

## F. University 1711

### Chapter 1711: The School That Cares for Every Detail of Its Students

After Mist City Arts and Science University finalized the list of departments and majors relocating to the South Campus, it was announced immediately.

The announcement was made on platforms such as the official website, official forum, campus radio, public WeChat account, and official video account.

In addition, counselors from each department and major also informed every student in their classes, meaning that all tens of thousands of students at Mist City Arts and Science University knew about the move to the South Campus.

However, this time it was not about a complete relocation as everyone thought. A complete move would surely be unrealistic, after all, the expansion of the current campus was only completed a few years ago; how could it possibly be abandoned?

The reason for the relocation is because the number of admissions at Mist City Arts and Science University is increasing every year. Even though some majors have set undergraduate admission score lines, at least 100,000 new students enroll in Mist City Arts and Science University each year.

Under such circumstances, relying solely on the current campus of over 7,000 acres to accommodate so many students makes it seem rather "crowded" and "overloaded," even though infrastructure, classrooms, dormitories, and cafeterias can suffice.

Other domestic universities with campuses of several thousand acres have only around tens of thousands of students, but Mist City Arts and Science University has tens of thousands, and with next year's enrollment, surpassing 300,000 new students is easily achievable.

Therefore, Mist City Arts and Science University has to carry out a diversion.

Fortunately, Ding Yue had long had forward-looking insight, having initiated the construction plan for the South Campus over a year ago, and now it is almost completed.

"Ah, does that mean we have to move to the South Campus next semester?"

"Where is the South Campus?"

"The South Campus is not far from this campus, about one or two kilometers away, I think."

"So close?"

"If it's that close, it's actually not a big deal."

"The South Campus is newly built, so the facilities should be very nice."

"Are our research bases on this side also moving to the South Campus?"

"Isn't there a list out? In fact, many science and engineering departments that need to do experiments won't be moving."

"Our Chinese Department is moving, moving is okay, I think it's quite good."

"Yes, yes, yes, ever since last year's freshmen arrived, the campus has become more crowded."

"Even going to the campus mall is crowded."

"Sometimes buying things at the supermarket, you have to queue."

"It's just that the cafeterias built by the school are quite a lot, otherwise it might take a long time to queue for food."

"Hehe, our Mechanical Department doesn't need to move."

"The Computer Department doesn't need to move either."

"The Law School needs to move."

"The Medical School doesn't need to move, if the Medical School moved, it would be quite troublesome."

Students from various departments and majors at Mist City Arts and Science University began to discuss the school's relocation plan to the South Campus, and the vast majority of students had no objections.

Of course, a small number of students might be relatively "lazy" and did not want to move to the South Campus as it's troublesome, especially since living here is already very comfortable. However, they have no choice since their departments and majors are on the relocation list, occasional complaints are unavoidable.

But complaints aside, moving to the South Campus is an inevitable trend, and since the school has made a decision and announced it, all they could do is complain a little. When it's time to move, they will still have to relocate.

Fortunately, the school will arrange for the logistics department to assist each department and major in the relocation.

Not only that.

The logistics department will also be responsible for the students' relocation.

This means not only are the teaching facilities and equipment of the departments and majors handled by the school for relocation, but also the students' various belongings can be transported by the school's logistics department.

Of course, the specific organization of personal items and luggage will definitely be up to the students themselves. Although the school's logistics can be very meticulous, it is impossible to handle everything.

In response, many students who need to relocate to the South Campus expressed that the school has actually done a great job in this regard, giving a thumbs up to the school. It's no wonder it is deemed as an excellent university by almost every student. Choosing this university was indeed the right decision.

As the head of the logistics department at Mist City Arts and Science University, Huang Youjie has seen a lot of hiring in his department over the past two years due to the "abundance" of funding.

One of the university's logistics recruitment policies is very humane.

There are actually some students at Mist City Arts and Science University who are from poor families, who cannot afford even the tuition fees. For this reason, they have to rely on the Poor Students Assistance Loan provided by Mist City Arts and Science University. This has been implemented by the university for a long time, and every year a large sum of money is allocated for the loan.

What the logistics department at Mist City Arts and Science University can do is to conduct recruitment for logistics positions targeting the families of these impoverished students.

Meaning.

If, in these poor families, there is labor available but without decent work, they can apply for logistics jobs at Mist City Arts and Science University.

Chapter 1712: A School That Cares for Students in Every Detail\_2

Although the logistics work at Mist City Arts and Science University every year is extensive, complicated, and exhausting, the salary offered to the logistics staff at the university is undeniably higher than that of any logistics position at any enterprise in the country.

This is because Huang Youjie fully implemented what Ding Yue previously mentioned: the school's logistical support is a top priority, as important as the teaching work at Mist City Arts and Science University.

For this reason, the financial input in this area cannot be skimped.

Huang Youjie actually conducted a survey and found that currently, about one-third of the staff in the logistics department at Mist City Arts and Science University are relatives of the university's impoverished students.

This time, for the relocation of the South Campus, Huang Youjie had the logistics department work out a detailed relocation plan.

Beginning from the end of this semester, for all students who have completed their final exams and will be moving to the South Campus, the school's logistics department will arrange vehicles and staff daily to help them move in advance.

After all, the end of this semester marks the beginning of the summer vacation, during which most students are not on campus. Some luggage needs to be taken home, but some items should be left at school. If these items are not moved to the South Campus before going home after the finals, they would have to be moved after the new semester begins. At that time, it may seem rushed, and with new students arriving, it could become more "chaotic" and "troublesome."

Thus, the few days following the end of this semester provide a good window for students to move.

Since students need to pack up to go home at this time, they can pack other belongings as well and, with the help of the logistics department, directly move to the arranged dormitories at the South Campus.

For this reason, during this semester, the dormitory management under the logistics department of Mist City Arts and Science University must prepare the dormitory buildings at the South Campus and allocate them optimally for each department and major.

The allocation of dormitories should also align with the arrangement of teaching buildings.

After all, the distance from the dormitory to the teaching building is quite important to students, as the South Campus is large, only slightly smaller than the current campus.

On the current campus, the distance from the farthest teaching building to the farthest dormitory exceeds an hour.

To minimize the distance students have to travel from dormitory to teaching building, it's best to arrange dormitory accommodations close to where their departments and majors will conduct classes.

The logistics department at Mist City Arts and Science University is planning and arranging accordingly.

In this way, communication with the Academic Affairs Office becomes crucial.

After all, arranging which department and major will use which building for teaching is the responsibility of the Academic Affairs Office.

And so.

On this day, Huang Youjie came to the Administration Building, visiting the Academic Affairs Office first, finding that Director Qi Chunsheng was temporarily absent. Therefore, Huang Youjie went to Ding Yue's office to have some tea and wait for Director Qi Chunsheng to return.

"Huang, what brings you here?"

Seeing Huang Youjie come to his office, Ding Yue smiled and asked.

