



HCYA HURRICANES – NEWSLETTER 1

The Story So Far...

The 2021/22 season is officially underway! Seven practice sessions have been completed (one session was rained out), Captains have been selected, seven games have been played, and God's Word has been poured into the players during our "Sloppy versus Worthy Living" devotional theme. It's an exciting time for sure, and while we all look forward to the next couple of months, we must also remind ourselves how quickly this season of life will pass. Before we know it, we'll be sharing stories at the end of season banquet (February 25) and entering post season training. The goal, therefore, is to take every opportunity to grow physically as an athlete, and mature spiritually as a believer in Christ.

Soccer Training

Each session is catered to the needs of each particular team. This is determined by:

- The age/experience of the team. For example, middle school teams will focus primarily on skills development and basic game understanding. JV and Varsity sessions however, will be geared more towards the tactical side of the game
- Areas of improvement through analyzing previous games



Soccer Games

Again, age and experience are determining factors as to how match days are approached:

- Middle school coaches will aim to give as much playing time as possible to each player, while still trying to remain competitive during games. Additionally, if/when possible, players will be given the opportunity rotate positions in order to learn the nuances of different roles within the team. Results are secondary to player development
- At the high school level, greater emphasis is placed on team success, not purely in terms of results, but also performances. Positions will likely become more fixed as players begin to "specialize" according to the needs of the team and their own unique abilities

Soccer Perspective

- Each of the five Hurricanes teams has a roster of 17-20 players. Naturally, this poses a challenge in terms of playing time, especially at the high school level. Players (and parents) are asked to be patient in the event that minutes on the field are viewed as "unsatisfactory". Coaches have the dual task of managing **MANY** subs, while at the same time, trying to find a winning formula for the team. Our heart will always be to provide a positive game experience for all players, so **PLEASE**, reach out to your Coach if you feel the need to discuss playing time or other issues related to the team. We are very approachable, and will work hard to address your concerns
- The season will no doubt consist of of highs and lows when it comes to both games and even practices. Frustrations with score lines, playing time, referee (and coach) decisions, training sessions that "hurt" physically or raise the question, "Why am I doing this?", personal injuries, unsportsmanlike behavior/attitudes of opponents as well as a host of other unknowns. These are all part of the Hurricanes journey, and we pray that at the season's end, each player will reflect on time well spent because the valuable life lessons will outweigh any "negatives" along the way

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Spiritual Perspective

Ultimately, soccer will fail us simply because it does not last forever. Unlike the Word of God! Players lose interest, they move onto another sport/activity or they just become too old to do what the brain tells them to do, while their bodies refuse to cooperate! That's why at Sports Quest and HCYA Hurricanes, our passion will always be to go beyond the game itself. We'll **INTENTIONALLY** strive to raise next generation leaders – Godly men and women who will contribute to the world in a positive way during these times when evil is called good, and good is called evil (Isaiah 5:20). We'll ask players to go against the cultural tide of compromise, and to not only understand the source and nature of absolute truth (Jesus Christ and His Word, the Bible), but also to apply their faith to daily living. To put it bluntly, our time together will be a **FAILURE** if we're merely producing soccer players at the expense of emphasizing their need for a Personal Savior, and for Him to impact their lives for now and eternity!

Devotional Theme

Our challenge to the Hurricanes players this season is to “live a life worthy of the calling you have received”, based on Ephesians 4:1. It is so easy to lapse into “sloppy living”, where carelessness, laziness, untidiness, irreverent or disrespectful speech, lack of gratitude etc. become the norm. The goal is to present simple, easy to remember phrases (4words24ward i.e. Four Words To Forward) each week to remind players (and coaches) of the responsibility to favorably represent Christ in all we do, think and say. Through soccer and biblical illustrations, we will drive home the fact that regardless of what society may say, or however social media may disagree, Character matters! After all, our aim should be to please God rather than man: Consider Paul's words in 1 Corinthians 10:31: “So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God” and Galatians 1:10: “Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God? Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a servant of Christ”. Encouraging Christ-like character and an authentic walk with Jesus will ALWAYS take precedence over a winning season!

Below is a snapshot of the four messages shared at the close of each practice session so far:

- **Week 1**
Introduction to “Sloppy Living versus Worthy Living”
4words24ward: Live A Worthy Life
- **Week 2**
Pride versus Humility
4words24ward: Pride Goes Before Destruction
- **Week 3**
Lying versus Truthfulness
4words24ward: Be A Truth Teller (BATT)
- **Week 4**
Profanity versus Wise Speech
4words24ward: Think Before You Speak

Sports Quest is looking forward to making memories **WITH YOU** this season as we celebrate our **TEN YEAR ANNIVERSARY** within the HCYA Hurricanes soccer program! Questions? Comments? Email me at info@sqsoccer.com

In Christ,
Jim Spence

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HCYA Hurricanes Team Captains, 2021/22

HSVB: Alan Villagrand, Zachary Pelham and Isaac Taylor.
HSJVB: Hudson Najar, Caleb Deering and Max Nielsen
HSG: SarahGrace Wisener, Kate Stockton and Sarah Coxon (not pictured).
MSB: Tate Palmer and Landon Scott. MSG: Grace Vickers and Penelope Edwards



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)