



SUNDERLAND INTERNATIONAL BEACH SOCCER CUP



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www.EnglandBeachSoccer.com

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International Beach Soccer comes to Sunderland

Sunderland is to host the International Beach Soccer Cup on the 30th, 31st July and 1st August 2010 at the Stadium of Light.

Sunderland City Council and Sunderland AFC have teamed up with England Beach Soccer (EBS) to bring International Beach Soccer to Sunderland for the first time. Four top international teams, England, Germany, Mexico and Greece, will compete over the three day event.

The tournament includes the much anticipated rematch between England and Germany after last year's last minute victory by England in the European League at Minehead. On Saturday, Sunderland AFC Under 18s will take on a leading English Beach Soccer Club.

John Hawkins, EBS Chief Executive : "We are delighted to be able to bring Beach Soccer to the North East, everybody knows the passion for football there is in this part of the world. We are sure once Sunderland sees Beach Soccer played first hand, it will fall in love with the sport. Beach soccer is fast paced, full of action and goals and delivers a really fun day for the whole family. Music, dancers and crowd participation during the matches make beach soccer a truly memorable experience. We are proud to be working closely with such a phenomenal Premiership powerhouse as Sunderland AFC, and to have the use of their superb facilities at the Stadium of Light."

In order to stage this event, with the support of Sunderland City Council and Sunderland AFC, EBS will be building a temporary 2,000 capacity venue at the Stadium of Light.

President of Beach Soccer Worldwide (BSWW) Joan Cusco stated. "We are delighted that the EBS is taking the International Beach Soccer Cup to Sunderland for the first time. I am sure the fans will be thrilled to see some of the world's greatest beach soccer players in action. Importantly our partnership with Sunderland means spectators in the north east of England will be exposed to the drama and excitement of the sport first hand".

Sunderland City Council Portfolio Holder for Safer City and Culture, Councillor Denny Wilson, said: "Sunderland has a proud football and sporting tradition, so we're delighted the city has been chosen to host this fantastic international event. We look forward to welcoming teams from all over the world, to experience for themselves our excellent facilities and passion for sport. Hosting this tournament is further evidence of the city's commitment to attracting international events at the same time as promoting sporting excellence and participation in any way it can."

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In addition to the high profile international competition, the Stadium of Light will host a range of community activities across the 3 days. Supported by Disney XD, it is anticipated that over 500 young people and 30 junior teams will be offered introductory coaching sessions as well as mini tournaments. In addition, local adult teams will be able to participate in Beach Soccer competitions.

Tickets for the International Tournament will be available through the SAFC ticket office during normal trading hours from 10am 6th July 2010 :

Prices per day: £6 adult - £4 under 14s - £15 family ticket (2 adults 2 children under 14s)

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Notes to Editors

England Beach Soccer is recognised by BSWW (Beach Soccer WorldWide), FIFA and the FA as the only approved promoter of beach soccer in England. Inspired by the acrobatic football played on the beaches of Brazil, the rules of beach soccer encourage a spectacular game which is enjoying an incredible rise in popularity in the UK.

There are currently over 3,500 registered players and 100 teams in the UK, across nine regions.

Disney XD are the Youth Development partners for England Beach Soccer.

The England beach soccer team is currently ranked 11th in Europe and their next competition is the FIFA World Cup European Qualifier in Italy, shown exclusively live on ESPN – July 11th to July 18th.

More information can be found at www.EnglandBeachSoccer.com

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SCHEDULE

Friday 30 July

9.30 – 18.00 : Disney XD Community Coaching

17.00 : Gates open to public

19.00 – 20.00: Mexico vs Germany

20.00 – 21.00: England vs Greece

Saturday 31 July

9:30 - 15:30: Disney XD Community Coaching

13.00: Gates open to the public

16.00 – 17.00: Mexico vs Greece

17.00 – 18.00: England vs Germany

18.30 – 21.00: Adult Community Tournament

21.30pm: Gates Close

Sunday 1 August

9.30 - 14:30: Disney XD Community Coaching

13.00: Gates open to the public

15.00 – 16.00: Sunderland AFC Under 16's vs EBS U16's

16.00 – 17.00pm: Germany vs Greece

17.00 – 18.00pm: England vs Mexico

18.30 – 20.30pm: Adult Community Tournament

21.00: Gates Close

www.englishbeachsoccer.com

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Follow EBS on Twitter: https://twitter.com/Eng_BeachSoccer

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ENGLAND BEACH SOCCER TEAM FIXTURES 2010

Date	Tournament	Venue	Opponents
9 th April	BSWW Betclic Spring Cup	Viseu, Portugal	Portugal
10 th April	“	“	Switzerland
11 th April	“	“	Russia
26 th June	EBSL Division B Super Final Qualifier	Marseille, France	Hungary
27 th June	“	“	Belarus
11 th July	FBSWC 2011 World Cup Qualifier	Bibione, Italy	Estonia
12 th July	“	“	Israel
13 th July	“	“	Portugal
23 rd to 25 th July	BSWW Challenge Cup	The Hague, Holland	Greece Germany Mexico
30 th July - 1 st August	EBSL Sunderland International Beach Soccer Cup	Sunderland, England	

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GOALKEEPERS PLAYER PROFILES



Andrew Grainger (Newcastle upon Tyne)

AKA: Zeus
 Day Job: Alarm Systems Surveyor
 Position: Goalkeeper (Captain)
 Squad No: 1
 D.O.B: 21/09/1982
 Caps: 54
 Debut: v Portugal (Mundialito, Portugal 03).

