

Seth Johnson Receives SoccerMaine Premier Coach of the Year April 6, 2012

In a ceremony held at the Doubletree Hotel in South Portland on Sunday, April 1st, SoccerMaine President Ray White awarded Seacoast United coach Seth Johnson as SoccerMaine 2011 Premier Coach of the Year. The award is presented to premier soccer coaches who have demonstrated exemplary efforts in the coaching of youth players. Seth was also noted for his promotion of sportsmanship and contribution to the soccer community as a positive role model. Those of us at Seacoast have long recognized the incredible efforts and performance of Coach Johnson and we are not surprised by his latest achievement.



Seth has been a college coach and physical educator for over 25 years while also serving as a youth coach and Coaching Director during his tenure. Since moving to Maine, he has served as Assistant Men's Soccer Coach at Bates College, and a State Olympic Development Program (ODP) Coach for SoccerMaine. Prior to taking up residence here in June 2003, he was Head Men's Coach at Principia College (IL) for 18 years, where his teams went to the NCAA Division III Tournament, won several Conference Championships and he was named both Conference Coach of the Year and National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Midwest Region Coach of the Year. Seth holds the highest license from NSCAA, the Premier, which is the equivalent of the US Soccer ³A². He also holds licenses from the KNVB Dutch Association, and has served as an Associate Staff Instructor, conducting courses for coaches for NSCAA.

Coach Johnson was Assistant Coach at Williams College from 1979 to 1983 where they fielded top teams at the regional and national level. He was also an assistant at Boston University where the team went to the NCAA Division I quarterfinals. He played at Williams College from 1975 to 1979, where he was captain and the team was undefeated in Division III play his senior year. Seth also played at Phillips Exeter Academy (PEA) in 1974-1975, where they were New England Prep School Champions. He was captain at Wayland High School in MA, where he was an All-State player.

At Seacoast United Seth first coached the "Crew" U15 and U16 Boys to two State Cup Championships and strong performances at the Region I Tournament in the 2004 and 2005 seasons. The Crew went 1-1-1 in Regional play in 2005 with a chance to advance to the semifinal with a win against Maryland only to tie 0-0. In 2006, he started coaching the "Thunder" U14 Boys who won the State Cup Championship and advanced to the Region I tournament final. They went 2-0-1 in pool play, defeated FC Delco (PA) 1-0 in the semifinal before losing to Bethesda, MD 1-0 in the final. They finished the season 19-6-5, ranked #2 in Region 1 and #8 nationally. In 2007, the Thunder again won the State Championship and went 1-1-1 at Regional's losing only to eventual Regional Champion PDA (NJ) 2-0 in pool play. They finished the season 22-7-6. In 2008, the Thunder repeated as State Cup Champions and advanced to the Region 1 finals before losing to Lower Merion (PA) in penalty kicks. The team was 2-0-1 in pool play advancing to the semifinal where they beat FSC (NJ) in the semifinal. They finished the season 25-5-7, ranked #3 in Region 1 and #10 nationally. In 2009, the Thunder did extremely well again advancing to the Region 1 final for the third time in four years, going 2-0-1 in pool play, beating Beachside (CT) 2-1 in the semifinal before losing to YMS Explosion (PA) in the final 2-0 in OT. They finished the year 23-8-11, with a #4 Regional ranking and a #5 national ranking. In 2011, the Thunder returned to competitive play representing Maine in the Regional tournament as

U19's. They reached the semifinals before losing to old nemesis Lower Merion 0-1. The Thunder stake the claim as perhaps Maine's best youth team ever with an overall record of 89-26-29, including Region 1 Premier league play, a State Cup record of 15-0-1 and a Region 1 Tournament record of 11-3-5. For the last 2 years Seth has held the reigns of the latest Seacoast United Maine "Crew" team, continuing the team's habit of winning the State Cup championship.

Seacoast United would like to extend its heartfelt congratulations for this much deserved award! We are very thankful for Coach Johnson's continued strong presence as a coach and voice of counsel for the Club.