Ever since the relocation plan for the South Campus was set, Director Huang from the logistics department has been extremely busy, seldom visiting Ding Yue's office. Yet today he unexpectedly came by.

"Is there a problem with the logistics aspect of the South Campus relocation plan?"

Ding Yue questioned further.

"Oh, everything is progressing smoothly. I'm just here to see Director Qi Chunsheng, but since he's not around, I thought I'd wait here with you."

Huang Youjie shrugged as he sipped the tea Big White had prepared for him.

"Oh, what do you need Director Qi for?"

Ding Yue curiously inquired.

"It's about work, of course. As the semester ends and before students go home, I thought of helping some of them move their belongings early. This requires planning the dormitory distribution in

advance, which is closely related to the location of the teaching buildings for each department's students. I can't just allocate them randomly; it wouldn't be appropriate if students had to travel more than thirty minutes from dormitory to class."

Huang Youjie thoroughly explained the purpose of his visit to find Director Qi Chunsheng.

"Exactly, yes."

Ding Yue nodded promptly and added, "This is indeed something that needs careful planning. We can't let such situations occur, or students will surely complain. With the current campus planning, we've avoided that over-thirty-minute commute issue."

"Yue, seeing Mist City Arts and Science University thrive so well makes me genuinely happy."

Finishing his tea, Huang Youjie couldn't help but reflect.

He recalled being persuaded by Ding Yue to kickstart Mist City Arts and Science University together, and witnessing its achievements today is truly nostalgic and gratifying.

"Indeed."

Ding Yue smiled and said, "But there's still a long journey ahead, just as I mentioned before — to shape Mist City Arts and Science University into a world-leading institution, a forefront of global educational excellence."

"I feel we're getting closer to that goal."

Huang Youjie envisioned optimistically.

"Absolutely, thanks to having you and Bin as my right-hand men."

Ding Yue remarked emotionally.

Although Mist City Arts and Science University has reached its current accomplishments largely due to Ding Yue's University System, the contributions of Xu Bin and Huang Youjie are also undeniable.

One oversees administrative affairs, and the other handles logistics work, each playing a crucial role, and they both excel in their duties.

"Hahaha."

Appreciating how Yue valued him, Huang Youjie couldn't help but laugh heartily.

While Ding Yue and Huang Youjie, two old friends, were chatting, a familiar voice came from the office entrance.

"Principal Ding, Director Huang, I heard you were looking for me?"

The speaker was none other than Director Qi Chunsheng from the Academic Affairs Office.

When Huang Youjie previously went to the Academic Affairs Office looking for Director Qi Chunsheng and couldn't find him, other staff members were present. So when Director Qi returned, he was immediately informed that Director Huang was looking for him, but since he wasn't there, Director Huang had gone to Principal Ding's office.

Thus, Director Qi Chunsheng made his way to the principal's office.

"Director Qi, you're back."

Seeing this, Huang Youjie promptly stood up to greet him.

Although their job levels were similar, Director Qi Chunsheng was older and had made significant contributions to Mist City Arts and Science University. Despite reaching retirement age, he chose to continue contributing to the university's educational work rather than retire.

Therefore, Huang Youjie held great respect and regard for Director Qi Chunsheng.

"Director Huang, I assume you've come to ask about the allocation of teaching buildings at the South Campus?"

Director Qi Chunsheng smiled and queried Huang Youjie.

"As expected of our most experienced Director Qi, that's exactly why I'm here—to better arrange the students' relocation to the South Campus. Our logistics department needs to schedule the dorm accommodations for each department's students in advance."

Praising him, Huang Youjie responded.

"We at the Academic Affairs Office anticipated this, so planning began half a month ago. Now, we've almost completed the work of selecting teaching buildings for the departments and majors moving to the South Campus. Director Huang, give us another two or three days at the Academic Affairs Office to finalize everything, and then I'll have someone send it over. How does that sound?"

Director Qi Chunsheng kindly suggested.

"No problem at all; we're not in a rush. Ideally, it should be resolved before the end of the semester."

Chapter 1713: Summoned by the General Administration of Sports

"The office of the Academic Affairs Department led by Director Qi, I'm very assured about their work, Old Huang, I didn't expect Director Qi and his team to have almost completed this task already?"

Ding Yue smiled and said to Huang Youjie.

In doing so, he indirectly gave some praise to Director Qi Chunsheng and the office of the Academic Affairs Department.

Now, the Academic Affairs Department of Mist City Arts and Science University is no longer as simple as Director Qi Chunsheng with one or two assistants. It has formed a work team, generally referred to as the office of the Academic Affairs Department.

Currently, the team in the office of the Academic Affairs Department consists of about ten people.

This team includes young people who mainly serve as assistants, as well as former department heads of Mist City Arts and Science University who have retired and now serve as deputy directors in the office of the Academic Affairs Department.

After all, Director Qi Chunsheng is already at the retirement age and had previously undergone major surgery, so now, as the Director of the Academic Affairs Department, he only needs to handle some "general planning" work, assign tasks to other staff in the office, making it slightly more relaxed.

"Principal Ding, this is what our Academic Affairs Department should do."

Director Qi Chunsheng said modestly.

Director Qi Chunsheng is such a person, humble like Ding Yue, and does not seek credit, silently accomplishing one educational task after another for Mist City Arts and Science University.

But Ding Yue sees all of this.

Back when Director Qi Chunsheng was getting older and still willing to contribute his remaining life to Mist City Arts and Science University, such an immensely important figure to the university, Ding Yue can fully guarantee a worry-free life for him in the future.

Whether in life, work, or health, Ding Yue will provide Director Qi Chunsheng with the best protection.

Perhaps, in the mind of Director Qi Chunsheng, he will hold the position of Director of the Academic Affairs Department until the day he can no longer work, which is good, giving him more time to cultivate the next generation of teaching professionals who can take over, avoiding any gaps or disconnections in educational labor.

After all, finding a new director for the Academic Affairs Department to oversee educational work, whether they can perfectly implement Ding Yue's visionary strategic plan for Mist City Arts and Science University or not, even if they can, adjusting to the school is a long process.

Director Qi Chunsheng is different. He has been serving Mist City Arts and Science University since its establishment, following it to today, understanding its educational work more thoroughly than anyone else.

"I have to say, I really admire Director Qi."

Huang Youjie, being straightforward, truly admired Director Qi Chunsheng and expressed it.

"Where is this coming from, Director Huang? You young generation of school leaders are doing very well too." Director Qi Chunsheng said with a smile to Huang Youjie.

This is an older educator's recognition of the young ones.

Qi Chunsheng feels that the young school leaders at Mist City Arts and Science University are outstanding one after another.

Director Huang Youjie and Director Xu Bin, despite having a close relationship with Principal Ding, serving as directors of the logistics and administrative departments, have undeniable work abilities.

The most crucial point is that these two young people, while undertaking their primary roles, also achieved significant accomplishments in their respective fields, truly impressing Director Qi Chunsheng.

As the saying goes, "the waves of the Yangtze River push the waves ahead," these new waves truly have promising futures.

