



## 2009 IFAF JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP NEWS RELEASE

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### **IFAF JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HEAD COACHES AND DELEGATES TO MEET IN CANTON TO VISIT TOURNAMENT FACILITIES AND HOST STADIUM**

***IFAF President and representatives from eight competing nations will officially kick off the event at a flag raising ceremony in downtown Canton and will hold technical meetings from May 8-9***

TUESDAY, May 5, 2009, CANTON, OHIO – Representatives and head coaches from the eight countries that will compete in the 2009 IFAF Junior World Championship this summer will tour the host venue practice and game day facilities and will hold technical meetings in Canton, Ohio, from May 8-9.

The inaugural IFAF Junior World Championship featuring teams from four continents and eight nations - Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Sweden and the United States – will be played in Canton, Ohio, from June 27 to July 5.

The group will take part in a flag raising ceremony at 11am on Friday, May 8, in downtown Canton to officially open the event and will then attend a kickoff luncheon at the Pro Football Hall of Fame from 11.30am to 1.30pm.

They will also have an opportunity to inspect the facilities at the Fawcett Stadium host venue and the teams' accommodation at Walsh University. All 360 players will live in an international village at Walsh University's 136-acre campus, which will serve as the practice site for all eight teams. The group will also meet with business leaders from the Northeast Ohio Hispanic community during their visit to Canton.

#### **Attending the events in Canton will be the following delegates:**

**Canada** - Richard Munro, CEO, Football Canada; Rick Sowieta, High Performance Director, Football Canada; Shannon Donovan, Competitions and Events Manager, Football Canada

**France** - Vincent Miraval, Technical Director, Fédération Française de Football Américain (FFFA)

**Germany** - Peter Springwald, Director of Youth Operations, American Football Verband Deutschland (AFVD)

**Japan** - Shinzo Yamada, representative of the Japan American Football Association (JAFA)

**Mexico** - Ernesto Alfaro Del Villar, Head Coach; Jose Jorge Orobio Rosas, President Federación Mexicana de Fútbol Americano

**New Zealand** - Michael Mau'u, Head Coach; Leroy Sisnett, President, New Zealand American Football Association

**Sweden** - Jan Jenmert, Head Coach; Joan Travesset, Director of International Relations, Swedish American Football Federation (SAFF)

**United States** - Chuck Kyle, Head Coach, USA Football; Todd Bell, General Manager, USA Football

#### **International Federation of American Football**

Tommy Wiking, President

Roope Noronen, Chairman, JWC Tournament Committee

**Officials from the City of Canton** - Mayor William J. Healy II; Bob Belden, JWC Host Committee Chairman; Todd Blackledge, Event keynote speaker

Tickets for football's first junior world championship are now available at [jwcfootball.com](http://jwcfootball.com) or by calling 1-800 574-5874. All-day general admission tickets are \$10; reserved tickets to all 12 tournament games are \$50.

### **IFAF Junior World Championship Flag Raising and Technical Meeting Schedule**

#### **Friday, May 8**

11am	JWC Flag Raising Ceremony, Market Street Plaza, downtown Canton, Ohio
11.30am-1.30pm	JWC Kickoff Media Luncheon at Pro Football Hall Of Fame
1.30pm-2.30pm	Tour of Pro Football Hall Of Fame
2.30pm-4pm	Tour of Fawcett Stadium facilities
5.30pm-6.30pm	Reception for Mexican delegation with business leaders from the Northeast Ohio Hispanic community, Hall of Fame

#### **Saturday, May 9**

9am-10.30am	Tour of Walsh University facilities
11.30am-3pm	IFAF JWC Technical Meeting