



# FOOTBALL CANADA

## APRIL/MAY 2006 REPORT

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### FOOTBALL CANADA CUP 2006

Football Manitoba and Football Canada are pleased to announce that this year's championships are being held in Winnipeg, Manitoba at the University of Manitoba from July 7<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

There will be five all-star teams from across the country competing in this year's Under 19 Championship, represented by Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec. The Under 17 Championship will have four teams represented by Manitoba, Western Ontario, Eastern Ontario, and Thunder Bay.



Preliminary games will be played at University of Manitoba and East Side Stadium. Gold and bronze medal games will be played at Canad Inns Stadium.

More to follow!

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### CANADIAN FOOTBALL FORUM

NFL Canada and the CFL hosted the **Canadian Football Forum** in Brampton, Ontario May 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006. As part of the NFL and CFL's on-going commitment to fostering the growth and the development of football in Canada, the "forum" was seen as an important first step to this end.

Approximately 75 delegates from across Canada attended the "forum". They represent players, coaches, officials, executives, administrators and media - all of whom have a passion for football.

The objectives of the 2½-day Forum were to:

1. Formulate recommendations for priority program areas, e.g., coaching, player development, officiating, and promotion.
2. Identify roles that individual organizations can play in implementing NFL Canada and recommendations.
3. Identify opportunities for mutually beneficial stakeholder partnerships.
4. Recommend the structures needed to most effectively implement participants' recommendations.

The delegates identified three top priorities on which work should begin immediately:

- a) Develop a unified front and common vision for football in Canada
- b) Develop a marketing strategy / National Brand for football in Canada
- c) Form a Canadian Football Coaches Association

Football Canada wishes to thank NFL Canada, the CFL, Maverick Consultant Rose Mercier and the delegates for making the forum possible and successful.

## **NCCP COMMUNITY SPORT TACKLE – INITIATION**

The NCCP Context Approval Review Committee has granted conditional approval of Football Canada's Tackle Football Community Sport – Initiation (Novice Coach) Program. The "Review Committee" was very impressed with the quality of the program that we have designed BUT has provided specific direction for modifications that are required before "Final Context Approval" is granted 12 months hence. Football Canada now will make the necessary modifications and complete the translation of the resources into French for final approval. We anticipate that the program will be ready for a full launch in the fall of 2006.

Thanks to all the delegates and participants who in the past three years have contributed and made this possible. A special thanks to Dr. Dan Syrotuik, Jay Hetherington and Doug Krochak for their contribution in developing the resources for the program. We would also like to acknowledge the tremendous contribution and leadership provided to Football Canada by our consultant Mr. Dave Hill.

Football Canada will now begin development of the Tackle Football program in the Competition – Introduction context.

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## **CANNABIS PROJECT UPDATE**

INFORMING YOUNG CANADIAN ATHLETES OF THE HARMS ASSOCIATED WITH CANNABIS USE

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2006 - Football Canada met with the CCES and other participating partners to review athlete focus group findings and recommendations, to make decisions on messages, toolkit components, and presenters, and to determine next steps and timelines to be taken.

The group coordinated by Football Canada included two young men playing in community leagues and four high school athletes from a single school. We'd like to thank them once again for taking the time to participate.

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## **2006-2007 TACKLE RULEBOOKS**

The 2006-2007 Edition of the Canadian Rule Book for Tackle Football is now available for purchase from the National Office. Due to the large number of rule changes, Football Canada encourages all of its members to acquire a copy.

Please contact Jennifer Purdy at (613) 564-2675 or [admin@footballcanada.com](mailto:admin@footballcanada.com) to place your order.

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## **AGM UPDATE**

The 2006 Football Canada Annual General Meeting, hosted by [Ontariotacklefootball.com](http://Ontariotacklefootball.com), will be held in Niagara Falls, Ontario, July 19<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2006. Registration details to follow shortly.

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## **NATIONAL OFFICE UPDATE**

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2006 - Please be advised that Colleen Sutherland is no longer with Football Canada. For all Flag and Touch Football inquiries, please contact:

Bob Swan  
Business Development Manager  
Email: [business@footballcanada.com](mailto:business@footballcanada.com)  
Tel: (613) 564-7751  
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## **FOOTBALL CANADA GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Football Canada's 10th Annual Charity Golf Tournament is scheduled for August 1, 2006 at the challenging Talon Golf Club in Ottawa. This year our popular "Bonanza Dinner Draw" will feature a \$6,000.00 weekend for four golfers in Naples, Florida on Super Bowl weekend (February 2 to February 5, 2007)!