Current England captain. Was the player of the tournament at the EBSL Brighton event in 2004 beating Madjer and Eric Cantona to the award. Great shot stopper, great presence.



Sam Webb (Southampton, Hampshire)

AKA: Webby
 Day Job: Builder
 Position: Goalkeeper (Joint Vice Captain)
 Squad No: 12
 D.O.B: 20/06/1987
 Caps: 14
 Debut: v Andorra (Castellon, Spain 2009)

Sam had a great debut season last year. Quick, agile with a great throw, Sam has taken to the sand very well and this could be another big season for him. Appointed joint vice captain.

Name: Gianpaulo Giancovich (Isle of Wight, Hampshire)

AKA: G
 Day Job: Artist/Designer
 Position: Goalkeeper
 Squad No: 13
 D.O.B: 14/01/1975
 Caps: 32
 Debut: v Portugal (Mundialito 2004)

Vastly experienced keeper who has been one of the most noticeable characters of the Beach Soccer scene for many years. GP is renowned for his great distribution.

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OUTFIELD PLAYER PROFILES



Steve Black (Portsmouth, Hampshire)

AKA: Blacky
 Day Job: Builder
 Position: Forward
 Squad No: 2
 DOB: 16/12/1976
 Caps: 11
 Goals: 1
 Debut: v Russia (Castellon, Spain 2009)

A naturally hard working, reliable and consistent player who gives his all for the team. Very good at getting forward and a good influence on the younger players. Scored on his debut.

Name: Jamie O'Rourke (Isle of Wight)

AKA: Postman Plod
 Day Job: Postman
 Position: Defender
 Squad No: 3
 DOB: 17/12/1975
 Caps: 34
 Goals: 19
 Debut: V Holland (Schevenigen) 2005

Jamie was the Head Coach last season. As a player Jamie was a captain and always led by example on and off the sand. Scored two hat-tricks v Belgium and Holland.



Kieran O'Callaghan (East Sussex)

AKA: Kes
 Day Job: Student
 Position: Defender
 Squad No: 4
 DOB: 19/11/1984
 Caps: 46
 Goals: 14
 Debut: v Germany (Linz, Austria 2005)

Solid and reliable. Very good at getting forward and scores some vital goals. Kieran is exceptionally quick over the sand and it could be a big season for him.

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Terry Bowes (London)

AKA: The Hairy Bowes
 Day Job: Taxi Driver
 Position: Head Coach / Defender
 Squad No: 5
 DOB: 13/09/1979
 Caps: 89
 Goals: 38
 Debut: v Spain (Malaga, Spain 2001).

Terry started as an attacking player and had a good 'goals to games' ratio in his early years. Now plays in a more deeper role. He's England's most capped player with 89 appearances with 47 as Captain. This season Terry took over as Head Coach and has quickly implemented his vision for the future. Discipline and 'We are a Team at all times' are part of his philosophy.

Name: Richard Young (London)

AKA: Rich
 Day Job: Fireman
 Position: Forward
 Squad No: 6
 DOB: 05/02/1982
 Caps: 3
 Goals: 0
 Debut: v Portugal (Viseu, Portugal 2010)

Has adapted well to the sand with his speed and endurance. A big man with a big season ahead of him. Has represented Hayes FC.



Gary Funnell (Poole, Dorset)

AKA: Gaz or Fun's
 Day Job: Taxi Driver
 Position: Defender (Joint Vice Captain)
 Squad No: 7
 DOB: 14/05/1982
 Caps: 24
 Goals: 7
 Debut: v Estonia (Benidorm, Spain 2008)

Strong, determined with a wonderful left foot. Played in every game last year, scoring 6 goals. This could be a big season for Gary and he has been appointed joint vice captain.

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Mathew Evans (Isle of Wight, Hampshire)

AKA: Matty or Radio FM
 Day Job: Painter
 Position: Forward
 Squad No: 8
 DOB: 25/04/1987
 Caps: 10
 Goals: 6
 Debut: v Germany (Weymouth, England 08)

An enormous talent who will score plenty of goals. Scored on his debut against Germany. Scored a brace ag against 2009 World Cup Finalist's Switzerland in Viseu earlier this season. Player of the Nuts TV Tour 2008. Plays football for Newport IOW.



