Steaua owner offers to pay 100,000 Euros for Tiago Gomes' sale
Portuguese publicly criticised by Romanian

Steaua Bucharest's 1-0 defeat at FC Brasov on Sunday drew an angry response from club owner Gigi Becali, who publicly offered to pay for Portuguese midfielder Tiago Gomes' transfer away from the Romanian capital.

Already a hugely controversial figure in the country, Becali has already criticised Portuguese forward, Antonio Semedo, earlier this season, and following a damaging defeat on Sunday which left Steaua nine points off the top, he took aim at two other members of the first-team squad.

As well as Gomes, 23, who made the move from Estrela da Amadora last summer, the owner targeted expensive summer recruit Janos Szekely, a winger who cost the club 1.5m Euros during the close season from Otelul Galati.

"From the first minute it was like we had two players less," Becali said of the Brasov defeat. "For Tiago nobody will give us money for him, so I will give 100,000 Euros to be free of him. About Szekely, I don't know because we paid so much for him."

It is not the first time Becali has taken this approach to dealing with under-performing players. Indeed, Portuguese goalkeeper Carlos Fernandes fell foul of the owner in 2007 after a string of poor performances, leading Becali to declare: "If any club wants to have Carlos, I will personally pay 100.000 Euros to whoever does that favour to us".

By Sean Gillen