Seacoast United Staff Attends Urban Soccer Symposium

April 18, 2012

Five staff members of Seacoast United Soccer Club are attending the US Soccer Foundation's Urban Symposium in Washington, DC, taking place from Monday, April 16th through Thursday, April 19th. Issues being discussed at the event range from fighting childhood obesity, after school programs, overall wellness, and ways to provide more education and opportunities to youth players. The program concludes with a day on Capitol Hill where Seacoast staff will meet with state officials from New Hampshire and Maine.



Pictured are from left to right: Colin Reilly (Director of Youth Programs - Maine), Matt Glode (Director of York Indoor Arena & Summer Camp Programs), Joey Barima (Director of Youth Programs – Hampton), Dr. Auma Obama, Paul Willis (President and CEO), Caleb Paterson (Assistant Director of Youth Programs – Hampton).

Dr. Auma Obama was a featured speaker at the US Soccer Foundation event. Both Willis and Glode had worked with Dr. Obama on their trip to Kenya four years ago. The Club is still involved in Kenya and will work with her newly formed foundation, Sauti Kuu or "Powerful Voices", an international advocate for equality and social change through sports.

Staff Members Visit Hardy at Arlington National

April 19, 2012

While Seacoast United staff were in Washington DC attending the US Soccer Foundation's Urban Symposium, they took time to pay their respects to former Seacoast United Alumnus, Nate Hardy, who played for SUSC's first ever team. Nate served his country as a member of Navy Seal Team 6, and was killed in action on February 4, 2008 in Iraq. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in our Nation's Capital.



The Club dedicated field 1 at its Outdoor Complex in Epping to Nate Hardy on Veteran's Day in 2009, and renamed its Memorial Day Tournament in Nate's honor. The Seacoast United Foundation also runs an International Scholarship program in his name.

Pictured from left are Paul Willis, Caleb Paterson, Matthew Glode, and Colin Reilly.

Lindner-Liaw to Attend US Soccer Training Center April 2012

Sebastian Lindner-Liaw has been invited to participate in the US Soccer Training Center (Boys) on Wednesday, April 25th. The session, hosted by US Soccer coaches and staff, will take place at the Seacoast United Outdoor Complex in Epping, NH. Players invited to this workout were born in 1997-1999 for the purpose of identifying the best for the US Soccer Youth National Team program. The Training Centers are held on a single day by invitation only, for elite players in key soccer markets.



Lindner-Liaw (pictured right) chases down a player from NY Red Bull Academy last fall.

Lindner-Liaw, a Portland native, is a midfielder on the '98 Pre-Academy squad. Other SUSC players who will be participating are: goalkeeper Billy Sinibaldi ('97 Pre-Academy/Plaistow, NH), midfielder Jacob Gould ('97 Pre-Academy/Exeter, NH), and midfielder Brendan Tribastone (U12 Boys Premier Brazil/Newburyport, MA). Read more about the US Soccer Training Center identification process [here](#).

U15 Boys Win Needham Memorial Day Tournament May 28, 2012

The Seacoast United Maine U15 Boys team persevered through many obstacles this Memorial Day weekend at the Needham Tournament (MA). This is an entirely new Seacoast U15 team from last year, and it is the first year this group of boys has played together. Needham was their first major tournament. They had key players missing and did not have a regular goalkeeper available for the entire tournament.



The boys travelled well though considering for most players on the team, it was the first time they participated in any type of sleepover or out of state tournament.

They made Seacoast United supporters proud as they finished the group phase with the highest point total and goal differential in their age bracket.

It should be noted that every player played in and made a serious contribution to every game played in the tournament.

Out of 48 U15 boys teams that participated in the Needham Tournament, Seacoast United Maine finished with the best record (5-0), highest goal differential (15-3), and the only U15 Boys team to win every game they played.

The boys showed all that they were there to play for the hardware.

Each player on this team demonstrated the highest character and respect both on and off the field the entire weekend. The team left a very positive impression of the Seacoast United Soccer Club in the eyes of all that viewed them this past Memorial Day weekend from the moment they stepped on the field to the moment they departed.

U13 Boys Win Needham Memorial Day Tournament May 28, 2012

The U13 Seacoast United Boys soccer team travelled to Massachusetts to compete in the 36th Needham Invitational Memorial Day Tournament from May 26th-28th, one of the oldest and highest ranked Memorial Day Tournaments in the country for premier and town teams. More than 700 teams participated in the 3 day event.