Upon hearing Director Qi Chunsheng's firm recognition, Huang Youjie was thrilled and instantly said, "Thank you, Director Qi, for recognizing me. As a young person, I still have many areas to improve, and on the logistics front of our Mist City Arts and Science University, I will do my utmost to complement our educational efforts, never letting it drag behind."

"Logistics work and educational work are equally important to the students at our Mist City Arts and Science University," Director Qi Chunsheng said.

"Hahaha."

Ding Yue couldn't help but laugh, saying to Director Qi Chunsheng, "Director Qi, I've said this to Director Huang before."

"That's right, that's right."

Huang Youjie nodded hurriedly.

As the three of them chatted harmoniously, the phone rang on Secretary Wen Ruohan's desk. After answering it, she covered the phone and turned to Principal Ding, saying, "Principal Ding, there's a call for you from the General Administration of Sports."

"Hmm?"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue was initially stunned.

A call from the General Administration of Sports coming to him, did Mist City Arts and Science University achieve any new sports accomplishments?

But Ding Yue hadn't heard of any recently.

Of course, it's also possible that he hasn't paid much attention to the School of Sports, and over the past year, the excellent students of the Sports School must have been thriving.

There have been quite a few who made it to the provincial team and even the national team.

Nowadays, the Sports School of Mist City Arts and Science University is ranked among domestic sports colleges, and quite high up the ranks too.

"Understood."

Ding Yue immediately nodded and said to Secretary Wen Ruohan, "Transfer it to my phone."

Wen Ruohan quickly operated the phone, transferring the call to Principal Ding's desk phone.

"Hello, this is Ding Yue, the Principal of Mist City Arts and Science University."

Ding Yue answered the call, first introducing himself.

"Hello, Principal Ding."

A middle-aged man's voice came from the other end, sounding about forty to fifty years old, with a strong leadership vibe. Just listening, you could tell he was someone with a high position in the National Sports Administration.

"I am Deputy Director Rao Wanzhi from the National Sports Administration." The person on the phone also introduced himself.

Wow!

The Deputy Director of the Sports Administration holds a position comparable to the Deputy Director Chen of the Space Administration, except one is from the sports department, and the other is from the space department.

"Ah, it's Deputy Director Rao."

After learning the identity of the person on the other end, Ding Yue immediately said, "Is it because one of our students from the Mist City Arts and Science University Sports College in the National Team made a mistake?"

Anyone familiar with Xia Country sports would naturally know Deputy Director Rao Wanzhi from the Sports Administration. Ding Yue was also somewhat informed as he mainly oversees domestic and international sports events.

Generally, the roles of the department heads and deputies differ; the head is the entire department's leader, while the deputy roles can be numerous, each managing specific affairs, similar to how a group company could have several vice presidents.

"Oh no, no need to worry, Principal Ding. As far as I know, your students in the National Team from Mist City Arts and Science University perform very well and are quite diligent, truly living up to the excellent education of Mist City Arts and Science University Sports College."

Rao Wanzhi quickly clarified.

He wasn't calling Principal Ding to cast blame, not at all. In fact, the students from Mist City Arts and Science University Sports College who entered the National Team have been outstanding, making significant achievements in various domestic and international competitions. Some even performed impressively on the World Championship stage.

"Oh, that's good, that's good."

Ding Yue breathed a sigh of relief.

In reality, Ding Yue's earlier statement was merely a rhetorical gesture. He knew well whether the students from the Mist City Arts and Science University Sports College who joined the National Team had caused any trouble.

"Principal Ding, I'm reaching out this time to discuss the National Football Team. I understand you are the person in charge of the Feiyue Football Club, correct?"

Deputy Director Rao's tone grew serious as he asked.

"Yes, that's right, the Feiyue Football Club is mine."

Ding Yue straightforwardly replied.

It seems Deputy Director Rao must have done some in-depth research on the Feiyue Football Club. Indeed, the true owner of the Feiyue Football Club is Ding Yue.

"National Football Team... Deputy Director Rao, is it because the 2026 World Cup Qualifiers are about to begin?"

Upon hearing Deputy Director Rao mention the National Football Team, Ding Yue faintly sensed something.

The men's National Football Team of Xia Country is quite different from other sports in structure, following a club system domestically.

Unlike other sports, where the National Team directly nurtures athletes to make the country proud on the field, football operates differently. The National Football Team never has a fixed roster; it adopts a club recruitment model.

What's the implication here?

It means the men's National Football Team remains in a "disbanded" state when there are no competitions. When events like the Asian Cup or World Cup Pre-Match require participation, the National Team coaches recruit professional footballers from the Summer League A's major clubs to form the National Team, then train and compete.

This model is utilized in many countries, yet Xia Country's recruitment model hasn't been very effective.

Despite the football players' mediocre abilities, the National Team formed under this system doesn't perform notably well, one of the reasons the National Football Team consistently fails in major international competitions over the years.

Since professional footballers have contracts with clubs, belong to the clubs, and earn their money from the clubs, joining the National Team to play is akin to overtime work, generally unpaid. This significantly diminishes their motivation. Moreover, understanding their own level, they realize the likelihood of losing to other National Teams is high, leading some to simply give up, figuring it doesn't matter if they lose to the Vietnamese or the Thai; after all, they have nothing to lose.

They've essentially chosen to disregard their reputation.

"Yes, the 2026 World Cup Qualifiers for the Eagle, Canada, and Mexico are about to commence. We suffered a bitter loss in the 2022 Qatar World Cup Qualifiers. Many regarded us as the earliest team preparing for the 2026 World Cup, and now that the Qualifiers are approaching, we must rally our spirits!"

Deputy Director Rao expressed this sentiment with emotion.

Reflecting on the 2022 Qatar World Cup Qualifiers, the National Football Team's loss to the Vietnamese, missing the World Cup, was a moment of despair.

Although, since 2002, the National Football Team hasn't qualified for the World Cup, Deputy Director Rao, overseeing football as a part of the Sports Administration, wished to see the National Football Team return to the World Cup.

In recent years, a different club team has emerged within the country.

This team is the Feiyue Football Club. Historically perceived strong teams within domestic football clubs were nothing more than Hengtai, Haigang, An Country, Lu City, etc.

However, in the Xia Super League, these once-top domestic football clubs almost never triumphed against the Feiyue Football Club.

Rao Wanzhi saw a glimmer of hope for the National Football Team because of this.

Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Football Club have cultivated a group of outstanding football players for the people of Xia Country.

"So... Deputy Director Rao, you mean... to recruit a few players from our Feiyue Football Club for the National Team?" Ding Yue asked.

"Exactly."

Rao Wanzhi firmly replied, "We will select the top players from teams like Hengtai, Haigang, Lu City, An Country, along with those from your Feiyue Football Club. This time, we'll form a top-tier team determined to reclaim our lost dignity!"

Listening to Deputy Director Rao's words did stir a sense of excitement.

However.

