



Media Coverage

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The Barbados Advocate



Minister of Sport Stephen Lashley has a chat with members of the Christ Church Foundation football team.

Junior football tourney in the works

GOVERNMENT is looking at developing a national junior football tournament in the near future.

This disclosure came yesterday from Minister of Sports, Stephen Lashley, after Chief Executive Officer of the Brewster Trust, Axel Bernhardt, presented football goal bars to Bayleys Primary School

and the Christ Church Foundation School.

Lashley said that his Ministry, through the National Sports Council, would soon be putting more focus on junior football, and he encouraged the Brewster Trust to assist with the initiative.

"We want to focus on ensuring that we can equip Barbadians to play football at all levels," said Lashley during yesterday's presentation at Bayleys.

He pointed out that the Brewster Trust had donated 160 goal bars to 53 organisations in nine parishes, and stressed that it was not only a significant investment, but an important step towards developing the sport across the country, as well as in the community.

"This is only the beginning. It is a part of a strategic direction by Government to place football at the centre of our existence and to see it as a professional sport in Barbados. We believe we should grow the sport from the primary school

up.

"In order to master the sport of football, you need to have the equipment, so the donation of these goal bars is a step in that direction."

He also urged the chil-

dren and members of both communities to care for the goal bars and nets, stressing they were expensive.

Michael Lashley, Minister of Housing, also attended the presentation at Bayleys School. He said a good sports programme at the primary school level was critical towards the growth of a well rounded young person.

He further suggested that the provision of goal bars would now allow schools to excel in another sporting discipline, much like in cricket.

Principal of the Christ Church Foundation School, Robert Cumberbatch, said his students loved the game, noting that some of them were talented and would go far.

The Brewster Trust is a registered charity, which was formed in 2010. Its mission is to promote, develop and improve football in Barbados, with the aim of creating opportunities at all levels, but especially for the youth.

It also aims to "impart the qualities of leadership and loyalty, sportsmanship, competitive ambition and the drive for academic excellence, as well as discipline, fair play and respect".

THE BREWSTER TRUST {registered charity N° 825}

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