For further information and to register, please contact Jennifer Purdy at (613) 564-2675 or [admin@footballcanada.com](mailto:admin@footballcanada.com).

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## **WOMEN IN COACHING SESSION**

April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006 – Ottawa, ON – Representatives from Football Canada attended a Women in Coaching Session at the University of Ottawa Sports Complex.



Sponsored by Coaches Ontario, "Women in Coaching – Connecting the Dots" is the theme of these sessions which brings female coaches from the community together. In each of the sessions held across the province, a top female coach facilitated an informal session on experiences, opportunities and resources available to women coaches.

We would like to thank Shelley Coolidge, Head Coach of the University of Ottawa Women's Hockey Team, for leading a great discussion.

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## **OFSAA WOMEN'S SPORT SCHOOL TRADESHOW**

May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2006 – Football Canada recently participated in the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association Women's Sport School Tradeshow held in Kingston, Ontario.

Football Canada's **Youth Flag Football Initiative** was the theme of the trade show booth featuring Flag Football brochures, kits, manuals and a showing of the recent Youth Flag Football DVD.

The professional development event brought together teacher-coaches from across the province to share ideas. The tradeshow encompassed a wide variety of elements for both curricular and co-curricular programs that were geared to High School and Elementary School teachers. The aim of the Women's Sport School tradeshow was to increase participant knowledge in several areas of school sport and expose teachers to new and unconventional sports, teaching methods as well as provide opportunities for discussion.

Many thanks to Jennifer Bennett, Assistant Director of OFSAA for all her help.

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## **OFFICIALS' TECHNICAL COMMITTEE – FCOCP REVISION MEETING**

May 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 – The OTC met in Brampton, Ontario to continue the revision of the officials' certification program. Final review was completed for Levels 1 and 2, with an initial revision being completed for Level 3.

We would like to thank Ken Green, Vern Heath, Hal Perkins, Bernie Young, and Bill Glendinning for their tireless efforts.

## **CFOA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE**

May 19<sup>th</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006 – Mississauga, ON – The Ontario Football Officials Association hosted the 2006 CFOA Conference, held at the University of Toronto, Mississauga campus. Held every two years, the CFOA Conference is an ideal opportunity for Canadian Football Officials to share information and reinforce the standard and consistency of football officiating across the country.



*The Second Half, A Whole New Ballgame* was the theme for the conference. By identifying some of the major challenges faced on and off the field, the goal was to improve the level of officiating, making the game a better one for all concerned.

Featured speakers included: Jerry Markbreit (Head Trainer for NFL Referees), George Black (CFL Director of Officials), Glen Johnston (Grey Cup Referee), Jake Ireland (CFL Referee), Vern Heath & Ken Green (CIS and CFL observers), Gord Smith (CIS Referee) and Jim Rion (VP Ontariotacklefootball.com and President OVFL).

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## **HALIFAX XPLOSION** **MARITIME WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE**



*New Halifax team preparing for play!*

Nova Scotia's first women's tackle football team had its very first practice last week, two months ahead of the scheduled kickoff of its debut Maritime Women's Football League game. The Xplosion will join the Saint John Buccaneers, the Moncton Vipers and the Capital Area Gladiators (of Fredericton) to compete for the Judy Upward Trophy in the league's third season.

The Head Coach is Nick Barr, who welcomes all level of skill, but must be 16 or older in 2006 to join the league. Twenty women have signed up so far - 16 of whom were on the field Monday. Coach Barr needs about 10 more players, 30 total, which shouldn't be a problem with the interest already there and catching.

Contact: Nick Barr  
902-463-4856  
[nbarr1@eastlink.ca](mailto:nbarr1@eastlink.ca)

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## **EDMONTON STORM**



*Be a Part of Edmonton's First Female Tackle Football Team!*

This is a new and exciting sport for females. Most women have never had the opportunity to play tackle football so coaches start with the basics and teach players everything they need to know. Participants will be taught how to play with proper technique and skill. Player safety is top priority.