Ding Yue felt something seemed off.

Very quickly, Ding Yue realized.

The National Football Team is based on a recruitment model; sending a few excellent players from the Feiyue Football Club to cooperate with renowned players from Hengtai, Haigang, An Country, and Lu City—can they truly collaborate well?

This is also a downside of the recruitment model, gathering players who have never played together, then having National Team coaches conduct training for a period before putting them on the field against other National Teams.

What about the adjustment period?

Actually, Ding Yue personally thinks it might be better to have the entire Feiyue Football Club team participate as the National Team in the World Cup Qualifiers instead.

Because the Feiyue Football Club's team has developed such good rapport, achieving consistent victories in the domestic Xia Super League, it seems nonsensical to dismantle such an excellent steel-like team.

But harsh reality strikes; Ding Yue's idea would likely meet opposition from the Sports Administration because historically, World Cup Qualifiers and similar competitions have always involved forming the National Team by selecting famous or outstanding players from major powerhouse teams.

"So... um, alright, which players from our team have you got your eye on, Deputy Director Rao?"

Ding Yue initially wanted to say something to Deputy Director Rao, but figured it might be in vain and thought better of it.

Let's wait and see how the National Team, comprised of a few players from the Feiyue Football Club, performs in competitions.

Chapter 1715: Our Duty Cannot Be Shirked!

"Principal Ding, the Football Association has conducted a series of evaluations on the professional players of your Feiyue Football Club. Their performances in the Xia Super League have been particularly impressive."

Vice Director Rao Wanzhi said earnestly, "Thus, following the selection by our General Administration of Sports and the Football Association, we've decided to recruit Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan from your Feiyue Football Club into the National Team."

After knowing that Vice Director Rao wanted these four players, Ding Yue had no objections and agreed immediately.

"Alright, Deputy Director Rao, I will have someone notify them about this matter. Being able to serve the National Team and play in the World Cup Pre-Match is their honor and also the honor of our Feiyue Football Club."

After Ding Yue finished speaking, he signaled his secretary, Wen Ruohan, to contact these four players from Feiyue Football Club.

It must be said.

The Football Association and the General Administration of Sports really know how to choose players. Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan are the backbone of Feiyue Football Club and are indeed outstanding.

Feiyue Football Club achieved success in the Xia Super League in the past; these players all performed very prominently, continuing to score goals in subsequent matches, making Feiyue Football Club currently the top-ranking team in the Xia Super League, leading the second place by a full six points.

These four players entering the National Team for World Cup Pre-Match, Ding Yue is quite confident.

He hopes they can train and cooperate well with other National Team players, vying for good results in the World Cup Pre-Match to advance to the 2026 Eagle-Canada-Mexico World Cup.

If they truly achieve this feat, my goodness, it would indeed be historic.

Imagine, after 24 years, the national football team re-entering the World Cup will fulfill the dreams of many football-loving fans, and if they could go further in the World Cup, it would be even better.

Of course.

All of this is just a beautiful fantasy for now. The Asian region World Cup Pre-Match has yet to officially start, and breaking into the final round of the World Cup through these matches will require the continued effort of these young footballers.

"Well then, Principal Ding, this matter is settled. We look forward to players from your Feiyue Football Club achieving great results on the field."

After Vice Director Rao Wanzhi finished speaking, he hung up the phone.

To be honest, Ding Yue is also quite looking forward to it; if his Feiyue Football Club players perform well in the National Team, the future rise of the national team will really depend on his Feiyue Football Club.

After setting down the phone, a hint of concern suddenly flashed in Ding Yue's heart.

Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan are indeed top-notch players in his Feiyue Football Club, but once in the National Team, will they adapt?

After all, before this, they always cooperated with the current dozen or so teammates, achieving today's success and becoming the "dominant" presence in the Xia Super League.

But what if they are away from these teammates from Feiyue Football Club?

Will their skills decline?

The answer should be quite obvious. In his heart, Ding Yue is actually very clear, but his concern lies in Zhao Xuanming and the others; accustomed to long-term coordination with their teammates, suddenly being summoned to join the National Team might result in a sudden drop in skills, what then?

"Yue, what was the call from the General Administration of Sports about?"

Huang Youjie, who was eager for gossip and curiosity, asked as soon as Ding Yue finished the call.

"Isn't the World Cup Pre-Match about to start? The National Team is gearing up, and Deputy Director Rao from the General Administration of Sports wants to recruit a few players from our Feiyue Football Club."

Ding Yue briefly explained the situation to Huang Youjie.

"That's good news!"

Huang Youjie said excitedly when he heard the news, "Our players can join the National Team! But truly, over the past year, our Feiyue Football Club's performance in the Xia Super League has been indisputable, no domestic team is our match."

"Indeed."

Ding Yue nodded slightly, then said, "But international matches are different, and as you're aware, Huang, the national team's current situation - losing even to the Vietnamese in the previous World Cup Pre-Match - this time, surely we can't lose to the Thai?"

"We shouldn't!"

Huang Youjie shook his head quickly and said, "If we lose to the Thai, that would truly be a disgrace, an absolute loss of face. Oh, wait, the national team's face has already been lost, but this time, with players from our Feiyue Football Club, we'll surely regain some dignity."

"Let's hope so, but what I'm aiming for this time is to reach the World Cup, even perform well in the World Cup."

There was a sudden glow of expectation in Ding Yue's eyes.

"Goodness me!"

Huang Youjie exclaimed, "Entering the World Cup, it's hopeful this year, but in the World Cup, every opponent is a strong player."

Chapter 1716: It Is Our Duty! \_2

As the world's number one sport, any national soccer team that can make it to the World Cup finals is naturally a force to be reckoned with.

"Anything is possible."

Ding Yue said with a smile, "But this path is destined to be very bumpy, and now the majority of netizens have completely lost hope in our national team."

"It doesn't matter if netizens are disappointed, as long as the national team doesn't give up. But then again, when hasn't the national team given up?"

Huang Youjie chuckled halfway through his remark, feeling as though what he said was nothing but a joke.

Honestly, Huang Youjie had some expectations, especially since this time the National Team included players from the Leap Football Club. However, compared to the reality of the past twenty-odd years, those expectations were indeed insignificant.

"Actually, what I think is that if the National Team directly put all our Leap Football Club players and the coaching staff on board, not to mention making it to the World Cup, even getting into the top sixteen or top eight shouldn't be an issue!"

Ding Yue was that confident.

Currently, the team nurtured by the School of Physical Education at Mist City Arts and Science University, which is the Leap Football Club's team, their combat power is already very strong. The domestic club teams simply aren't enough to challenge them.

At this point, to progress, stronger rivals are needed for honing their skills.

And the World Cup Pre-Match is a good opportunity.

After advancing through the Pre-Matches and getting into the World Cup, Ding Yue believed that this group of young talents could certainly work some miracles.

"Honestly, if they really put our Leap Football Club in, we might end up winning the championship!"

Huang Youjie immediately said excitedly upon hearing this.