Consisting of boys from across Southern Maine, the Seacoast United boys arrived ready to play at the highest level. Unfortunately, their first game on Saturday morning was lost to a very strong team from New Jersey who would spend the next two days soundly defeating every other team they faced as well.

The boys remained upbeat and would later rally back to beat another team from Maine - the Central Maine United Boys Premier. In this game, Garrett King scored two goals plus added a penalty kick (3) while Matt Blaisdell and Wesley Parker also added one goal each. Winning the game with solid defense and plenty of offense, the Seacoast boys headed into day two with renewed confidence.

Game #3 had the Seacoast boys facing the New Hampshire Lightning Strikers. Once again, the team came out with a lot of energy and a passing attack that could not be stopped. Scoring goals were Garrett King (2) and Cameron Smith (2) who delighted the entire crowd with an over the top "bicycle kick" for one of his two goals. Once again, the defense, centered around goalie Joey Burke, proved to be impenetrable and the Seacoast lads rolled to a 4-0 win.

On Monday, in the Semi-Final game, a formidable Mass Premier Soccer MPS Bulldogs looked to continue their winning ways, but were met with an inspired team of Seacoast players determined to advance. Firing on all cylinders, the quick passing and strategic approach to the game created a balanced attack from all sides of the field. Goals from Garrett King, Alex Frank and Matt Blaisdell were more than enough to secure the win as Seacoast's defense once again proved solid.

Immediately following the win, the boys learned that they would be facing the same New Jersey team that had overpowered them earlier in the weekend. Undeterred, Coach Brian Cooke gathered the boys in one of the few shady spots and reminded them of the strategies and tactics that had got them to this point. He encouraged the boys to continue to play "their game" and not get caught up in what the opponent was doing.

When the whistle blew, the boys responded by working together on both sides of the pitch. As the half wore on, the New Jersey team was able to expose a brief lapse in Seacoast's stellar defense and scored a goal. Disappointed in allowing their first goal against in 3 games, the team did not back down and gritted their way through the rest of the half with high energy and high hopes. Their hard work and great attitudes were rewarded as Garrett King stepped up and headed a beautiful corner kick into the back of the net. Time expired as the ball crossed the goal line and the Seacoast boys went into half time with renewed energy.

Not to be denied, the Mt. Olive New Jersey boys roared back in the 2nd half. However, they were met at every turn by a determined group of Seacoast players whose energy and grit seemed unlimited. It should be noted that boys played both the Semi-Final and Championship game without substitutions. Following a very tiring weekend of play, each of Seacoast's 11 players played every minute of the final two games.

After a hard fought 2nd half, Seacoast began to pull away with a penalty kick goal from Garrett King, a goal from Cameron Smith and finally a brilliant "open net" goal from Alex Frank. As the game came

to and end, the Seacoast boys had rallied together to do what no other team had been able to do all weekend and walked away with their heads held high and a 4-1 victory.

It can't be stated enough that each boy on the team contributed to its success. Throughout the tournament, there were countless instances where one player or another would make a play that had an impact on the final score. As the saying goes, "Teamwork makes the Dream work." With medals around their necks and an invitation to participate in an upcoming New England Revolution match in Foxboro, these boys will not soon forget the satisfaction that comes with leaving it all on the field.

Pictured are: (standing, L to R) Coach Brian Cooke, **Peter Barry**, Portland; **Garrett King**, Scarborough; **Alex Frank**, Portland; **Matthew Galvin**, Cape Elizabeth; (sitting L to R) **Henry Coolidge**, Portland; **Chase Walter**, Portland; **Cameron Smith**, Scarborough; **Matthew Blaisdell**, Scarborough; **Joey Burke**, Durham; **Alex Giles**, Scarborough; **Cameron Thibault**, Scarborough; **Wesley Parker**, Cape Elizabeth.

Missing from picture are **Owen McIntyre**, North Yarmouth and **Henry Campbell**, Cumberland.

Seacoast United Mariners Compete for State Cup Titles This Weekend Four Teams Headed to Pennsylvania

The Seacoast United Mariners have five teams in the State Cup finals this coming weekend June 2nd-3rd, which will be held at Falmouth High School and Deering High School. The teams competing in the finals are: U13 Boys (coach Steve Twombly), U13 Girls (coach Josh Needle), U14 Boys (coach James Blackwell), U14 Girls (coach Paul Cameron), and U15 Girls (coach James Blackwell). The U12 Boys (coach Kieran McCormack) are playing in the semi-finals this weekend in Augusta, ME.



