

ARSENAL FC/SPORTING CA PROUD TO ANNOUNCE....

November 17, 2020

ARSENAL FC / SPORTING CALIFORNIA IS ASSEMBLING A CADRE OF CHAMPION COACHES WITH ADDITION OF JIMMY NORDBERG AS BOYS ACADEMY DIRECTOR AND NAT GONZALES AS THE CLUB'S GOALKEEPER DIRECTOR.

Arsenal FC and Sporting California is proud to announce the addition of both Jimmy Nordberg as Boys Academy Director and Nat Gonzalez as the Head Goalkeeper Coach. There are few names in Southern California soccer as respected as both Jimmy Nordberg and Nat Gonzalez. Jimmy is an A-licensed coach and one of handful nationwide who also hold an Academy Director certificate. With experience coaching youth level, collegiate and professional players, Jimmy is an invaluable addition. There is no understating the pride we feel to welcome Jimmy back home to Arsenal FC. "I am proud of the team we are assembling. We have coaches who have achieved the highest youth licensure and the highest honors including three who hold both their National A license but also their USSF Academy Directors certificate as well. I can't think of anyone better than Jimmy Nordberg to step in and lead our team" says PJ Brown, Vice-President of Arsenal Futbol Club.

Arsenal FC and the ECNL have a consistent and strong history of propelling young men and woman into college soccer programs. With that foundation, we are excited to welcome another practitioner and the current head coach of the Women's program at University of California at Riverside. Nat will remain as the UCR head coach and allows our young ladies unprecedented access and exposure as they pursue their next steps. Nat Gonzalez became the second head coach of the UC Riverside Women's Soccer Program prior to the 2012 season, and in just his second year with the Highlanders, he led them to within a goal of the NCAA Tournament, falling to Cal State Fullerton in the 2013 Big West Championship in penalty kicks. For his efforts, Gonzalez was named the Conference Coach of the Year as UC Riverside exceeded expectations, finishing third in the Big West during the regular season and upending UC Irvine in the conference semifinals.

In his six years, Gonzalez has coached five All-Region recipients, 17 All-Conference honorees, three All-Freshman Team award winners, and 34 Conference All-Academic honorees.

In 2010, Gonzalez was an assistant coach for the women's team at UCLA. He has also spent time as an assistant coach with the US Women's National Team, U-18 and U-20 squads while serving as the director of goal keeping for Legends FC and the technical director at the Temecula Valley Soccer Academy.

Gonzalez, who was a four-year letter winner at UCLA from 1988-91, won a national championship with the Bruins in 1990, and graduated with a degree in psychology. He served as the women's team's goal keeping coach from 1994-95. Gonzalez received his Masters degree in exercise science in 2011 from California University of Pennsylvania.

> Jimmy Nordberg has an extensive list of coaching credentials and experience. He has been an Academy Director, Technical Director at local ECNL rival FC Golden State, College Coach and Head coach/ General manager of the Ontario Fury. He has earned degrees from Cal State San Bernardino and Mt. San Antonio College. Jimmy started his collegiate soccer career at Azusa Pacific University then Cal State San Bernardino from 1999-2002. His playing honors include All-GSAC, All-CCAA, All- Far West and All American honors.

"When I look at the list of coaches at Arsenal, I see champions with the highest licensure and experience. Coaches like Steve Lucey (B), PJ Brown (A + AD), Jeremy Healey (B), Sey Rosenstrach (A + AD + EUFA A), David Nunez (B), Martin Maguire (A), Bryan Kuderman (B & Head coach at Norco College), Juan Sanchez (A & Head coach at Mt Sac), Jeff Irwin (Currently in the A course) and newly announced Nat Gonzalez (A & Head Coach UCR) and the list goes on, these are leaders who have consistently developed talent and won at all levels. I am excited to step into this role and ultimately help boys and girls develop into men and women. I want soccer to be their opportunity to take them wherever they can dream and work towards" said Nordberg.

"This staff we have assembled roots Arsenal/Sporting CA and the Elite Clubs National League as the place to play should your child desire to play collegiate soccer and beyond" said PJ Brown. "We have coaches who have played college or pro, coached college and are even current college coaches. If you want to play D1, D2, NAIA or JC, Arsenal is your platform."

If you are interested in trying out for either our Boys or Girls Elite Clubs National League program, please email ecnl@arsenalfc.us or one of our Directors below.

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