

# Texts about «Lia's Football Journey» for media and journalists

## Blurb:

**Lia loves football – and she dreams big.**

Even as a little girl, Lia loves nothing more than kicking a ball around outside, playing with her sister in the garden, and tirelessly practising her football skills. But there's no girls' team in her village. Will she still find a way to live her passion?

Join Lia on her exciting journey that's full of team spirit, setbacks and magical moments. A story about big dreams, friendship and believing in yourself – inspired by the real life of Lia Wälti, captain of the Swiss national team.

## Description:

**A football fairytale based on true events**

The book for children aged eight and over tells the partly biographical, partly fictional story of Lia Wälti and how she bravely pursues her dream. It follows Lia from her first steps in football through her everyday life at the football boarding school to the challenges she overcomes together with her friends. The book aims to create female role models and encourage children – especially girls – to play football and show them that they too can achieve great things.

The book is available in German, French, English and Italian.

## The idea behind the book:

Even back when Lia wanted to do an apprenticeship as a nursery teacher, she knew that she wanted to give something back to children one day. Then, she had an idea: She wanted to publish a children's book. Now she can fulfil this dream together with her sister shortly before the European Championships at home!

### About the contributors:

**Lia Wälti** (initiator and protagonist of the book) is the captain of the Swiss women's national football team, a midfielder at English club Arsenal FC and a central figure in international women's football. With this book, she wants to show young girls that they too can become professional footballers - with courage, joy and team spirit.

**Meret Wälti** (author of the book) is an anthropologist and works as a freelance copywriter and editor. She used to play soccer in the top Swiss league and wrote the children's book «Lia's Football Journey».

**Mireille Lachausse** (illustrator of the book) grew up in Courrendlin in the canton of Jura. She founded a football team with friends, as there were none for girls under the age of 12. Today she lives in Aigle, illustrates the book series «50 sensational Swiss women» (Bergli Books) and writes the comic series «Kira and Kooki» for KALEIO.

**KALEIO** (publisher of the book) is a non-profit cooperative based in Basel that has been publishing the print magazine «KALEIO for girls (and the rest of the world) » since December 2020.

**Vögel AG** (printing company) is regarded as one of the most sustainable printing companies in Switzerland and is the world's first printing company to set new standards for sustainable production with Cradle to Cradle® Gold certification.

### LOGOS



JÖGGI RIHS