



SEASON TRAINING – WEEK 10

We made it! Nineteen practice sessions. That’s 1,710 minutes spent improving skills, developing team strategies and sharing God’s Word. Then there’s the games. Played 41. Won 17. Lost 21. Tied 3. Added to that is the mileage (games and practices); the hours in competition; time on the road; good and not so good refereeing; glorious victories and heartbreaking defeats. Lessons taught and lessons caught. Put all of this in the mixer and out comes a Hurricanes season (so far) full of memories and stories to share in the future.

And what about all the scheduling and organizing? A huge shout-out to those behind the scenes who work tirelessly (often thanklessly) to provide a meaningful experience for every player, parent and family. I’ve always said that the easy part is coaching. The real heroes are those who make the calls, arrange games, contact parents, ensure match officials are in place, keep everyone updated, etc. This program would not/could not survive without the willing sacrifice of those whose names are never in the headlines. HCYA Hurricanes is a rich environment for athletic development and spiritual growth, and it is a joy for Sports Quest to serve within such a program.

The final session of 2020 consisted of our traditional and highly anticipated year-end tournament, where the Hurricanes “family” comes together to compete for the magnificent award of a Sports Quest jersey! Players of all ages combine to form teams, each with an eye on the glittering prize. This year, the competition was fierce with a mere 2 points separating first and second place. Ultimately, team “Whatever you want” pipped team “Goats” by 20 points to 18. Sadly, team “Trump” came in last place (out of 10 teams), with a shocking 2 points! Rumors that the tournament was rigged are totally unfounded! 😊



As the cold chill of winter headed our way, we concluded with a timely devotional which summarized the Christmas story and has practical applications for daily living. Basically, players were asked, “Which is the largest “little” word in the Bible?” After a series of suggestions, the answer was given. The word is **“ALL”**. It appears 5,310 times, and it simply leaves no room for misunderstanding. So when Scripture declares that, **“All** have sinned and fall short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23), there can be no mistaking that **“ALL”** means everyone, including you and me! Thankfully, we read in Isaiah 38: 17 that God has, **“Thrown ALL** my sins behind my back” and in that in Proverbs 3:5-6 we are to **“Trust the Lord with ALL** our heart” and in **“ALL** our ways acknowledge Him”. Matthew 11:28 calls us to **“Come to me ALL** who are weary and burdened” while Matthew 22:37 commands us to **“Love the Lord your God with ALL** your heart, with **ALL** your soul, and with **ALL** your mind.” Interesting how such a small word can have such huge implications! Thankfully Jesus gave His **ALL** to allow us **ALL** to be **ALL** He created us to be!



As in our spiritual walk, so it should be in our athletic endeavors. We are to be **“ALL-IN”**. We are to strive for excellence. That means being sold-out for the program, the culture, your team. Being punctual, respectful, and resourceful. It means giving your **ALL** at **ALL** times and in **ALL** circumstances. My guess is that while most are subscribing to the **“ALL-IN”** mentality, a few are still straddling the fence, going through the motions or cutting corners. In essence, they are shorting themselves and those around them. The challenge for 2021 and beyond is not only to be **“ALL-IN”** for the cause, but to **“seize the day”** since time spent on the practice and game field as a Hurricane cannot be redeemed. And that times passes ever so quickly...just ask the Alumni players who’ll be turning out for their annual victory (?) against our current high-schoolers on Saturday January 2!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
Looking forward seeing **Y’ALL** on Tuesday January 5, 2021!

Jim Spence
Head Coach - HCYA Hurricanes www.HCYASoccer.com
Founder - Sports Quest www.SQSoccer.com / info@sqsoccer.com / 832.593.7777

SPORTS QUEST
“Sharing Biblical truth to reach, teach & encourage next generation leaders through soccer”

“I can do **ALL things through Christ who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13)**