"Well, winning a championship like that is just a fantasy. The World Cup has so many strong teams like the German War Machine, France, Argentina, Samba, Spain, etc.; they're all very strong players."

Ding Yue shook his head, dismissing the idea of winning the World Cup championship proposed by Huang Youjie.

Being able to make it to the World Cup would already be a major victory for the national team.

"Hahaha, I'm just dreaming here. Yue, just imagine, if our Leap Football Club represented the national team and won the World Cup, what kind of situation would that be?"

Huang Youjie said laughing.

To be fair, listening to Huang say that made Ding Yue fantasize too. If his Leap Football Club players represented the national team and made it to the World Cup, and then surprisingly won the championship there, it would probably be a scene of worldwide celebration?

That scene is simply unimaginable.

"Old Huang, what do you think, if our players score a goal in the Pre-Matches, how much should the reward be?"

Ding Yue mused, seeking old Huang's opinion to see if he had any great ideas on this.

"Currently, our Leap Football Club uses a reward system for scoring goals and winning matches, right?" Huang Youjie asked.

"That's right."

Ding Yue nodded, saying with a laugh, "The players don't earn much from signing with the club, with annual salaries around 100,000 yuan. They seek high income by winning matches and scoring goals."

"This reward system is actually pretty good. Unlike other clubs that have sign-on fees reaching several millions yuan, regardless of scoring or winning, they still earn a lot. That money is way too easy to get."

Huang Youjie agreed with Leap Football Club's reward system.

"In the Xia Super League regular season, each player can earn tens of thousands of yuan as a reward for winning a match, and scoring a goal can also earn them tens of thousands."

Ding Yue calmly stated, "This motivates players to play seriously, fulfilling their dreams and making money to live."

"Hmm, the Xia Super League regular season has this reward level, so in the Pre-Matches, if only those four players make it, the rewards certainly need to be slightly higher, considering it's the Pre-Matches."

Huang Youjie rubbed his chin and said, "Winning a match and ultimately advancing to the Pre-Matches, the reward has to be at least hundreds of thousands yuan, right?"

"That makes sense."

Ding Yue slightly nodded, indicating that in the Pre-Matches, rewarding hundreds of thousands for winning a match is reasonable. This not only reassures Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan to focus on playing for the National Team, but also offers them significant motivation.

After all, playing in the Xia Super League for Leap Football Club and winning a lot in one year could total hundreds of thousands to over a million yuan, whereas winning a match in the Pre-

Matches can earn at least 100,000 yuan. If they enter the World Cup finals, there will definitely be more rewards. This undoubtedly serves as a strong encouragement for the players.

"How about this, in the Pre-Matches, with advancing to the World Cup as the premise, winning a match rewards 200,000 yuan, scoring a goal rewards 500,000 yuan!"

Ding Yue thought for a moment and set the reward system for Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan.

Of course, the premise is to make it to the World Cup.

If they don't make it to the World Cup, winning a match would not garner the 200,000 yuan reward, as failing to advance to the World Cup holds no significance for the national team.

Bang bang bang!

Just as Ding Yue and Huang Youjie were chatting about the rewards for players in the Pre-Matches, the sound of knocking came from the office door.

Ding Yue looked toward the office entrance and spotted four tall young men standing at the door, whom Ding Yue recognized as his Leap Football Club's Zhao Xuanming and others.

Indeed, these were the four players specifically named for recruitment by General Administration of Sports Vice Director Rao Wanzhi.

Ding Yue had just had his secretary, Wen Ruohan, contact the four of them to come to his principal's office, as Ding Yue wanted to inform them about their recruitment by the National Team.

"You're here."

Seeing them, Ding Yue immediately invited Zhao Xuanming and the others to sit down, and Big White was asked to make tea for them.

Anyone who visited the principal's office was surely treated to tea personally brewed by the AI robot Big White.

"Principal Ding."

Upon entering the principal's office, Zhao Xuanming, Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, and Zhu Tan all greeted "Principal Ding".

"Sit, sit, sit."

Ding Yue stood up, moved to the sofa of his principal's office, and said to Zhao Xuanming and the others with a smile, "I called you over because there's good news to share with you."

"What's the good news, Principal Ding?"

Zhao Xuanming asked inquisitively.

These students from Mist City Arts and Science University and professional players from Leap Football Club knew of Principal Ding's familiarity, so conversing with him was like chatting with a well-known person.

"Earlier, Deputy Director Rao from the General Administration of Sports called to say that the Pre-Matches are about to begin, which I'm sure you're aware of, and the National Team needs to recruit some players to form a team for the Pre-Matches."

Ding Yue calmly told them, "The Football Association and General Administration of Sports have requested our Leap Football Club members, which is you four."

Upon hearing this, Zhao Xuanming, Li Shuangying, Liu Zhan, and Zhu Tan all showed signs of excitement on their faces.

Playing in world-class matches is any soccer player's dream.

Players like Zhao Xuanming have moved from school teams to the Xia Super League currently, experiencing the sweat and toil known only to themselves.

Now that their Leap Football Club has become one of the top domestic clubs, advancing to the National Team to play in higher-level matches is naturally their goal, and as the reigning Xia Super League club, they certainly have that opportunity.

And being directly selected for the National Team means four players from Leap Football Club; this opportunity is outstanding.

After all, the National Team recruits only about ten players, including substitutes, while the country has countless professional soccer clubs and plenty of naturalized and well-known domestic players.

"Principal Ding, it's our duty to represent the National Team in the Pre-Matches!"

With one voice, Zhao Xuanming and the four of them exclaimed.

Chapter 1717: The Confidence of a Dominant Player!

Looking at the determination in the eyes of Zhao Xuanming, Li Shuangying, Liu Zhan, and Zhu Tan, and hearing them say in unison, "It is our duty," Ding Yue felt very gratified.

Indeed, being able to play for the National Team in the World Cup Pre-Match is indeed a duty.

To Liu Zhan, Zhao Xuanming, Li Shuangying, and Zhu Tan, being called up to the National Team to play in the World Cup Pre-Match is an honor, and it's only right to give their all, as it is their duty.

Even if joining the National Team to play in the World Cup Pre-Match offers no salary, it doesn't matter at all.

The dreams and glory, in the eyes of Zhao Xuanming and the others, are incredibly important and even a faith that supports their dedication to football.

Yes, in Xia Country, there truly exists a group of people playing football not for money, but for dreams and glory, and they are young people, which is so rare.

Of course, while pursuing dreams and glory, being able to earn money to secure their material life would naturally be even better.

Fortunately, these young people have found the place of their dreams at Mist City Arts and Science University and Feiyue Football Club, and it is here that they formed a team with like-minded individuals, becoming an unparalleled force in Xia Country's current league.

"Principal Ding, there's something I'm not sure if I should say..."

Suddenly, Li Shuangying scratched the back of his head, seemingly having something to say but hesitated out of concern that saying it might have a negative impact or anger Principal Ding and others.

"Hmm?"