The Seacoast United Mariners have already captured four State Cup titles in the older age groups. The U17 Boys (coach Seth Johnson), U18 Boys (coach Tom Munroe), U17 Girls (coach Su Delguercio) and U18 Girls (coaches Ray White and Michael Bolanz) have all won the Maine State Cup titles over the weekend of May 19th/20th. The Seacoast United Mariners' U16 girls (coach Lenny Hurrell) received a 2nd place finish after losing in penalty kicks.

Each of the State Cup Champions will advance to the Region I Youth Soccer National Championship Series which will take place June 28th-July 3rd in Lancaster, PA. The Region I Championships will host over 280 teams from the 15 Youth Soccer Associations within Region I, including Connecticut, Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania, Eastern NY, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, NY West, Pennsylvania West, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia.

Club to Recognize 20th Anniversary This Sunday June 2012

Seacoast United will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Club this coming Sunday, June 10th at Portsmouth High School (NH), the home of its first ever tryout back in 1992. All three of the Seacoast United Phantoms minor league teams will be in action as per schedules below.



3:30pm: Seacoast United Phantoms vs. CFC Passion (Women's Premier Soccer League)

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5:30pm: Seacoast United Phantoms vs. Ottawa Fury (Premier Development League)
7:30pm: Seacoast United Phantoms vs. Brooklyn Italians (National Premier Soccer League)

There will be giveaways for those in attendance including Seacoast United rally towels, mini balls, and more. Cost of admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for youth (ages 5-18) and children under 5 are free. Tickets can be purchased in advance online by [clicking here](#).

At half time of the Phantoms/Ottawa game (approximately 6:15pm), Seacoast United will make a special presentation to Paul Willis, co-founder of the Club and current President of Seacoast United Sports Club and to Dr. Stephen Hardy, co-founder and board member of the Seacoast United Foundation. We hope to see many of the players and parents involved with the Club on Sunday to cheer on the Phantoms and celebrate with Seacoast United as we kick off our 20-year Anniversary.

Seacoast United Maine Teams Depart for Region I Championships June 27, 2012

PORTLAND, ME - Seacoast United Maine will be well represented at the 2012 Region I Championships this week in Lancaster, PA. The U12, U14, U17, and U18 boys along with the U13, U17, and U18 girls will represent the state of Maine in the tournament hosted by US Youth Soccer as part of the National Championship Series. Each of the U13 and older teams from Seacoast United Maine advanced by capturing the SoccerMaine State Cup titles earlier this month, with the U12 boys advancing after receiving a wildcard berth for their age group.



In total, 16 Seacoast United teams will participate at the Region I event including 8 from Seacoast United (Hampton, NH) and 1 from Seacoast United Blackbear (Bangor, ME).

The Region I Championships will take place June 28th-July 3rd, hosting over 280 teams from the 15 Youth Soccer Associations within Region I, including Connecticut, Delaware, Eastern Pennsylvania, Eastern NY, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, NY West, Pennsylvania West, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia. Opening Ceremonies take place Thursday afternoon with group round-robin matches on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Playoff rounds continue on Monday with Finals on Tuesday for those who advance.

Seacoast United Maine is based in Portland, ME with facilities in Portland and Topsham ME. The Club is a member of the New England Premiership, Maine Premier League, USL's Super Y League, the National Premier Soccer League (NPSL), and the Women's Premier Soccer League (WPSL).

Information on Seacoast United Maine's Soccer Club teams and programs can be found online at www.seacoastunitedmaine.org.

Region I ODP Pool Player Maggie Symonds Joins SUSC Mariners **September 21, 2012**

The Seacoast United Mariners are pleased to welcome current R1 ODP Pool Player Maggie Symonds to the club. Symonds has recently joined the U14 Seacoast Mariner Showcase team coached by U8-U14 Director of Coaching James Blackwell.

"Maggie is a player that we've known about for a little while. I heard a lot about her from coaches within the club, from other coaches in the state and from her sister who is the captain of my U16 Team. Once Maggie indicated her interest and I saw her play I was desperate to have her on board' said Blackwell.



