

England U20s 0 - Portugal U20s 1: Southgate's boys finish fourth

GARETH SOUTHGATE insists taking part in the Toulon tournament next year must be the future for English football to improve.



Gareth Southgate is keen for England to be regular participants in the Toulon tournament[GETTY]

England Under-20s finished fourth after Ricardo Horta clinched victory for Portugal in the 56th minute.

England were unfortunate in the way they conceded the only goal of the game, Saïdo Berahino's clearance hit Liam Moore on the backside and landed in the path of Horta whose clean strike beat Jack Butland.

Southgate, who entered England's first side in nine years, said: "I would recommend that we come here again. The more I look at it, the qualifying for European competitions might only present you with one really competitive team in your group and then a play-off.

"The chance to play better sides is even more important and this tournament provides playing against top opposition.

"We needed games like this because we haven't had a real test up until now so it was a great marker as to where we are. We don't leave here thinking we are miles short."

