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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington Youth Soccer Announces the 08-09 Olympic Development Coaching Staff

FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON (Tuesday, September 16) – In partnership with the Seattle Sounders FC, Washington Youth Soccer has infused new energy into one of its most elite programs by announcing the 2008-2009 Coaching Staff for the Olympic Development Program (ODP). The 2008-2009 Washington Youth Soccer ODP Coaching Staff is comprised of the following:

Boys Program

Head Coach:	Darren Sawatzky
Boys Assistant Head Coach:	Gary White
Jr. ODP/Seattle Sounders FC:	Rotating Staff*
1996 Pool and Team:	James Charette / Leighton O'Brien / Dan Pingrey
1995 Pool and Team:	Gary White / Danny Jackson
1994 Pool and Team:	Anthony Sardon / Sunny Dulai / Mike Macchione
1993 Pool and Team:	Peter Fewing / Brad Elmenhurst
1992 Pool and Team:	<i>(To be announced at first training session.)</i>

Girls Program

Head Coach:	Scott Newman
Jr. ODP/Seattle Sounders FC:	Rotating Staff*
1996 Pool and Team:	Tami Nguyen / Scott Halasz / Sharok Khabir / Liz Spencer
1995 Pool and Team:	Malia Arrant / Kevin Moon / Katie Hultin
1994 Pool and Team:	Chuck Sekyra / Arby Busey / Lance Fischbach / Emily Cole
1993 Pool and Team:	Rich Schreiner / Aron Hyde / Ben Somoza
1992 Pool and Team:	<i>(To be announced at first training session.)</i>

Goalkeeping (Boys and Girls): Tom Dutra

*Staff Trainers (Boys and Girls): Shannon Murray, Tom Moore, Marty Girvan, Tim Merritt, Mark Collings, Adam Fenster and Viet Nguyen

By taking into consideration the changing soccer landscape, both at the youth and professional levels here in Washington, the new ODP Coaching Staff members represent the right combination of experience and values that will be responsible for identifying the best players in the state and strengthening development at every age level.

“Considered one of our flagship programs, we recognize the need to enhance our efforts in order to strengthen and improve the foundation of the Olympic Development Program,” stated Washington Youth Soccer’s Executive Director/COO Todd McGann. “By partnering with the Seattle Sounders FC and combining resources, all of our players will greatly benefit from the extensive experience of our new coaching staff who are dedicated to building on past successes and making sure our players are the very best at the highest levels of competition.”

For additional information about Washington Youth Soccer and the Olympic Development Program, please visit wsysa.com

About Washington Youth Soccer

Washington Youth Soccer is the largest youth soccer organization in Washington. Washington Youth Soccer is the state's affiliate for US Youth Soccer, which is the largest sports organization in the United States and the most populous member of the United States Soccer Federation, the governing body for soccer in the United States. The Washington Youth Soccer is the sixth largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 126,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 11,000 teams and 6,500 referees in the state of Washington. Washington Youth Soccer’s mission is to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition.

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