



“Discipline yourself for the purpose of Godliness”- 1 Timothy 4:7 (NASB)

HCYA HURRICANES SOCCER – WEEK 4

With seven practice sessions and 4 games now under our belt, the HCYA Hurricanes season is off to a great start! Individual and team improvement is evident across all teams, and multiple life lessons are being “caught as well as taught” as we embrace the Hurricanes environment to the full. Varsity boys followed up their impressive 2-2 tie against Concordia on Tuesday with an emphatic 2-0 win on Friday, while JV boys overcame Concordia in their highly fought 2-1 victory. JV girls encountered a very talented St. John’s on Thursday, and despite a 6-1 defeat, actually tied the game 1-1 in the second half! This was a huge achievement, and said much about the spirit and teachability of the girls. There’s always something to learn – something to take away from a game, regardless of the result. It’s all about perspective. A heavy loss can be more beneficial in the long run than a comfortable win. As the old adage goes, “Sometimes you win. Sometimes you learn!” This week promises to be another terrific round of games as Varsity girls begin their campaign against Concordia on Tuesday evening.



SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE: WORSHIP – FOR THE PURPOSE OF GODLINESS

Having looked at Bible intake and prayer as the first two spiritual disciplines of the Christian life, we turned our attention this week to the third discipline – that of worship. Often misunderstood (and relegated) to the practice of singing within the confines of the church, the broader, more insightful definition revolves around the idea of focusing on and responding to God. In other words, worship is being preoccupied with God, and while it usually includes words and actions, true worship goes beyond this to stimulate our hearts and minds. So no matter what we’re saying, singing or doing, we are not worshipping if we are not thinking about God. To make this practical, it IS POSSIBLE to worship God on the soccer field as we live out our faith as His ambassador. An incorrect (bad?) call from a referee is met with humility and grace rather than pride and hostility. Success brings glory to God as opposed to self-promotion. And disappointment and frustrations become short-lived as we ask the Lord to mold and shape us into the young men and women He calls us to be. This becomes a reality when we are constantly thinking God’s thoughts – how best to be salt and light, even – and especially – in the competitive cauldron of the soccer field!



HCYA HURRICANES CAPTAINS 2019/20

MSG Brinley Meng & Mallory Scott • MSB Samuel Anderson & Christian Haney • HSJVG Emma Cruz, Sophie Stockton & Kate Stockton • HSJVB Scott Spears, William Provasi de Lemos & Isaac Taylor • HSVG Payton Vanhorn, Bella Villagrand & Jadyn Burress • HSVB Titus Banta, Max Calderon & Logan Maloney

So as we press into our practices and games this season, let’s encourage one another to worship God with a soft heart of joy rather than a hardened heart of duty. May Jesus not look at us and say, “These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain” (Matthew 15:8-9). Let’s make it our prayer and priority for the Hurricanes to be known for all the right reasons. We play to win, but most importantly, we play to bring honor, glory and praise to “the Maker of heaven and earth” (Psalm 146:6). Here’s to another week of WORSHIP!

Jim Spence

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“Sharing biblical truth to reach, teach & encourage next generation leaders through soccer”

MEMORY VERSE

“Delight yourself in the Lord.” (Psalm 37:4)