

EDMONTON INTERDISTRICT YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION #307, 8925 - 51 Ave Edmonton, Alberta T6E 5J3 Telephone: (780)462-3537 Fax: (780)444-4321 www.eiysa.com

## PRESS RELEASE

## Sean Fleming Named Technical Director of New EIYSA Program – EIYSA Stars

The Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association (EIYSA) is excited to announce the EIYSA Stars Program, which will offer innovative supplementary training opportunities following Canada Soccer Standards and player pathways for males and females. This program will provide exceptional opportunities for the development of all EIYSA players moving forward. EIYSA Stars is in the process of attaining the highest possible Club license in Canada and has made this its top priority moving forward. While EIYSA clubs are used to acting as rivals on the field, they have become united and collaborated to support this exciting new endeavor. It is a positive and exciting move for youth soccer in Edmonton.

"I am so proud of EIYSA to make this monumental step towards the development of our programs," said long-time Internazionale Technical Director, member of EIYSA Technical Committee and former professional player, Ross Ongaro.

The EIYSA Stars Program consists of 7 member clubs: Edmonton Drillers, Edmonton Strikers, Internazionale, Juventus, Red Deer Renegades, Southwest United and Victoria. The new program will offer camps, supplementary club training, supplementary tournament team formation and coach mentoring. The member clubs have helped produce many professional and National team players over the years, including Alphonso Davies, who was a member of teams from Strikers and Internazionale.

We are also extremely excited to announce that Sean Fleming has been hired as the EIYSA Stars Technical Director and will oversee the program. The hiring of Fleming provides EIYSA Stars a world class coach who brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the program. Fleming has been one of the most successful youth coaches in Canada's history, leading our country to two consecutive FIFA U-17 World Cups, and coaching many males and females from grassroots who have made it to national youth teams and professional clubs. Fleming has also instructed National A and B License coach courses and has mentored hundreds of coaches in our great game. Recently, Fleming was coaching with FC Edmonton and the Technical Director of their Academy.

"This is a tremendous opportunity to provide players and coaches in Edmonton and area to have the opportunity to develop to the highest level," Fleming said. "I would like to congratulate

all of the member clubs on this tremendous accomplishment to show great cooperation and collaboration and doing the best for all their players and coaches."

For more information about the new EIYSA Stars program, please contact:

Dan Curtis EIYSA – Executive Director (780) 462-3537 <u>exdir@eiysa.com</u>

Sean Fleming EIYSA Stars – Technical Director techdirector@eiysa.com (780) 718-9375