

Media Coverage

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THE BREWSTER TRUST'S FOOTBALL HOLIDAY CAMP 2012 – POSITIVE RESPONSE AFTER LAUNCH

After the launch of the Football Holiday Camp 2012 earlier this month THE BREWSTER TRUST received a very positive response from coaches, campers, parents and wards. The registered charity offers a camp for coaches, for girls, for boys and also for children with disabilities between 2nd July and 31st August 2012 at Queen's College. Axel Bernhardt, CEO of THE BREWSTER TRUST, explains the details of the programme in an interview.

What feedback did you get so far?

Within three days we had more registrations than last year within the first three weeks which confirms the popularity of football in Barbados as well as our mission to promote and develop the sport on island.

Who will be coaching the participants?

The coaches at the camp are from Arsenal FC, all qualified in coaching, refereeing, first aid or child protection. We are offering a coaching course for local coaches that is held by Tony David, an experienced Arsenal coach who runs the BTEC programme which is a two year diploma in coaching football.

Who can attend the coaching course for football coaches?

AB: We are promoting football for everyone. So the answer is everyone. We dedicate the first week of the programme to local football coaches but also for example teachers, people from communities or just individuals who want to breathe some football air and see and learn coaching standards. Of course everyone will get a documentation. Finally all participants are invited to assist our coaches for the following eight weeks on a weekly or a permanent basis to put into action what they've learnt.

Is there a special incentive to participate as coach?

ABB Besides the interaction with other coaches and a full week of football we will award the most outstanding participant a coaching participation at the next Arsenal Gap Year programme for one month which includes accommodation in England as well as travel costs.

What is your offer to young footballers?

We are offering two-weeks programmes for three age groups — 5-9, 10-14 and 15-18. The training sessions are age group and performance related, again football for everyone straight from the beginner, full of fun and surprises. The coaches are assigned to groups to encourage familiarity with the young people and will work with that same group over the course. Every participant receives a shirt, short, socks and shinpads, we will have lunch together which is also included as well as insurance cover with a special sport package for every camper. And we also take care of the health on the field, our medical facility consists of a special ambulance service and present physiotherapists. We also got requests from local teams to join the camp including their own staff which we of course support as well.

■ Is your programme affordable?

ABS Not an easy question, but I think we put together a fair offer. The registration fee is BDS\$ 50.00 with a refund of BDS\$ 20.00 on full participation as we are encouraging participation as part of the programme as well as rewarding good attendance.

How can people register?

ABB: Registration forms can be completed and downloaded from our web portal www.football.bb which also provides detailed information on the camp. The registration can be done at our office in Trents, St James or at Queen's College, the Honorary Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany in Christ Church or the Pinelands Youth Soccer Academy at the Parkinson Community Centre, St. Michael. I have to add that we are booked very well in two groups of the younger ages. Spaces are limited, first come, first served. Registration closes in general on Friday, 29th June 2012 at 6.00 pm, we will close individual groups as soon as we reach the capacities.

Is it possible to attend more than two weeks?

As charity we want to make this programme accessible to as many footballers as possible. But if there is an available space left it is possible to attend the Holiday Camp 2012 for a total of four weeks. There is space on the registration form to tell us this wish. Any additional participation will be confirmed separately after registration closed, an additional registration fee of BDS\$ 30.00 is applicable—again with a BDS\$ 20.00 refund on full participation.



It is it correct that you integrate children with disabilities?

AB: Yes, as a matter of course we offer the Football Holiday Camp 2012 also to children with disabilities. We just ask parents and wards to contact us directly to discuss any special requirements.

Did you get any support to organise a programme like this?

AB: We are a small charity and without support we would have no chance to put something in place like this programme. I have to include there our external registration offices, the venue partner Queen's College, Powerade, UNICEF, PUMA, REHABWORKS Health Fitness & Performance Centre and of course Arsenal FC.

