschmann to renew his private health insurance.

Two Turkish owners with companies in Hamburg are also represented by Erkan Mete (Kalkavan), Sualp Urkmez and Engin Bayraktutan (Furtrans). Other foreign imports are Ben Padilla (Petroclipper/Argentina, currently at Bernard Schulte/Hamburg), Mike McCleery (Marine Money) and Matthias Ruttmann (MST/Bavaria).

The event is on 3 September at 5:30pm at the HSV Hamburg football club training field, HSH Nordbank Arena, Sylvesteralle 7, Hamburg. The noisiest and most creative supporters will win four tickets to an HSV European Cup match in Hamburg.