

Helping Island Soccer Players Achieve Their Dreams September 12, 2008

The **Lower Island Soccer Association (LISA)** and **Pacific Institute for Sport Excellence (PISE)** kicked off their new partnership by holding an open house for all soccer players, coaches and parents in the new \$27 million dollar facility at the **Camosun College** Interurban Campus. The facility boasts state of the art equipment for testing and training of athletes of all ages as well as a new turf soccer pitch and two gymnasiums.



Players in the Metro, Selects, Super-Y League and District Development Centre (DDC) will be using the new turf for practices and games and, along with their coaches, will have a unique opportunity for full access to the facilities, testing and training by the professional staff of the PISE.

Each player will be provided with a PISE group trainer and nutritional consultant who will work collaboratively and individually to design workouts and assist with nutritional planning. Included will be baseline measurement and health screening and LifeMark biomechanical analysis.

Sharon Marejka, Executive Director of the LISA: *The partnership formed today between the LISA and PISE is the result of two organizations working together to put the best needs of the athlete (player) first and foremost. Through all of the discussions as to how the partnership would be formed it was paramount that the best interest of the player be placed at the top of the list.*

The LISA and PISE are providing the ideal environment for a player to perform to their absolute best. The programme rivals anything currently provided anywhere in Canada.



Dante Zanatta former LISA Head Coach and now a BCSA Staff Coach and Regional Coaching Representative: *We now have an opportunity to offer our athletes and coaches one of the best training environments in Canada. This raises the level of programming within the District Development Center that other regions will look to emulate. I believe that we will see B. C. Soccer Provincial programming, National teams and*

Professional programming here in the near future.

Canadian Olympians

During their regular practices at the PISE players and coaches will be practicing alongside many Olympians including such notables as Simon Whitfield, Ryan Crockane (a former Cordova Bay soccer player), Kirsten Sweetland, Rick Say and Gary Reed, to name but a few. Various Canadian National Teams are already booked to use the facility for periodic testing and training.



PISE Orientation for LISA Soccer Group

Harold McNeill, former LISA Executive Member and current Vice President of BC Soccer states: *This partnership is a dream come true. Working together, PISE and LISA will provide Vancouver Island players and coaches with opportunities that, only a few years ago, they could have only dreamed about. To both the LISA and PISE leaders who worked to bring this partnership together – a job well done.*

And from the PISE Program and Facility Director, **Andrea Carey**: *We are thrilled to offer a home field and comprehensive services to the LISA players and coaches. Every player will certainly have the tools available to reach their full potential.*

Future Educational Opportunities

As part of the overall program, soccer players, coaches and parents will have a first hand opportunity through the PISE to assess opportunities in number of career paths within Camosun College. These include:

- Bachelor of Sport and Fitness Leadership
- Bachelor of Exercise and Therapy
- Diploma in Athletic and Coach Education
- Diploma in Sport Management
- Diploma in Exercise and Wellness

With new facilities like this, the future certainly looks bright for our soccer players and for all aspiring athletes on Vancouver Island and in British Columbia.

For more information: <http://www.piseworld.com/>