Ding Yue slightly furrowed his brow, then looked at Li Shuangying with a smile and said, "Li Shuangying, what is it? Feel free to speak. If there's anything you need assurance of, rest assured, our school, and the club, will definitely provide the appropriate assurance for you all."

Ding Yue thought Li Shuangying wanted to talk about some assurance issues after entering the National Team.

For example, whether the club will provide some benefits after playing for the national team or continue to pay salaries during their national duty.

These issues are indeed quite important to them.

After all, for Li Shuangying, Liu Zhan, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan, the most stable income at Feiyue Football Club is their basic salary.

"Are you asking if there are any rewards for playing in the World Cup Pre-Match, winning a game, or scoring a goal? Hahaha, you clever boy. But I just talked with Principal Ding, and a reward system is already set for you guys."

At this moment, Huang Youjie smiled and said to Li Shuangying.

"Ah, this..."

Li Shuangying was momentarily taken aback and said with a dumbfounded look, "Director Huang, I... I didn't mean that. Isn't playing for the national team unpaid?"

"That's not what you meant?"

Upon hearing this, Ding Yue was a bit amused and exasperated.

Because Ding Yue also thought that the point Li Shuangying wanted to make was this, but unexpectedly, it wasn't. So, what exactly did Li Shuangying want to say?

"There's no salary, but the club certainly won't let you play for free. There's a bonus, and it's more generous than that in the Xia Super League. However, to earn the World Cup Pre-Match bonus, besides scoring goals and winning matches, another requirement is helping the national team qualify for the World Cup. Do you have the confidence to do that?"

Huang Youjie explained the conditions for winning the World Cup Pre-Match bonus to them.

Indeed, setting conditions for the World Cup Pre-Match bonus is beneficial for these young people to work harder towards that goal.

After all, securing a ticket to the World Cup finals in the World Cup Pre-Match is the dream and goal of this group of young people. Adding a financial incentive to this dream and goal is sure to have a better effect.

"Hmm, we are still very confident, but...."

Zhao Xuanming nodded, and there was a determination in his eyes first, but after a moment, it revealed a worry.

"What's the matter?"

Ding Yue looked at Zhao Xuanming, and also glanced at Li Shuangying. Their expressions were quite similar. It seemed that what Li Shuangying wanted to say and Zhao Xuanming's worry were likely the same thing.

"What are your concerns about joining the national team to participate in the World Cup Pre-Match?"

Ding Yue smiled calmly and asked Li Shuangying and Zhao Xuanming.

"Principal Ding, then I'll just say it."

Li Shuangying took a deep breath and said.

"Sure, why not? Just say it. Maybe we can help you resolve the issue."

Ding Yue nodded, allowing Li Shuangying to express his concern.

"Among the four of us, there's absolutely no problem with our mutual cooperation and tactics, but the national team is formed in a recruitment model. The players, other than us four, are from other clubs. To be honest, Principal Ding, players from those other clubs are not on our level."

Li Shuangying's words were incredibly straightforward.

And it sounded very domineering!

Of course, if someone else heard it, they might think Li Shuangying is being too arrogant and proud.

Chapter 1718: The Confidence of a Dominant Player! \_2

After all, they are all professional players in the Xia Super League. In their eyes, players from other club teams such as Hengtai, Seaport, and An Country are simply not on the same level, are they?

Ding Yue wasn't surprised when he heard this. It was actually a good thing that the professional players who came out of Mist City Arts and Science University had this confidence. In fact, the Xia Super League had already proven this. Currently, in the Xia Super League, there's really no team that can rival Feiyue Football Club. Their point ranking is leading ahead by a large margin from the second place.

During the past year, whenever Ding Yue had time, he would watch some replays of his Feiyue Football Club's matches. Even though he couldn't watch the live games in person, he would still watch the replays if he thought of it. From the matches, it was clear that almost every game was overwhelmingly advantageous for Feiyue. Their opponents had almost no counter-attacking ability against them, and their defenses seemed as fragile as paper to Feiyue Football Club.

"Li Shuangying, you're quite confident, aren't you?"

Huang Youjie sighed and said, "Indeed, your strength is a bit stronger, so we need you to lead your National Team teammates and break into the World Cup together."

What Huang Youjie said made sense. In a normal situation, it indeed relies on the four of them, Li Shuangying and the others, to cooperate with the players summoned from other clubs into the National Team and lead them into the World Cup. This would be the best scenario and result.

"Principal Ding, it's not that we don't want to cooperate with our other National Team teammates to play in the World Cup Pre-Match. I just don't get it. Why don't the Football Association and the General Administration of Sports just let our Feiyue Football Club play directly? If our team directly played, Principal Ding, we guarantee we can definitely break into the World Cup!"

Zhao Xuanming said with a determined look.

In his eyes, there was a steady confidence.

Similarly, whether it was Li Shuangying, Zhu Tan, or Liu Zhan, each of them had such confidence because the cooperation and tactics between them and their other teammates had reached a very advanced level.

With everyone united toward the same goal, giving their 100% effort and sweat, having no lack in skill and strength, entering the World Cup was their confidence.

But now, the situation was different. Although Li Shuangying and three others were summoned into the National Team, other teammates were not familiar. And if Li Shuangying guessed correctly, it was probably still those same previous National Team players.

In Li Shuangying and Zhao Xuanming's opinion, the famous players from the previous National Team already didn't seem to focus on putting effort into playing for the National Team.

For such a National Team, Li Shuangying and Zhao Xuanming were worried that even if they put in their utmost effort and sweat, failing to break into the World Cup in the end would be a massive blow.

Plus, they would miss a chance to break into the World Cup. They knew that for 2026, it was a prime age for them, their physical and mental state at its peak, and missing this World Cup meant waiting until 2030.

"I know, I know."

Ding Yue nodded slightly.

He was very clear in his heart. In fact, Ding Yue really wanted to let his Feiyue Football Club players represent the National Team to play in the World Cup Pre-Match.

Because if, as Li Shuangying and Zhao Xuanming said, directly letting them play, breaking into the World Cup would definitely happen and wouldn't be too challenging.

But letting Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, Zhu Tan, and Liu Zhan team up with other club players to form the National Team, whether they could break into the World Cup was still uncertain.

After all, when Ding Yue discussed the World Cup Pre-Match reward rules with Huang Youjie a while ago, he wasn't confident enough to say the National Team could definitely break into the World Cup. So that's why, under the reward system of hundreds of thousands for winning a match and scoring goals, he added a condition, that is to break into the World Cup.

"Actually, I also really want just to let our Feiyue Football Club play for the National Team, but this idea is beautiful, and reality isn't like that."

Ding Yue shook his head helplessly.

After all, the Football Association and the General Administration of Sports had regulations on summoning outstanding players from various clubs. If all players from Feiyue Football Club were directly summoned, other clubs would have concerns.

"Yes, you all have to know reality is very helpless."

Huang Youjie agreed and spread his hands, talking to Zhao Xuanming and the others.

