



Contact: Brenda N. Heintz
Washington Youth Soccer
253-476-2237 (phone)
brenda@wsysa.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Sounders FC's Gary Wright To Give Keynote Address at SoccerPalooza Awards Dinner and Sounders Celebration

FEDERAL WAY, WASH. (Mar. 10) – Washington Youth Soccer announced Tuesday that Sounders FC Senior Vice President of Business Operations Gary Wright will deliver the keynote address at the association's annual SoccerPalooza, Awards Dinner and Sounders Celebration, Sat., May 9 at the Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center.

Wright has been one of the central figures in Seattle sports for more than three decades, having served in public relations for the Seattle Seahawks for 32 years, the last 21 as Vice President. Wright's significance to Seattle's sports heritage was evident when he was chosen by Seahawks legend Steve Largent to be the latter's official presenter at the NFL Hall of Fame induction ceremony in 1995, and in his assistance of media relations efforts at over 23 Super Bowls.

Wright has also played an important role in developing Seattle as a home for top-level professional and international soccer. He currently oversees all business operations for Sounders FC, including ticket sales, corporate partnerships, community outreach, charities, fan experience, public relations and marketing of the team.

Wright's keynote address will be just one of many highlights at SoccerPalooza — a free, day-long celebration including informative workshops, a vendor show and much, much more! Coaches, administrators and soccer supporters of all kinds will have the chance to network with Washington's soccer coaching and administrative leaders and enjoy premium offers from leading industry exhibitors and retailers. The Annual Awards Dinner and Sounders FC Celebration will follow the day's events, paying tribute to the dedicated men and women whose commitment and dedication have helped elevate the game of soccer in our state over the past year.

For additional information, specific schedules or to register, please visit wsysa.com.

WHAT: Washington Youth Soccer's 2009 SoccerPalooza and Awards Dinner
WHEN: Sat., May 9 – SoccerPalooza and Awards Dinner and Sounders Celebration

WHERE: Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center
17620 International Blvd.
Seattle, Wash., 98188-4001

REGISTRATION: 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. Washington Youth Soccer boasts the sixth-largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 128,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 12,000 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.

###