

**Promising start for the inaugural Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls**

**(Hamilton, Bermuda, 17 August 2006)** The inaugural Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls has proven to be a success with 55 young female soccer players being put through their paces. The Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls has been running from the 14-18 August 2006 with two-hour long evening sessions at the Bermuda College field.

Developed from the highly successful Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic, the Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls aimed to provide players between the ages of 6-18 with the opportunity to build on their soccer skills, focus on all aspects of the game as well as common health and fitness issues that generally affect female athletes.

Participants were taught by qualified coaches and experienced players including David Bascome, MISL Professional and All Star Player; Jaclyn Raveia, current Pro Player and Assistant Coach of the W-League's Richmond Kickers and Krista Davey, former professional player with the New York Powers and currently playing with the W-League. Local coach, Carmen Harvey and Bermuda National Team player, Stacey Babbs, also lent their support to the programme in helping to coach the aspiring young athletes.

Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic Founder and President, David Bascome, was encouraged by the level of participation of the young players and noted, "There is a definite need to continue to develop girls football in Bermuda for there was clearly a lot of passion and drive on display this past week. I hope to incorporate this programme into the overall Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic next year and am hopeful of even greater levels of participation. Ultimately, by exposing our young female players to this level of coaching at a young age it will further accelerate their development and introduce them to the professional environment of women's football."

Bank of Bermuda Chief Executive Officer, Philip Butterfield, commented, “We are pleased to be able to support programmes like the Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls which through the discipline of sport ultimately help in the all-round development of Bermuda’s young people.”

The Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls will conclude with a prize presentation ceremony on Friday, 18 August at the Bermuda College field.

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**Notes to Editors:**

- Founded in 1889, Bank of Bermuda is the leading provider of fund administration, trust, custody, asset management and banking services in Bermuda. Since 2004 it has been a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc.
- Further information on Bank of Bermuda can be found at [www.bankofbermuda.com](http://www.bankofbermuda.com)
- Further information on HSBC can be found at [www.hsbc.com](http://www.hsbc.com)
- Attachments: Photo of Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic for Girls participants.

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