"Sigh."

Zhao Xuanming sighed and then rekindled his fighting spirit, saying, "Alright then, Principal Ding, Director Huang, rest assured, after joining the National Team, we will strive and help the National Team make it to the World Cup, fulfilling our World Cup dream."

As professional footballers, Zhao Xuanming and Li Shuangying knew that since 2002, the National Team hadn't been in the World Cup, losing match after match in the World Cup Pre-Match, receiving much criticism and ridicule from the public.

Domestically, mentioning the National Team, really... it's indescribable in words.

Naturally, Zhao Xuanming and Li Shuangying wanted to change this status quo, so they were determined to give all their effort and strength in the World Cup Pre-Match.

As long as they could break into the World Cup, they could wash away past humiliations!

"Alright, go and prepare. Once the club completes the related formalities, you will depart for Yancheng to officially join the National Team and start rigorous training."

Ding Yue nodded, signaling Zhao Xuanming and Li Shuangying not to think about anything else, just focus on training hard after joining the National Team, working well with the players from other clubs, and playing well in the World Cup Pre-Match.

"Mm-hmm!"

Zhao Xuanming, Zhu Tan, Liu Zhan, and Li Shuangying all nodded, then bid farewell to Principal Ding and Director Huang, and after leaving the principal's office, went back to pack their things, preparing to head to Yancheng.

After forming the National Team, the upcoming training period would definitely take place in Yancheng, with the National Team's head coach leading the team for training.

"Yue, it's clear to see this group of young people's desire and passion for the World Cup, but their worries are not without reason." Huang Youjie lamented.

Because Huang Youjie also knew if the World Cup Pre-Match could have the Feiyue Football Club forming the National Team, then breaking into the World Cup would definitely happen. Right now, Feiyue Football Club had that strength.

But unfortunately, the Football Association and the General Administration of Sports people didn't seem to see it.

Clearly, this 2026 World Cup was a huge chance to break into the World Cup and showcase the National Team's power, but they missed it just like that?

"This..."

Ding Yue spread his hands helplessly and said, "What can we do? We can't exactly order the General Administration of Sports and the Football Association, I don't have that power."

"Sigh!"

Huang Youjie sighed again.

The two didn't say anything further. They would see how the National Team would perform going forward.

So then.

Thus, the four professional football players from Mist City Arts and Science University Sports College and Feiyue Football Club — Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan — were officially summoned by the National Team. They joined with other professional players from clubs like Hengtai, Seaport, An Country, and Lu City to form the National Team.

The next step would be two months of training, and after the training ends, the journey for the World Cup Pre-Match would begin.

In the first stop of the World Cup Pre-Match, the National Team's opponent would be the Thai Team!

Previously, someone said if the National Team lost to the Vietnamese, then they would lose to the Thai Team next. If they really lost to the Thai Team, it would be a real disaster.

Chapter 1719: Conflict!

Yancheng.

Sports Center.

Today marks the first time the national football team is engaging in large-scale training at the Sports Center since its formation. The head coach is Liu Changjian, who was also the head coach in the last World Cup qualifiers.

Liu Changjian has a mixed reputation.

Last time, in the World Cup qualifiers, the national team led by him lost to the Vietnamese team, leading to widespread criticism from netizens nationwide.

However, Liu Changjian does possess some skills—at least within the Football Association and the General Administration of Sports, it's currently hard to find someone like him.

In the past, the national team hired internationally renowned coaches to lead, but eventually, they left as they couldn't manage the team.

Thus, the national team can now only appoint a local coach.

But this doesn't really matter.

Anyway, the national team is so weak that it makes no difference who the coach is—qualifying for the World Cup remains elusive, and they keep losing in the qualifiers; netizens are already accustomed to this.

Still.

Liu Changjian remains mysteriously confident.

He believes that this year, the national team has a real chance of making it to the World Cup, especially utilizing four excellent players from the Feiyue Soccer Club, who had outstanding performances in this year's Xia Super League, notably Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan. Therefore, Liu Changjian directly recruited all four of these players.

"Everyone."

On the sidelines of the field, the players stood together in a row, and Liu Changjian stood before them, ready to speak.

All of the players listened attentively to Coach Liu Changjian's words.

Even though their performance on the field might not be great, and opportunities to slack off might arise, respect for the coach was still necessary.

"Today, I've gathered you all at the Yancheng Sports Center to officially begin intensive training. In two months, we'll step onto the battlefield of the World Cup qualifiers."

With a serious expression, Liu Changjian said, "You know, the World Cup qualifiers are where we've sweat countless times and left many tears. This time, I hope all of you will give it your all and showcase the spirit of our national team in the qualifiers."

"Alright!"

The players responded in unison.

Especially Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan, whose responses were particularly loud.

Because Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan thought Coach Liu Changjian was genuinely trying to motivate everyone with his speech. However, what they didn't realize was that this was just the usual rhetoric of Coach Liu Changjian.

He says this in every World Cup qualifier.

As for the eventual outcome, Liu Changjian likely already has a prediction—not that he doesn't want the national team to perform well in the qualifiers and advance to the World Cup, but the odds are incredibly slim.

Though there's a chance this year, it's merely a chance; it all depends on how the players perform this year and how he plans things out. Liu Changjian feels confident in his heart, but when it comes to practical execution, such confidence appears somewhat lacking.

"Alright, according to my previous plan, let's begin training!"

After finishing his speech, Liu Changjian turned around, headed to the resting area beside the football field, sat down with a thermos cup in hand, and watched the players start training.

As for the training itself, he has already laid out the plan—the players simply need to follow the plan and train.

Beyond this, Liu Changjian felt there was no need for more. As long as the players train well according to his plan, when they face the Thai Team in the first match of the qualifiers, there should be no problem.

After all, the Thai Team's strength in the Asian region is just so-so.

After losing to the Vietnamese team, surely they won't lose to the Thai Team, right?

Liu Changjian still cares about saving face.

As the national team started formal training on the football field, the players exchanged greetings, and Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan prepared to first conduct coordination training among the four of them.

After all, they were concerned about the issue they mentioned to Principal Ding earlier; to qualify for the World Cup, the best coordination within the national team would be among Liu Zhan, Li Shuangying, Zhao Xuanming, and Zhu Tan, giving them a chance to score.

Of course, the other teammates will certainly engage in mutual coordination training too, but relying on them doesn't seem promising.

Among these teammates are well-known players from domestic clubs, but judging by their attitude towards the training for the national team's World Cup qualifiers, they don't seem very invested.

"Ying, take a look at those guys. Do they look like they're training for the World Cup qualifiers?"

Liu Zhan noticed the other teammates' casual approach to training a short distance away, with each of them lazily moving as if they were merely strolling, unwilling to break a sweat—this was frustrating and infuriating.

It is precisely this "indifferent" attitude from the players that has led to today's disgrace of the national team, but they don't care; they continue to earn their income in clubs, and as for playing in the national team, for them, it's merely unpaid overtime.

