



For Immediate Release

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Twin City Youth Soccer Association Unveils Plans for New Soccer Facility

BERMUDA RUN, N.C. -- The Twin City Youth Soccer Association has unveiled plans to build an 11-field soccer facility that includes a lighted stadium on 90 acres in Davie County adjacent to Interstate 40 alongside the Yadkin River in Davie County.

TCYSA will hold a ground-breaking ceremony on site at 4 p.m. Friday, March 31, 2006.

The association plans to develop 60 acres as a first-class soccer facility to serve nearly 1,000 youth soccer players and their families involved in the organization's Classic, Challenge and development programs. When completed, it will include lighted fields and a multi-use clubhouse with offices, classrooms, meeting rooms, restrooms and storage for the organization. Also on the site will be a concession area, a playground, walking and jogging paths and parking. The facility is estimated to cost \$3 million.

Plans for the remaining 30 acres include a riverfront park developed by the Town of Bermuda Run and Davie County.

According to Paul Murawski, the president of TCYSA's Challenge division, the size and location of the facility will make it attractive for larger soccer events: "Not only do we expect to draw more visiting teams for our local tournaments, but we also believe that a facility of this caliber will qualify it to host state and regional tournaments, too," he said. "Its proximity to the Interstate and nearby hotels and restaurants should be a boon to local economies."

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Steve Halstead, the president of TCYSA's Classic division, praised the effort that local governments provided: "Both Bermuda Run and Davie County have been immensely helpful working with us on land-use issues and creating a viable plan for the riverfront area," Halstead said. "We also received critical support from State Rep. (Julia) Howard, who has helped with our access efforts."

"Now that we've closed on the land we will begin grading immediately," Halstead said. "If all goes according to plans, we should be playing on fields by fall of 2006."

The facility will augment the organization's existing practice site at Paisley Magnet School near downtown Winston-Salem and other practice fields – including the Sara Lee Soccer Complex and Hine Park fields -- throughout Forsyth County.

"This facility will go a long way towards easing the congestion at our Paisley practice facility and other sites we use," Halstead said. "We have searched for 5 years to find a site that makes sense economically, physically and geographically. And this site, because it contains enough relatively flat acreage, is ideal for this type of use."

According to Paul Forster, TCYSA's director of coaching, the organization has experienced strong growth matched by competitive success of which training is an essential cornerstone: "Both our Challenge and Classic divisions do a fantastic job of competing against other associations within North Carolina," he said, adding that although TCYSA is fortunate to have good match facilities in Sara Lee and Hine Park, players spend the bulk of their time on training fields.

"That is where our current problem lies: We have more players than practice space," Forster said. "A top-class facility would certainly help us provide a more conducive environment for player development."

The Twin City Youth Soccer Association is a nonprofit organization that was incorporated in 1979 to develop, promote and advance youth soccer, allowing dedicated soccer players in the area develop to their highest potential. The first year of its charter, the TCYSA had teams in four age groups. Today the club has 55 boys and girls teams in nine age groups and also provides skills training for players 5 to 10 years old. In the last year alone, the TCYSA has grown by more than 15 percent.

The soccer organization holds open tryouts for its Classic and Challenge teams in late May. It also provides training for younger players, ages 5 to 8, in a non-competitive format through its Twins Development Program each fall and spring. For more information about these opportunities and other information, visit www.twincitysoccer.com or call (336) 774-8988.