



Contact: Elizabeth Flannery
Washington Youth Soccer
253-476-2237 (phone)
elizabeth@WashingtonYouthSoccer.org

//FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE//

Washington Youth Soccer Launches Regional Club League Junior Academy Program
New Program to modernize development system and provide more opportunities for players

FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON (Fri., Nov. 18) – Washington Youth Soccer today announced the new Regional Club League (RCL) Junior Academy Program, which will open in 2012. The program, the result of a year of careful planning with the Regional Club Subcommittee and RCL Clubs, will integrate Washington Youth Soccer’s Long Term Player Development Plan (LTPD) and further modernize the game in our state to match the needs of our players.

The RCL Junior Academy Program, geared for boys and girls at the U7 – U9 age groups, will follow a unique curriculum based on US Soccer’s programs and global trends. Players will be placed in expanded educational soccer environments where they will receive elevated training and development. By working with players at a younger age, utilizing global best practices and following a structured age appropriate curriculum and games schedule, the program will match the pace and development models of countries around the world.

Washington Youth Soccer Technical Director, Gary White, notes the importance of the academy, “As a member of US Soccer’s Player Development Task Force, I have been in the middle of some excellent discussions at the National level over the past year regarding the need for age appropriate training opportunities that are conducted by qualified US Soccer or FIFA recognized licensed coaching staff. If the correct technical and movement mechanics and skills are not honed and developed at this age group, players will less likely fulfill their potential. This discussion continued at the RCL Directors Of Coaching (DOC) level in our state with some of our most experienced and knowledgeable local soccer professionals – the end result is the launch of our new RCL Junior Academy Program.”

The objective of the RCL Junior Academy Program is to offer additional training and development opportunities for those parents who want their children to continue receiving quality soccer education in a safe and fun environment after the recreational season is complete. The program will give all interested players the appropriate training and education that constantly takes them to the edges of their abilities. Through its player-centric model, Washington Youth Soccer and its RCL Clubs expect to develop well-rounded technical players who have received the best training opportunities and are able to reach their full potential on the field.

The RCL clubs will work with their local Associations and communities to make this program an integral part of Washington Youth Soccer's Long Term Player Development plan and vision for player development. All RCL clubs are excited to integrate the program into their local models of training.

Washington Youth Soccer is committed to applying age appropriate training and education and to support US Soccer's National plan at the local level to ensure best practices are implemented for the correct development of our players here in Washington.

Please see below for a list of our 21 RCL clubs who will be implementing the RCL Junior Academy Training Program in 2012/13.

WA Youth Soccer Regional Clubs

| Club/Team | Location |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Blackhills FC | Olympia |
| Vancouver United Timbers | Vancouver |
| Crossfire Premier | Redmond |
| Club Dosveedanya | Kent |
| Eastside FC | Mercer Island |
| Evergreen/Washington Rush | Everett |
| FC Alliance | Woodinville |
| FC Greater Renton | Renton |
| Federal Way United SC | Federal Way |
| Harbor FC | Gig Harbor |
| Highline Premier FC | Seattle |
| NorthWest Nationals | Mountlake Terrace |
| Seattle United* | Seattle |
| Snohomish United | Snohomish |
| Spokane Shadow | Spokane |
| Sun City Strikers | Yakima |
| Three Rivers SC | Pasco |
| Washington Premier FC | Tacoma |
| Westsound FC Premier | Silverdale |
| Whatcom FC Rangers | Bellingham |
| Washington Soccer Academy Premier | Camas |

For further details, please contact your local RCL Club or Washington Youth Soccer's Technical Director, Gary White, gary@WashingtonYouthSoccer.org.

About Washington Youth Soccer

Washington Youth Soccer is the largest youth soccer organization in Washington. Washington Youth Soccer is the state's affiliate for US Youth Soccer, which is the largest sports organization in the United States and the most populous member of the United States Soccer Federation, the governing body for soccer in the United States. Washington Youth Soccer is the sixth largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 128,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 12,000 teams and 6,500 referees in the state of Washington. Washington Youth Soccer's mission is to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition.

Media Request: When referring to Washington Youth Soccer, please refer to the association only as Washington Youth Soccer, and never as WYS or WSYSA. We appreciate your cooperation.

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