Chapter 1720: Conflict!\_2

No fame, no fortune—there's basically no motivation for them to move forward, right?

"Zhan, let's just focus on our own training. We can't do anything about how they treat the National Team's matches."

Li Shuangying felt helpless too. Currently, all they could do was ensure good coordination between themselves and their teammates and train seriously every day. Beyond that, there was nothing else they could do. After all, they couldn't just tell others to train as hard as they did, right?

Isn't this the head coach's job to enforce?

But looking at Coach Liu Changjian, it seemed he was already used to the lazy habits of these other club players.

"We can't do this, Ying. If things stay like this, our chances of making it to the World Cup are greatly reduced!"

Liu Zhan felt quite indignant inside.

He and his three teammates were called into the National Team to help them break into the World Cup and clear the twenty-year-old shame of the National Team. But with teammates like this, how could they even talk about clearing past shames?

In Liu Zhan's eyes, these well-known players from other clubs were simply slacking off and holding them back.

"Hey, buddy."

Liu Zhan couldn't hold back anymore. He stepped up to a player from Harbor Club, saying, "Can we train properly? For the sake of our National Team proving ourselves in the World Cup Pre-Match and striving to break into the World Cup."

What Liu Zhan said wasn't wrong.

To train well, clear past shame, and strive to break into the World Cup.

However.

These words made the player from Harbor Club uncomfortable, and not only that, but two nearby players from Hengtai Club also took notice.

"What do you mean?"

The player from Harbor Club, named Ai Tianlun, responded unhappily to Liu Zhan.

Ai Tianlun reacted so strongly because Liu Zhan's words had touched Ai Tianlun's "sore spot." After all, Ai Tianlun participated in the last World Cup Pre-Match as a National Team player.

What do you mean by proving ourselves?

What, my participation in the National Team Pre-Match was a disgrace?

"I don't mean anything by it, just encouraging everyone to train well. If we really work hard, we should be invincible in the World Cup Pre-Match. I believe in everyone!"

Liu Zhan shook his head and said.

"Hey, hey, are you implying we don't train hard?"

A player from Hengtai Club stepped up, standing directly in front of Liu Zhan, saying disdainfully, "You guys are still too young, right? From Feiyue Club's team? Don't think your impressive record in the Xia Super League means anything. Can you earn a lot of money from that?"

"Hahaha, if I'm not mistaken, rumor has it Feiyue Football Club is stingy with salaries, right? The monthly salary is just a few thousand? And you still expect people to play?"

Another player from Hengtai Club mocked.

In their view, how much money you can earn in the club is the "Correct Way." As for the Xia Super League's performance and whether joining the National Team allows you to win in the Pre-Match, those things are unimportant.

"Are you playing just for money?"

Liu Zhan protested.

"If not for money, then for what?" Wang Dachao from Hengtai Club laughed and said, "With your meager income, what can you do? Do you know how much my signing bonus is for a year?"

"Dachao, don't say it! Saying it might scare these young guys."

Zhou Peng from Hengtai Club laughed.

"Hahaha."

Other players like Ai Tianlun also laughed heartily.

"We joined the National Team for the World Cup, not for wages. When we play, it's the same. Since we've all been called to the National Team, let's hope we can join forces and train well, play well, and show the spirit of our National Team."

Zhao Xuanming stepped up, trying to calm things down.

Because there's no need to create conflicts with these people. After all, they're all teammates in the National Team.

"Heh."

Wang Dachao sneered and said disdainfully, "How we train is none of your business. We've trained like this in past Pre-Match rounds. What, you have a problem with that?"

"Alright, alright, Dachao, let's not bicker with these young guys—let's train."

"Yes, yes, let's train!"

"The coach is coming over, start training quickly."

Head Coach Liu Changjian walked over, and when the players saw him, they scattered and began various training drills.

Liu Zhan and Zhao Xuanming also returned to Li Shuangying and Zhu Tan to continue their training.

"Ying, I'm sure these people will definitely be obstacles for us in the World Cup Pre-Match," Zhu Tan analyzed, "They're simply not invested in it. What good is it if we give it our all?"

"Even if they're not invested, we can't let them affect us. Let's train well. When working with them, we need to be at our best. Even if we don't make it to the World Cup in the end, as long as we exert ourselves completely, we'll have no regrets."

Li Shuangying still had some perspective. After all, he was the captain of Feiyue Football Club's team.

However.

Li Shuangying never imagined that today's incident would become a spark.

In the following month of training, whether it was Hengtai players Wang Dachao and Zhou Peng or Harbor Club players Ai Tianlun and other club players, they seemed to target Li Shuangying and his group during training.

On this day.

In Yancheng Sports Center, Li Shuangying, Zhu Tan, Liu Zhan, and Zhao Xuanming were training and practicing passing with their teammates, with Wang Dachao mainly responsible for shooting.

However, during the passing play, Liu Zhan noticed that teammate Zhao Xuanming had a better offensive position, so he adapted and passed the ball to Zhao Xuanming, who caught the ball and made a shot.

The ball went in!

At this moment, Wang Dachao was upset.

"What the hell do you mean?"

Wang Dachao stormed over to Liu Zhan, "Don't you know how the coach arranged the training? I'm supposed to be the main attacker, and you should pass the ball to me!"

"But clearly Zhao Xuanming was in the best offensive position, and only by passing to him did we have a chance to score!"

Liu Zhan argued back.

In football, not everything is pre-planned—the field has many changes. Facing countless changes, being able to adapt and make the best decision is a player's essential quality rather than sticking strictly to the initial plan by passing the ball to Wang Dachao.

"Did you do it on purpose?"

Wang Dachao stepped forward angrily and pushed Liu Zhan, full of displeasure and rage, "I'm telling you, this month, I've been fed up with you. Do you know how to play ball? Are you the king on the field, ignoring pre-game arrangements?"

"Training can generally follow the plan, but was I wrong to adapt?"

Liu Zhan argued back.

He believed he wasn't wrong.

With the training goal just now, if he passed to Wang Dachao, it's highly likely he wouldn't score. However, by passing to Zhao Xuanming, he scored, which was Liu Zhan's choice to adapt, rather than being rigid.

"Passing to Zhao Xuanming ensured a goal. If I passed to you, would you score? Passing to Zhao Xuanming was the best choice!"

Liu Zhan was indignant and continued to argue.

"Kid, you're doing this on purpose, aren't you?" Wang Dachao was even angrier as Liu Zhan continued arguing back. His temper flared up, and he wanted to kick the kid.

However, at this moment, Zhao Xuanming stepped forward.

Immediately, Li Shuangying and Zhu Tan also came over.

For a moment, other players gathered around in a circle.

Head Coach Liu Changjian saw this and immediately stepped forward, asking, "What's going on?"

In that instant, the tensions that had accumulated over a month seemed ready to explode with this scoring conflict.

The atmosphere at Yancheng Sports Center became increasingly delicate.

The National Team hadn't even stepped onto the field yet, and they were already facing their first crisis.