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BULLETin

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March 4, 2006

Bulls Calendar

03/01: Oahu League BOD meeting, 7:15 p.m., Hale Akoakoa 107, WCC

03/03: Early bird discount deadline for the Ultimate Challenge Spring Break Soccer Camp

03/03: US Youth Soccer Hawaii State Cup Entry Deadline for U12 – U18 Boys and Girls

03/04: Oahu League Spring season starts

03/08: HSC Bulls BOD meeting, 7:00 p.m., 900 Fort Street Mall

03/11: Last Fast Footwork for Winter season

03/12: Oahu League Winter season ends

03/13: Last Goalkeeper training session for Winter season

03/20 – 24: Ultimate Challenge Spring Break Soccer Camp, Kapiolani Park

03/25: Newsletter deadline for the April issue

03/25 – 28: Hawaii Youth Soccer Association (HYSA) Olympic Development Program (ODP) – State Camp

03/27: Holiday – Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Day

Message from the President

Just a few short years ago, it seemed like you could count the number of spectators at soccer games on one hand. Now, our youth matches attract more supporters than most high school games. For those who ventured to Waipio peninsula this past weekend and braved the torrential rain, they were lucky enough to witness outstanding youth matches with people extending from touch line to touch line. Bulls' supporters continue to cheer positively, relish victories with grace and accept defeat with poise. Even

in defeat, the human tunnels form to salute the players.

This past weekend the Club had the following results:

U8 Boys	Semi-Finalist
U9 Boys	Champion
U09 Girls	Finalist
U10 Boys	Finalist
U10 Girls	Finalist
U11 Boys	Finalist
U11 Girls	Semi-Finalist
U12 Boys	Finalist

Congratulations to all for your efforts on and off the pitch. All of the matches were tight showing that the teams, the players are getting close to "getting it." Losses are hard to accept, but there were finalists or semi-finalists in every age group. The coaching staff is ever mindful of the mission statement of the Club to develop youth through soccer. Perseverance will pay off, as the old saying goes, so hang in there.

To paraphrase a manager, since I do not have permission to quote directly: Thank you for all of your help this weekend. After this weekend, it is clear what a great group of players and families we have. We are fortunate to be part of the Bulls, with its great coaches. Thanks for being total professionals.

Parents:

If you have any thoughts on what you would like to see communicated in the Club's newsletter, please e-mail your ideas to Ken Perske at kperske@verizon.net. Mahalo.

Ultimate Challenge Spring Break Soccer Camp

By Leslie Aubrey

The HSC Bulls will be sponsoring the Ultimate Challenge Spring Break Soccer Camp from March 20 to March 24, 2006 at Kapiolani Park. This Camp is open to all American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), Soccer Association for Youth (SAY), HYSA and US Club Soccer boys and girls ages 5 through 12. The Camp Director is a nationally licensed coach and is assisted by top 40 Division I college players. If you need any information concerning the Camp, contact the Camp Director at info@HawaiiSoccerCamps.com.

If registered by March 3, 2006, you will receive an early-bird discount of \$20.00. Families with two siblings or more can reduce the fee by \$5.00 per player. Cost for the Camp, including a Camp T-shirt is as follows:

Full-Day (8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.) \$149.00
Morning (8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.) \$99.00
Afternoon (12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) \$99.00

You can securely register on-line at HawaiiSoccerCamps.com.

The HSC Bulls reserves the right to cancel any camps that fail to attract significant participation. Under such circumstances, the camper and parents will be appropriately notified and refunded.

*****The HSC Bulls will hold the camp rain or shine. No refunds for inclement weather.**

Kudos

By Ken Perske

Congratulations, again, to the 2005 US Club Soccer U17 Girls National Champions. On February 19, the U17 Girls were honored for their accomplishment at the 59th Annual Honolulu Quarterback's Club Banquet.

DOC Neddo had just recently given a terrific speech to the Quarterback



Club a few days before the Banquet, describing in detail the Club's mission and accomplishments; including State, Regional and National Championships, active college alumni activities and primarily the commitment to youth development through the game of soccer. This really is a well done power point presentation; so if you know of appropriate community associations that might be interested in hearing what we are about, I am sure DOC Neddo would be willing to represent us.

Kids Galore!

By Ken Perske

What an amazing job Luke Baer, Jose Dydasco, Rick Chong and Wes Meadows have done with the Keiki Bulls.

I have heard many comments, questions really, on what is happening at Waiialae Iki Park on Thursday afternoon. The field is covered with kids dressed in black and red. The same is true for Friday nights under the lights at Kapaolono Park in Kaimuki. Les Aubrey started the Keiki Bulls three years ago with about 30 players at the first session. As of this current session, that number has swelled to 105 with more continuing to register.

The kids definitely have fun in a low pressure setting and get proper coaching right from the start of their soccer careers. And, just like at Pro-Xtreme Camp, the volunteer staff of current Bulls players seems to have as much fun, or more, than the Keiki participants.

Up until now, Keiki Bulls sessions ran for 8 weeks in early January through early March and mid-August through mid-October. With its success, a new spring session from mid-April to mid-June is already being planned. If you know of any child, ages 5 – 9, who wants to get a taste of the beautiful game and have lots of fun while staying fit, let them know about the Keiki Bulls! Further information about the Keiki Bulls is available at www.keikibulls.com.

