

Dietrich Schulze-Marmeling

Johan Cruyff. The Biography

Johan Cruyff is widely regarded as one of the greatest players and coaches in football history. His style of play and his football philosophy have influenced such managers and players as Pep Guardiola, Arsène Wenger, and Xavi. In 2017, Cruyff was named among the 10 greatest coaches since the foundation of UEFA in 1954.

This book follows his career, starting at Ajax, where he won eight national titles and three European Cups, before moving to Barcelona where he won La Liga in his first season, in 1973, and was named European Footballer of the Year. He won the Ballon d'Or three times, and led the Dutch national team to the final of the 1974 World Cup, famously losing to West Germany, and receiving the Golden Ball as the player of the tournament. After retiring in 1984, he became a hugely successful manager of Ajax and then Barcelona when he won the Champions league with a young Pep Guardiola in his team. In 1999 Cruyff was voted European Player of the Century, and came second behind Pelé in the World Player of the Century poll.

In March 2016 Cruyff died after a short battle with lung cancer bringing world football to a standstill in an outpouring of emotions.

The author: Dietrich Schulze-Marmeling is one of Germany's most distinguished football authors whose books have been translated into several languages. He has written on a variety of topics, including Manchester United, FC Barcelona, and Pep Guardiola. In 2011, his book „Der FC Bayern und seine Juden“ („FC Bayern Munich's Jews“) received special praise as Germany's „Football Book of the year“.

Sales points

- One of the most influential players and managers in football history
- Three times winner of the Ballon d'Or
- Winner of numerous club titles as player and manager, e.g. four times winner of the European Cup (now Champions League) – three times as player, one time as manager

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