Symonds said 'I heard a lot about Seacoast and Coach James from my sister, Cassie (current U16 Showcase player). She said some really good things about the club and James as a coach. I wanted to be pushed more, play with better players and then hopefully improve more as a player myself."

On Symonds ability Blackwell said "Maggie is technically very good, two footed, aggressive, tactically astute and she scores goals. She's going to be a big player for the club in years to come."

Maggie Symonds was the only 1999 Maine girl to make the Region 1 Pool. Symonds from Windham, ME beat out all of the other Maine players and hundreds from other Region I states to gain a spot in the pool.

"I was really excited about making the pool" said Symonds."At the camp I learned to play with better players and I wanted to keep that going. My new team at Seacoast has some really good players and we get to go to some of the top tournaments in the country. Cassie and even my older sister; that still plays for my old club advised me to come to Seacoast. The first couple of weeks and practices have been harder than before but I really like it. I know some girls on the team from my town like Holly and Kaitlyn but girls like Mackenzie and Meg already on the team have been really friendly and welcoming to me, even though I was playing against them last year!"

"My sister gets to go to Nationals this year with Seacoast and that's my next goal. To get to go to a Regional or National Finals and hopefully make the National Pool." Said Symonds.

Coach Blackwell finished with "Maggie has made a great impact since coming on board, she works very hard and on top of her ability she's a great kid also and she optimises what it takes to be a Seacoast United player. Seacoast United prides itself on providing opportunities for players of all ages and abilities. The fact that we are attracting some of the top players, like Maggie is a testament to the development and growth that we have seen in Maine over the past 4 years. We hope to emulate the success of our parent club Seacoast NH and hopefully continue to develop players that compete on a Regional and National level."

Seacoast Dragons Take On Brunswick Jr. High **September 21, 2012**

This past Friday, the Seacoast Dragon Boys played the Brunswick Jr High 7th Grade Boys in an exhibition match, as part of an afternoon long Brunswick Soccer Jamboree, leading up to the big boys varsity match up of visiting Bangor taking on the Brunswick Dragons. Brunswick was victorious in both matches, with the 7th grade boys besting the Seacoast lads 3-0, and the varsity boys losing to Bangor 1-0.

The Seacoast/BJHS match was spirited and back and forth, despite the score. Seacoast boys moved the ball very well from side to side, had good midfield possession much of the game, and had several good scoring opportunities, that did not find the net.

The final match of the afternoon was the 8th grade BJHS girls vs. BHS freshman girls, with the 8th grade girls atop 2-0.

It was a great day for soccer in the Brunswick community and Seacoast looks forward to hosting more jamborees in the future!

U12 Boys, U14 Girls Capture Columbus Day Championships October 6-7th, 2012

The Seacoast United Mariners U12 Boys and U14 Girls won their respective age groups at the 2012 Seacoast United Columbus Day Invitational held over the weekend at the Club's Outdoor Complex in Epping, NH.



The U12 Boys faced competition from Seacoast United (NH), FC Stars of MA, and Synergy Football Club (VT) and finished with a 4-0 record on the weekend.

The U14 Girls were victorious in all 4 matches they played in the Championship division, facing FC Stars of MA, Delta FC (MA), Seacoast United Select (NH), and Summit FC Premier (VT).

The tournament played host to over 40 teams with games taking place Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday.

Seacoast United Mariners Raise Money for Sanford Soccer Club October 6-7, 2012

SANFORD, ME: Seacoast United Mariners and Blackbear sent a group of full time staff and coaches down to the Sanford Soccer Club for the Columbus weekend tournament last weekend.

The staff and coaches had a booth near the concessions which included a kick-board competition to score through a hole to win a place each day in a prize draw for a free place on one of our Advanced Day Camps next summer.



We had a lot of fun interacting with the kids that came to us to participate in our event with some kids coming back and trying again and again!

Our staff included Colin Reilly, Josh Needle, Steve Twombly, and Paul Cameron from the Mariners, and Seth Brown, Billy Shannon and Ryan Pelletier from Blackbear.

We charged \$1 for three attempts at scoring through the hole, and all proceeds went back to Sanford SC who is a non-profit organization/charity.

