

New Coaching Director brings National Prominence to Local Soccer Club

The **Knoxville Football Club** (KFC) has hired Rick Young from Southern California to fill its Director of Coaching position. Young was hired from the Slammers Futbol Club in Newport Beach, California, where he helped coach some of the top women's players in the country. Young has coached 3 collegiate All-Americans, 20 players in the national team pool, and a player on the U.S. Women's National Team. Three of his former players were Parade High School All-Americans.

According to Angela Kelly, head women's soccer coach for the University of Tennessee, the hiring of Rick Young by the KFC, "has sent a shockwave through the country on the club and collegiate level."

"In my opinion, he has developed some of the best talent to come out of Southern Cal in the past five years," Kelly said, "Players that understand the game, are proficient technically, and have a burning desire to compete and win." Current Tennessee player Tanya Emerson played for Young when she was recruited by the Lady Vols. 2009 commitments Jayden Barrett and Kylie Bono are also products of Young's coaching.

Young is looking forward to the many challenges ahead. He inherits a club that has grown exponentially over the last three years, producing teams that have been successful regionally and nationally. KFC has won more Division 1 state championships than any other club in the state over the past three years.

"I want to raise the standards here," Young said, "Tennessee is not really on the map soccer-wise. It's not like the kids in California are drinking different water. We're going to work hard to get our players to another level. Our players, teams, and coaches will not be outworked by anyone."

This mentality is the exact reason the Knoxville Football Club hired Young. "We are fortunate to have someone with Rick's experience join our existing staff," says KFC Executive Director Shane Moore, "He was chosen over some other very high-profile candidates, which included several Division 1 college coaches. It's a great opportunity for our coaches and players to learn how to continue to strive for the next level."

"I see a lot in the players and coaches here," Young said, "I see more than they even see in themselves. My mentors in California brought out the best in me, so now it's my turn to bring out the best in the coaches at the Knoxville Football Club."

Despite all his success, Young feels producing quality kids and filling his staff with good role models is more important than winning soccer games.

"Although I expect our club to experience a lot of success on the field," Young said, "It is equally important to me that every player in the club has a coach that truly cares for them, not only as talented players but also as kids."

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The **Knoxville Football Club** offers elite, instructional soccer programs for girls and boys ages 5-19. To learn more, visit our website at www.KFCCRUSH.com. If you have questions about this or any other KFC article, please email mediarelations@kfccrush.com.