



The Rory McDonagh Football Coaching Program at Future Hope 2015

With the continued support of the Rory Trust, Future Hope participated in some very exciting football events this year. Future Hope welcomed the football season this year in August with a bang by organizing the Future Hope Soccer League (FHSL) modelled after the Indian Soccer League (ISL).

The students also participated in various inter-school football tournaments and though they weren't winners, some very good football was played.

Future Hope Soccer League

The FHSL based on ISL was completely organized by a group of students. The staff members and coaches sat back and enjoyed the event from 5-Aug to 28-Aug. The matches were played on the school premises of Rowland Road.



With six players in each team comprising of boys and girls, ten teams were formed – Kolkata, North East, Goa, Chennai, Kerala, Sikkim, Mumbai, Delhi, Punjab and Pune. Without disrupting lessons, matches were played during the break and lunch.

Matches turned out to be very exciting with 4 players on each side and 2 substitutions. The small playing field ensured that skill was the most important factor for manoeuvring the ball. 45 league matches were played before Chennai and Kerala locked horns on 28-Aug for the finals.

The spectators watched a stunning display of football and the scoreboard was 1-1 at regulation time. Eventually the team that kept their nerves steady in the penalty shootout and lifted the Championship trophy was Kerala.

Sunny Kewat was awarded the Man of the Match trophy. Saddam Hussain and Jumpa Das claimed the best male and female player awards respectively. Anash Hussain was adjudged Emerging Young Star of the tournament.

Kudos to the students for conducting the tournament very professionally.

Tournaments Played

Star Sports Young Heroes U-15 School Tournament – Boys



Star Sports organised an under 15 football tournament for young talented footballers in Kolkata at the Howrah Maidan Stadium on 25 & 26-Aug.

The format of the game was 7 a side and 10 minutes each half. 64 skilled school teams competed in the prestigious tournament and the winning team from Kolkata earned a ticket to play against the winners from other cities.

Future Hope put up a very young and confident team comprising of boarders and day scholars. Sheikh Badal led the Future Hope team. The Future Hope boys won all the league matches, and reached the semi-finals. In a well fought battle, the boys lost to St. Lawrence in the semi-finals (1-2).

It was a very spirited performance by the Future Hope boys.

Keventers Cup – Boys & Girls

Like every year, this year too Future Hope participated alongside 40 other schools of Kolkata in the Keventers Cup Inter School Football Tournament. After winning all the league matches Future Hope reached the pre-quarter finals but lost to La Martiniere for Boys. La Martiniere went on to win the tournament and became the defending champions.

Between 5-8 Sep, the Future Hope Girls squad was extremely busy playing good football at the Keventers Cup under 19, 5 a side Girls' Tournament.

The girls won all the matches in the league stage, and convincingly beat Modern High School (5-0) in the semi-finals but lost their defending champions' title to La Martiniere (0-1) in the final.

Kaushalya Donegan was Man of the Match on three occasions and was awarded a trophy for the Highest Goal Scorer in the tournament. Rinky Khatun was Man of the Match for one of the matches.

The Principal of Future Hope School gave away the champion's trophy to the winning team. The Future Hope Girls team was a disciplined side and they earned praise from everyone.



Inter School Girls Football – Junior and Senior Divisions

La Martiniere School for Girls, Kolkata had organised a football tournament on 18-Aug for Junior Division - up to class 8 and the Senior Division - class 9 to 12.

The Future Hope girls squad participated in both the Junior and Senior Divisions.

The Junior Team lost to La Martiniere (2-0) in the final. And the Senior Team lost in the finals in a penalty shootout to Frank Anthony Public School (1-0).



Coaching Programme

The Football Coaching programs are continuing with great rigour at the Maidan and at school under the guidance of the coaches.

Practice sessions for the girls are twice a week at the Maidan under the aegis of Coach Barun Sengupta, now an AFC-B license holder. The team size has increased from 20 girls last year to 35 this year. There are about 50 promising boys that are coached by Partha Sen (AFC-C license holder) every Sunday at the Maidan. During Maidan practice, the players proudly don their shin guards and football boots.

At school, both girls and boys are coached under the PE Teacher, Swapan Kumar Paul, also an AFC-C license holder.

With more students getting interested in football we hope the number to increase to 100 by next year. The Future Hope Girls team is gearing up to play more football with each passing year. Thanks to the Rory Trust, we look forward to more successes in the next season.