Over the two days we raised almost \$600 for the Sanford SC.

If you hold a tournament or club event and would be interested in having us come along to help raise money for your club, please contact Paul Cameron at: pcameron@seacoastunited.org

Seacoast Dragons Excel at End of Season October 2012

Brunswick, ME- The Seacoast Dragons (Brunswick Town Travel teams) ended their respective seasons this past weekend. The U10 Dragons went up to Waterville for their festival and won all three games. The coaches were impressed with how much improvement this young group of Dragons has shown since the first game. "Their confidence on the ball was tremendous towards the end of the season, the players seemed to enjoy using the moves they had learned in training on the field and consistently were able to get around defenders in 1v1 situations" said Jim Wade who was one of the Seacoast coaches helping train the team during the week.



The U12 Dragons had their regional playoffs in Merrymeeting. They fought hard to win the first game against a strong Cumberland team 1-0. They came back on Sunday and played Freeport for a spot in the regional final. The Dragons produced plenty of chances but just could not find the back of the net and walked away with a disappointing 2-1 loss. "The boys played hard all weekend, and they definitely deserved a spot in the regional final but sometimes that's just the way it goes. The Dragons have come a long way since the beginning of the season and the work that they put in at the training sessions was highlighted this weekend. I'm proud of the group and the progress they have made, and I'm looking forward to working with the group next year" said Colin Reilly who coached the U12 team with Geoff Ney for the season.

For more information on how Seacoast can help your town travel program, please contact Colin Reilly at creilly@seacoastunited.org.

First Junior Mariners Jamboree A Huge Hit December 15th, 2012

TOPSHAM, MAINE- This past Saturday, December 15th, more than 350 Jr. Mariners participated in Seacoast United Maine's first Junior Mariner Jamboree of the season. Joined by teams comprised of our brethren club Seacoast United Blackbear's Junior Program, the Mariners were also placed into teams, given countries to compete for, and battled in two games per team!

The younger boys opened up the excitement with some exhilarating matches between South Korea and Wales, as well as Ecuador vs. Portugal. Ben "Mini Messi" Prince (Argentina) had the goal of the



morning, dribbling the length of the field, past 5 defenders and calmly knocking the ball past the keeper into the back of the net.

As the older boys took the field the thrilling matches continued! The Spanish side (Portland Jr. Mariners) was a strong presence in the group but came up short against France (Portland Jr. Mariners) in a tight 7-6 final. Myles Culley had an ESPN top 10 worthy goal, with a full volley back heel while on loan to team England.

As the older girls competed Steve Twombly's Norway and USA teams (Gorham Jr. Mariners) showed some incredible passing and finishing while Mike Keller's Brazil (Gorham Jr. Mariners) group showed off some of their moves. Coach Martyn Keen's China was also impressive with a come from behind victory against Brazil.

The Mariners Director of Coaching U8-U14 was very pleased with the Jamboree turnout, "It's fantastic to get all of our Maine Jr. Mariners in the same location. It was impressive to see the players successfully executing some of the skills we have been working on in training in a fun and competitive game environment. The commitment of the players and coaches within the program has truly made these Jamboree dates exciting and fun for everyone involved. I am definitely looking forward to the next one!"

The second Junior Mariner Jamboree will be held on January 21st at Yourspace in Gorham, Maine.

Guam National Team Player Visits Seacoast United Maine December 17th, 2012

Guam National Team Player Kristin Thompson came in to take two training sessions tonight with Paul Cameron's U11 and U13 Girls Mariners teams. Kristin (25) who is visiting family in Maine for the Holidays, currently holds the AFC (Asian Football Confederation) "B" license and coaches the Guam U16 Girls National team.



"Kristin was fantastic with the kids and they really looked up to her" said Paul Cameron, DOC for U15 – U18 Boys and Girls. "On top of the fact she is obviously a quality female player, she was a very professional coach and put on a great training session on combination play for the kids. She had a great presence about her. It's great to have a good quality guest coach work with your team once in a while."

The players gave Kristin their full attention. She was very generous, giving each player several small gifts from herself and the Guam Football Association, and taking the time for photos and to sign autographs.

Cameron added, "It's great for these kids to get exposure to a National team player from any country that competes at the level Kristin does. She has played against the likes of Japan, China and Australia."