



December 6, 2011

## **US Development Academy Winter Showcase Wrap-up**

CSA teams conclude five day event

The CSA Academy teams return home tonight after five days in Sarasota, Florida at the US Soccer Development Academy Winter Showcase. On day one, Saturday, the two teams played the New England Revolution of Major League Soccer. The U18s played first and were unfortunate to not lead during the first half after good chances from Ben Burdon, Sati Patino and Kyle Parker. There was good possession and penetration by the team but the game remained scoreless at the half as the Revolution barely threatened. The second half saw the U18s concede midway through the half when a cross was deflected in and evaded a diving Jaron Bradley. Although Roland Minogue went close late in the game the team fell 1-0. In the second game of the day the U16s won 2-0 against a very good Revolution team. A good individual goal from Axel Rojas in front in the first half and then a cross from Kipp Carricker was converted by Gio Castro to make it 2-0 towards the end of the game.

On Sunday both teams faced Albertson SC from Long Island, New York. The U18s started slowly and sluggishly and found themselves 2-0 by half time. A much better second half however did not produce a goal for CSA and Alberston got one more to make the final score 3-0. The U16s played a very strong Albertson team later in the day. The U16s did a very good job of weathering the storm throughout the game and went close late when Tomas Hilliard burst through but shot wide. In a cruel stroke of luck Albertson scored in the 80<sup>th</sup> minute to win the game 1-0.

On Tuesday both teams played at the same time against PA Classics. The U18 took the lead in the first half when Nathaniel Goodwin burst down the right and crossed for Patino to head home. PA Classics equalized during the first half to make the score 1-1. Despite several good chances from CSA in the second half the score remained 1-1 at the end. In the U16 game CSA took the lead towards the end of the first half after a very good move saw Jack Miller overlap down the right side and cross to Charles Coulson. Coulson took the ball on his chest, spun and buried the ball in the bottom left hand corner. Coulson went close again in the final minute of the half but just shot wide. In second half PA Classics scored twice in the second half to win the game 2-1.

“After having trained for only a couple of weeks it is always a challenge playing three games in four days at this time of year,” said Richard Butler, CSA Academy Director. “The goal was to come down to Florida and be competitive in all six games and to assess players in a game environment. After seeing all the players play against three very good clubs I now have a much better idea of where each player is at this stage of the season. As we head back to Charlotte now our focus will not only be on our next game at home against Georgia United in mid December but on the season as a whole and what we can do to improve both as individuals and as two teams.”



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