

27 June 2010

Press Release

CRC FOOTBALL ACADEMY LAUNCHED FOR STARS OF THE FUTURE

Youth football in Cambridge is set to receive a big boost this autumn when a new football academy for young players and coaches opens at Cambridge Regional College.

The academy will be run by specialist CRC staff – including lecturer Ian Hart, who until recently headed Histon Football Club’s youth scheme – and is aimed at youngsters keen to have a career in the game.

It will develop young talent looking for a professional or semi-professional future and open the door to coaching careers, through a combination of academic qualifications and training.

The Football and Coaches Academy is a new move for the College, and will have close links with the Cambridgeshire Football Association.

Ian Hart, who spent three years at Histon, said: “There’s no better time than now to think about a career in football because there are so many opportunities in the game.

“We’re taking youngsters’ love of football and converting it into a future by giving them practical experience and superb training.

“I’m very excited about the academy. My background is in developing young players and this is all about nurturing talent, seeing it grow and pointing it in the right direction.

“Youngsters who want to train as coaches will be able to take the first steps on the ladder, and keen players will have professional and semi-professional trials at the end of their course.”

The professionally-run academy will offer a range of academic qualifications, along with practical coaching experience working alongside UEFA coaches, daily professional football training for players and the opportunity to work in partnership with Cambridgeshire FA.

Ian said the academy would also have close links with the community, taking football into primary schools and involving youngsters at all levels.

“We’re looking at football at a whole different level. We want to take football into the community and into local primary schools. If one of those pupils comes on to the course in five years’ time because of what we’re doing, then that shows it’s all worthwhile.”

The College has some of the best sports facilities in the region, with two sports halls, a modern multi-use games area, a weights room and state-of-the-art fitness facilities.

To find out more, or to enrol in the academy, ring 01223 226315 or 01223 418249.

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

For more information, please contact Lynn O’Shea, PR & Events Co-ordinator, on 01223 418773 or email loshea@camre.ac.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Cambridge Regional College is the second largest provider of full-time education for 16 to 19 year-olds in the eastern region. The College has around 3,500 full-time and 6,000 part-time students. Students come in from a 40-mile radius, covering Cambridge and its surrounding villages, eastern Bedfordshire, northern Essex and western Suffolk.