

THE NEW JERSEY SOCCER GROUP

Press Release



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Defender Bodner excited to kick off NPSL season

With the beginning of the NPSL season less than a week away, preparation is underway for the Morris County Colonials opening game against the Long Island Academy. Their talented squad, consisting of many local stars including Bryan Bodner, are practicing all week in anticipation for their first NPSL game. Bodner, an up and coming defensive star currently attends Pascack Hills High School and is the youngest player to represent the Colonials. "It is such an honor to represent the Colonials at such a young age" remarks Bodner. A quick, strong defender, Bodner was drawn to the Colonials through assistant coach Andy Sones. He recalls "Andy was my coach for several years and he contacted me about the Colonials. I was excited to learn of the opportunity to play in the National League for a team so close to home." Bodner is looking forward to working with Sones again and continues on "Andy is really knowledgeable and a fun coach, practice was always exciting and used to test me as a player." Whilst talking of the coaching staff, Bodner comments about Head Coach Adrian Borrows "he has a fantastic reputation across the area for his leadership of teams. I am excited to learn from a coach so highly regarded."

Bodner has made a positive start to his career in soccer with many team achievements. Through involvement with his team Pasco Stallions, Bodner has a US Club Regional Champions medal and has made an appearance in the National semi-finals. Bodner remains with the Stallions, his team currently being ranked second in the state whilst the Pasco club is also nationally ranked. Whilst his success with the Stallions is impressive, Bodner's standout achievement, and most memorable soccer experience are both personal ones. He explains his greatest achievement; "I was selected to attend the Super Y National Team camp last year which was a tremendous honor. At the tryouts I was competing with the best players from entire country. It was fantastic". This experience will serve Bodner well as he makes the step up into the NPSL; a national league representing the highest level of amateur soccer in America. As for his most memorable soccer experience to date, Bodner describes this as playing for the Stallions in a state cup semi final with a broken nose! He recalls "I broke my nose in a challenge for the ball, but the game was tied and I didn't want to leave at such a crucial time so I played on. It's a moment that I will never forget; it may not have been the most intelligent decision but I felt it was the one necessary for us to win!" Such courage and determination will serve the young defender well as he begins his Colonials career.

Whilst clearly no stranger to high level competition, Bodner is aware of the quality the Colonials will face in the tough East Coast Conference, which includes well established teams such as Queen City FC and the AC Diablos. He remarks "I don't think any game will be easy, we will face strong teams and talented individuals. However, looking at the skill and commitment shown in practice, I am confident we can do well this season." Keen to prove this, Bodner is looking forward to experiencing the NPSL and is eager to get the games underway. He comments "with this being our inaugural season, its hard to know what to expect, but that only adds to the excitement! We are preparing well and I am confident we will rise to the occasion come opening kick off." Whilst hoping to contribute towards making the Colonials a successful franchise, Bodner is aware of the personal effects his efforts will bring. "I hope that being involved with the Colonials will help me to better myself as a player from the tremendous competition I will play against and train with" he remarks. His thoughts returning to his Stallions team, Bodner continues "with the Colonials, I will have to play harder and faster so I can compete at the same level. If I can maintain that and carry it across to the Stallions, it may give me an edge against the teams we compete against so I can help the Stallions continue to be successful." Looking to the future, Bodner is hoping that involvement with the Colonials will help him adjust to collegiate soccer. He hopes that "competing against college level players now will give me an insight into the differences between college soccer and the standard I'm at now so can I work towards improving my game ready for college. I am looking forward to playing in college and the Colonials will help prepare me so it is fantastic to be involved." Bodner and the Colonials kick off their season this coming Sunday with a home game against a Long Island Academy side that ended their inaugural NPSL season with a 5-3-3 record last year.

The Morris County Colonials are the Northern New Jersey representative in the National Premier Soccer League, an independent national league representing the highest level of men's amateur soccer in the United States. The Colonials are part of The New Jersey Soccer Group, a management company representing a family of soccer based organizations offering a full range of soccer services in northern New Jersey.

More about the Morris County Colonials at
More about the New Jersey Soccer Group at
More about the NPSL at

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