Summer Travel Plans

By Michael Guidry, Assistant DOC, Staff Coach
U13 – U15 Age Groups

Aloha and best wishes for 2006. The HSC Bulls Coaches and Staff are looking forward to spring and summer 2006. We have a busy schedule and would like to begin organizing as soon as possible.

With this in mind, the HSC Bulls staff has reviewed the options for summer travel. The U13 – U15 age groups will participate in the US Club 2006 National Cup V Regional (this year in Las Vegas, Nevada at the Bettye Wilson Soccer Complex from June 10 through June 13) as the HSC Bulls has done the past 3 years. Last year at Las Vegas, the Club fielded 11 teams from 10 different age groups. This year, in addition to the U13 – U15 age groups, the U12s and some of the U16s and U17s will be attending.

The venue for all 2006 National Cup V Finals is Greensboro, North Carolina at the Bryan Park Complex. Boys and girls U12 – U14 finals are July 20 – 23. Girls U15 – U17 finals are July 21 – 24. Boys U15 – U17 finals are July 28 – 31.

Furthermore, all eligible age groups will be trying to qualify for the US Youth Soccer Hawaii State Cup (the weekend of April 22 and 23 at Waipio Peninsula Soccer Complex) for the USYSA Regionals in Boise, Idaho from June 18 – 25. Should the U13 – U15 age groups qualify for Boise, they will go first to Las Vegas and then on to Boise. All those that do not qualify for Boise will be set for competing in Las Vegas.

Regional winners of the U14 through U19 brackets earn a berth at the 2006 US Youth Soccer National Championships to be played July 25 – 30, in Des Moines, Iowa at the James W. Cownie Soccer Park.

As with last year, the HSC Bulls flight arrangements will allow for return scheduling flexibility (open ended ticketing that must be finalized after the State Cup weekend when age group determine if they will go to Boise) requiring a \$50 refundable deposit. Managers will be collecting

those deposits soon. Preliminary estimates for Honolulu – Las Vegas roundtrip are around \$500.

The first priority of these travel arrangements is to get the team delegation - players, chaperones, managers and coaches - to the event. Any remaining seats will be made available to others.

Assessed coaching subsidy fees for players traveling using HSC Bulls arrangements (versus those that travel on their own arrangements) will be prorated. This is to take into account their contributing to obtaining complementary tickets (used for the coaching staff) by participating in large group travel.

Just as a reminder, all players must stay in the US Club's tournament designated hotel with their age group for all tournaments.

The HSC Bulls will be distributing more travel information soon, so stay tuned.

Trivia Question:

By Ken Perske

Name the U.S. player with the following credits to his 15-year career in European soccer:

- He started his career in Millwall in 1990 where he was the first American player to play in England on a U.S. passport.
- He also played at Tottenham.
- He was the only American to compete in Spain's La Liga as a member of Rayo Vallecano.

First correct response to kperske@verizon.net wins.

Congratulations to Alvaro Andres (88B) for correctly answering last month's trivia question.

That famous player is Pele who scored 1281 goals in 1363 matches once he started playing professionally as a 16 year old!



Insights of a Swede

By Jimmi Hemmenbach, U13 Boys Head Coach, HPU men's soccer team mid-fielder, past MISO League MVP

When I came to Hawaii almost three years ago, I didn't really know what to expect from island soccer. Back in Europe, and not least in my home country Sweden, soccer is the sport with the largest number of participants. It is the national sport, possibly challenged by ice hockey. What I knew before I arrived was that the United States had the "big three"; football, basketball, and baseball. In terms of popularity, salary, and number of people practicing in these sports - soccer had no chance to compete against them. So I guess it was justified that my expectations were low.

However, during my first days on the island, I walked from my house down towards Waikiki and what did I see? Kids playing soccer in Kapiolani Park. I thought it was funny, because I expected to see one of the "big three" being played there.

When the season started, my team (HPU) played their first game against the Brotherhood. It turned out to be an easy game for us, and I was somewhat disappointed on the level of the game.

But I have found an explanation as to why. In Sweden, the organizational structure is everything when it comes to soccer, both on the field and off the field. Here in Hawaii, it didn't seem to exist. The way we were playing soccer here was amusingly enough what we in Sweden call "Hawaii soccer," (and I'm not kidding) which means that both teams play counter attack on each other. It can also be summarized as a player's favorite game vs. a coach's nightmare.

Having an organizational structure is extremely important and the only team that showed signs of an organized game was a team consisting of short, young kids. You're absolutely right, the Honolulu Bulls.

The Bulls is a good example of a well-working organization. But maybe we should try to define the word organization. In a non-profit club like the Bulls, the volunteers play an extremely important role, not to say the least the parents. To be able to continue with this positive spirit like the Bulls is currently doing, it is imperative that the parents continue to show their commitment.

If I compare the Bulls' organization with the ones I'm used to back home, there's not really a big difference in terms of youth soccer. What I find is lacking is something or someone that the young players can look up to so that they can strive towards a future goal. In Sweden, kids dream about and are being spurred to represent the club as adults. In Hawaii, there's no such goal. After college you can become a professional soccer player, which is not impossible by any means, but much more difficult for someone in Hawaii than for someone on the mainland.

Nevertheless, with a good youth organization, professional soccer can definitely be a realistic goal, but success doesn't come without effort. We, and I'm talking about the whole organization, have to encourage our youth players and help them to fulfill their dreams. A good organizational structure is the key to success, and the Bulls unquestionably gives the players a good foundation to stand on.

Coaches, parents, and other volunteers, keep up the good work!

Go Bulls!