Anthony Kerr (Isle of Wight, Hampshire)

AKA: Tony
 Day Job: Football Player/Coach
 Position: Forward
 Squad No: 9
 DOB: 21/12/1987
 Caps: 14
 Goals: 6
 Debut: v Estonia (Benidorm, Spain 2008)

Scored a spectacular volley against Hungary in Tignes in 2008 and a long range free kick against Russia in Viseu this year. Whilst being a younger member of the squad he was confident enough to step forward and take a penalty in last year's World Cup Qualifier against Estonia. Another youngster who hopefully will have a big future.



Mark Mitchell (Isle of Wight, Hampshire)

AKA: Scrappy
 Day Job: Carer
 Position: Defender
 Squad No: 16
 DOB: 06/03/1983
 Caps: 52
 Goals: 7
 Debut: v Germany (Linz, Austria 2005)

Hard working and great character who's yet to realise his full potential on a consistent basis. Great left foot and can bike from anywhere. Chips in with his share of goals and assists. Played football with Bournemouth and Portsmouth Youth and represented England Schoolboys at Cricket.

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HISTORY OF BEACH SOCCER

Over the past decade beach soccer has journeyed throughout the beaches of Brazil to the hearts of millions of fans all over the globe. The participation of internationally renowned players such as the Brazilian Junior Negao, Portugal's Alan and Madjer, the Spanish star Amarelle and Eric Cantona's France has helped significantly increase the TV awareness in over 170 countries worldwide, making beach soccer one of the fastest growing professional sports in the world.



Beach soccer had been played recreationally all over the world for many years and in many different formats. However, it wasn't until 1992 that the Laws of the Game were envisioned and a pilot event staged in Los Angeles. The following summer, the first professional beach soccer competition was organized at Miami Beach, with the teams from the USA, Brazil, Argentina and Italy taking part in what would turn out to be an historic event.

In April 1994 the first event to be covered by network television transmissions was held on the Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro and the city hosted the inaugural Beach Soccer World Championship one year later. The competition was won by the host nation, making Brazil the first ever World Champions of Beach Soccer. The success of the tournament saw international interest begin to match developments on the pitch and growing demand for the sport around the world gave rise to the Pro Beach Soccer Tour in 1996.

The first Pro Beach Soccer Tour included a total of 60 games in two years across South America, Europe, Asia and the USA,



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attracting major names both on and off the pitch. Interest generated by the tour in Europe led to the creation of the European Pro Beach Soccer League in 1998, providing a solid infrastructure that would increase the professionalism of the game on all levels.

The European Beach Soccer League united promoters from across the continent and satisfied the demands of the media, sponsors and fans.



The EBSL flourished, with a nail-biting 2000 season decided in the closing match of the final tournament when Spain beat Portugal in an intense encounter.

The next four years would see this growth consolidated by further progress both on and off the pitch, with the EBSL emerging as the strongest Pro Beach Soccer competition in the world. By 2004, some 17 nations had entered teams, and by 2005 this had risen to 20, leading to more than seventy countries looking to stage events.

Just over five years ago, beach soccer became a part of the FIFA family, and in May 2005, the first-ever FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup was staged on Copacabana Beach in Rio de Janeiro. To everyone's surprise, France defeated Portugal in the final, while hot favourites Brazil fell in the semis.

However, the following year the Auriverde avenged the previous year's loss. In the final of the competition, they were never in any real trouble against Uruguay as they proceeded to claim their first FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup. Eric Cantona's Blues, meanwhile, triumphed in the third-place play-off, again at the expense of Portugal. Last November the world's top teams reunited in Dubai for the 2009 FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup.



For more information on Beach Soccer visit www.Englandbeachsoccer.com

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BEACH SOCCER RULES OF THE SPORT

- Each team consists of ten players (five on the pitch), including the goalkeeper. Substitutions are unlimited and can happen at any time regardless of the ball being in or out of play.
- Athletes play barefoot or with a soft ankle protection. Shoes are not allowed
- Each match is divided into 3 periods of 12 minutes each. If the two teams are tied after regular play, a 3 minute extra time is played, without golden goal. If the draw remains, the teams play a penalty shootout to determine the winner. The penalties are taken in sudden death mode: the first team to open a lead after the same number of attempts as its opponent will be declared the winner.
- There are no draws in beach soccer. A win in extra time or a penalty kick shootout awards two points, as opposed to three points awarded by a win in regular time.
- Three referees control the match: two inside the pitch and a third one outside controlling the teams' benches.
- There are no walls in beach soccer. All free kicks are direct. There is no offside. The same player who suffers the foul is the one who takes the free kick.
- A player who receives a red card is not allowed to re-enter the match. His team may substitute him after a lapse of 2 minutes.
- A goal clearance must be taken by the goalkeeper with his hands. Throw-ins may be taken with the hands or the foot. A corner kick is always taken with the foot.

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