



Texans Soccer Club -Houston joins Texas Pre-Academy League, a US Club Soccer National Premier League

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Houston, Texas (April 7, 2011) – Texans Soccer Club is pleased to announce its participation in the newly-formed **Texas Pre-Academy League**, one of US Club Soccer’s **National Premier Leagues (NPL)** for boys. The Texas Pre-Academy League includes the U-13, U-14, U-15 age groups beginning in fall 2011.

The National Premier Leagues are leagues throughout the country with the highest level of competition in a given area, offering a platform for long-term player development by providing consistent and meaningful games between the region’s top players. The NPL also provides opportunities for players to be scouted by U.S. Soccer national staff. Winners of each league within the NPL will qualify for US Club Soccer’s inaugural **National Premier Leagues Champions Cup** in July 2012.

Leagues within the NPL currently include the Midwest Developmental League, NorCal Premier League, Northeast Pre-Academy League, Northern Illinois Soccer League, Oregon Premier League and Texas Pre-Academy League. Several other National Premier Leagues across the country will be announced shortly.

Eight clubs from the U.S. Soccer Developmental Academy will be participating in the Texas Pre-Academy League:

- Classics Elite (San Antonio)
- Dallas Texans (Dallas)
- FC Dallas (Dallas)
- Houston Dynamo (Houston)
- Lonestar SC (Austin)
- Solar (Dallas)
- Texas Rush (Houston)
- Texans SC (Houston)

The Texas Pre-Academy League will kick off in September 2011, and participating teams will play 14 total regular-season games over the fall and spring season.

“We are very excited to be a member of the Texas Pre-Academy League,” said Scott James, Texans SC-Houston Academy Director. “This league will provide a platform for more consistent and meaningful games throughout the season. We are excited to have our players competing year round against other Development Academy Clubs at these age groups. We expect the Texas Pre-Academy League to be an important part of improving player development and to be a direct link into our U16 and U18 USSF teams.”

The Texas Pre-Academy League and National Premier Leagues websites are currently under construction and will be launched in the near future.

About US Club Soccer:

US Club Soccer is a non-profit organization whose mission is to develop competitive club soccer in the United States. A member of the United States Soccer Federation since July 2001, US Club Soccer has grown to include member clubs and leagues in all 50 states. In addition to sanctioning and administering tournaments, leagues and other competitions as well as offering a range of programs for its members, US Club Soccer annually conducts the National Cup. US Club Soccer also directs its own player identification and development program – id².