Contact: Terry Yahnke  
[tyahnke@shaw.ca](mailto:tyahnke@shaw.ca)

Spring camps to be held:

- May 13-14 2006 Bonnie Doon Sports Fields-8648-81 Street
- June 17-18 2006 Bonnie Doon Sports Fields-8648-81 Street
- July 8-9 2006 Bonnie Doon Sports Fields-8648-81 Street

## **TEAM CANADA PLAYERS IN THE CFL DRAFT 2006**

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 - Close to 20% of the CFL draft was represented by past Team Canada players:

Hamilton (via Edmonton) – Cedric GAGNE-MARCOUX (OL) – Central Florida – Team Canada 2001  
Saskatchewan – Chris COWAN (OL) - Saint Mary's – Team Canada 2000  
Calgary – Gerald COMMISSIONG (RB) – Stanford – Team Canada 2001  
Edmonton – Jean Philippe ABRAHAM (LB) – Laval – Team Canada 2002  
Winnipeg (via B.C.) – Dominic PICARD (OL) – Laval – Team Canada 2001, 2002  
Montreal – Etienne BOULAY (DB) - New Hampshire – Team Canada 2002  
Montreal – Adrian DAVIS (DL) – Marshall – Team Canada 2001  
Montreal – Joel WRIGHT (DB) - Wilfrid Laurier – Team Canada 2000, 2001  
Montreal (via Winnipeg (via Hamilton)) – Danny DESRIVEAUX (WR) – Richmond – Team Canada 2001

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## **MCMASTER HONOURS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL COACHES**

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 - Hamilton, ON - McMaster Football, in partnership with the McMaster Friends of Football, is pleased to announce that Rick Oreskovich (Niagara Falls, ON) and Dave Walters (Hamilton, ON) are the recipients of the Inaugural McMaster High School Football Achievement Awards.

The coaches were chosen from a group of nominees from Schools in the Halton/Hamilton-Wentworth/Niagara/Haldimand School Boards. The award recipients were selected based on several criteria, including their long term coaching commitment, classroom dedication and abilities to prepare athletes to compete in football programs at the elite level.

McMaster Head Coach, Stefan Ptaszek commented that "Hamilton, Halton, Niagara and Haldimand/Norfolk are considered hotbeds for Football in Canada. The strength of football in this region is a direct result of the quality of the coaches, and it is the coaches we are looking to recognize through this program".

The recipients of the High School Football Coaching Achievement Award will each receive \$1,000 in athletic equipment and two tickets to the Football Gala Dinner on April 26. For information on the event or to obtain tickets contact Coach Ben Chapdelaine 905-525-9140 ext. 23566 or Shelley Merlo at 905-525-9140 ext. 23628.

For more information, please contact:

Stefan Ptaszek  
Head Coach, McMaster Football Canada  
(905) 525-9140 x 23276  
[ptaszek@mcmaster.ca](mailto:ptaszek@mcmaster.ca)

OR

Robert S. Hilton  
Manager, Marketing & Media Relations  
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[hilsonr@mcmaster.ca](mailto:hilsonr@mcmaster.ca)

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## **ENERGY DRINKS**

A trip to a local corner store will almost certainly reveal a well-developed display promoting "energy drinks."

Energy drinks have developed into a phenomenon that has made huge inroads into the beverage market and has become increasingly popular with 7- to 11-year olds. And unfortunately some coaches and parents have promoted the consumption of these drinks before competitions.

Although legal, energy drinks pose potential health risks and most carry the warning "not recommended for children." The marketing is slick and appealing by promoting the concept that athletes can maximize their performance with less effort, after consuming an energy drink.

Basically, these drinks are stimulants with enormous amounts of caffeine that have been linked to high pulse rates, dizziness, disorientation, palpitations and dehydration in young athletes – these are not “thirst quenchers”. It is also thought that some of the other ingredients may restrict nutrient absorption.

Although not prohibited for use in sport, the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has placed caffeine and other stimulants not considered to be Prohibited Substances on a monitoring program to detect patterns of their misuse in sport.

Though not proven, there is suspicion that the consumption of energy drinks has been a contributing factor in some deaths in Ireland and Sweden. Recently in Fairfax County, Virginia the school board banned student athletes from consuming energy drinks before, during and after school because some of these athletes required medical attention for heart problems.

Parents, coaches and young athletes need to be educated in the potential health risks and stop promoting the concept of “winning at all costs.” A positive environment, a healthy lifestyle with proper training and exercise, rest, frequent meals and hydration is really all that is needed.

## REFERENCES

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