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EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA YOUTH SOCCER NEWS RELEASE

Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer's 40th Anniversary Celebration Attracts Over 300 Attendees for Awards Presentations & Rousing Keynote by Bill Clement

Over 1,500 Attend Workshop in Downingtown on Saturday

Plymouth Meeting, PA – March 5, 2012 – It was a full weekend of celebration, education and entertainment for Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer, as they hosted the 2012 Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Workshop in Downingtown on Saturday afternoon, and the association's 40th Anniversary Celebration and Awards Gala in Philadelphia Saturday night.

The 40th Anniversary celebration, held Saturday night at the Crowne Plaza Philadelphia Downtown, attracted over 300 people, and featured a rousing keynote presentation by former Philadelphia Flyers great Bill Clement, who was a youth soccer coach in Bucks County for several years. Clement, a two-time Stanley Cup Champion and critically acclaimed author, speaker, actor, entrepreneur and broadcaster, delivered remarks about developing leaders and autographed copies of his new book, *“Everyday Leadership: Crossing Gorges on Tightropes of Success.”*

Lou Tilley, freelance anchor, reporter and producer in multi-media, set the stage for the night as the master of ceremonies.

Among the awards presented Saturday night were 20 Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer players who received the Union League of Philadelphia's Good Citizenship Award. The recipients included: Ricky Blair (Garnet Valley SC); Christopher Burg (Montgomery United SC); Ian Callahan (Marple Newtown SA); Marianela Cardelle (Keystone Athletic AC); Patrick Casey (West Chester United SC); Gabriel Dwyer (United German Hungarian SC); Michael Epright (Nether Providence AA); Sara Erwin (Garnet Valley SC); Scott Geyer (Reading Rage SC); Michael Hanamirian (FC Bucks SC); Matthew Kleinhenz (Lehigh Valley United SC); Drew Maillet (Nether Providence AA); Amanda Nicholas (Council Rock United SA); Kailin Ojert (FC Bucks SC); Paige Phillips (FC Delco Academy); Josh Robbins (Colonial SC); David Ruffini (Nether Providence AA); Broderick Schofield (Lower Merion SC); Katherine Streitwieser (Cheltenham United SC); and Laura Ziemer (Garnet Valley SC).

Kyle Smith (LDC United) and Hallie Berger (Spirit United SC) received the “Young Referees of the Year” awards.

Vince Huff (Wilson/Reading Berks) was named the TOPSoccer Buddy of the Year.

Bobby Ali was named Volunteer of the Year for his work in Southwest Philadelphia with recent Liberian refugees through Junior Lone Star FC.

Donna Urbanski (Penn Fusion SC) was named Administrator of the Year.

Bud Amentt was named 2011 Recreation Boys Coach of the Year while Bob Karpovich earned the Recreation Girls Coach of the Year award. Albert Prickett won the 2011 Competitive Boys Coach of the Year and John Madeira received the Competitive Girls Coach of the Year nod.

Long-time area soccer coaches John Fellenbaum (Franklin & Marshall, J. P. McCaskey High School) and Randy Garber (Penn State, Lower Moreland H.S., Abington Senior H.S.) were the first two recipients of the new Excellence in Coaching awards.

Upper Moreland Soccer Club was presented with the prestigious D'Anjolell Award, while Jim

Kuntz (Hempfield Soccer Club/Lancaster County) received the Service to Youth Award.

“This evening, we come together to recognize the 40 years of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer as well as our award winners for their vision, leadership and commitment,” said Chris Branscome, Chief Executive Officer of Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer. “These are the most accomplished and individuals and clubs from across Eastern Pennsylvania dedicated to accelerating player development and leadership in their clubs, leagues and communities.”

Earlier on Saturday, over 1,500 children, coaches, parents and officials attended the 26th Annual Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer Workshop at the United Sports Training Center in Downingtown, PA. For the third time in the past three years, attendance and participation in the day of clinics, workshops, classroom sessions and demonstrations was at a record level.

About Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer:

Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer has worked throughout Eastern Pennsylvania to promote, foster and perpetuate the game of soccer to the region’s youth since 1972. Through competitions, educational programs, workshops and coaching clinics, Eastern Pennsylvania Youth Soccer currently impacts the lives of more than 130,000 youth soccer players from ages five to 19.

Additional information is available at <http://www.epysa.org>.

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