

**Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic and College Prospect Programme 2005**

**(Hamilton, Bermuda, 26 April 2005)** The 2005 Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic and College Prospect Programme will offer more opportunities this year for Bermuda's developing soccer players. The programmes for 2005 offer a combined total of 405 spots for youth players at various levels of development, an increase in over 100 spots from last year. Older players participating in the 2005 College Prospect Programme will have the opportunity this year to showcase their talents in front of professional athletic recruiters from At First Glance (AFG), a college athletic recruiting firm designed to help parents and high school student athletes with the college recruiting process.

The developmental Pro Soccer Clinic, managed by David Bascome, Bermudian professional Major Indoor Soccer League (MISL), will be held 27 June through 3 July 2005, at the National Sports Centre and offers 305 places for soccer players ages 4 -14 years. The College Prospect Programme, open to 100 players between the ages of 15 - 20 years will be held the following week from 4 -9 July.

“With the continued support of our title sponsor Bank of Bermuda, we were able to increase the capacity of the programmes this year and offer developmental opportunities to more of our young people,” said David Bascome. “ I am particularly excited about having representatives from AFG attend the College Prospects Programme. Our talented Bermuda players will be exposed to reputable college recruiters, which can open the door for potential college scholarships.”

All players between the ages of 15-20 years are encouraged to attend The College Prospect Programme, whether they are considering college or not. “The programme will offer a unique opportunity for players to train at a high level with international coaches which will help them develop their overall game skills. All developing players will benefit from participating in the programme,” David commented.

Application forms are now available at all Bank of Bermuda branches and participants can register either by placing a completed application form into the drop box at the Bank’s Head Office on Front Street, mail their application to Bank of Bermuda or register with David Bascome at the registration to be held on Friday 10 June, 12noon-2pm at Bank of Bermuda, Head Office, Front Street Branch.

Bank of Bermuda, Chief Executive Officer, Philip Butterfield commented, “The Bank recognises that sport is a vital element in the all-round development of Bermuda’s young people. We are pleased to continue our support for these programmes that offer Bermuda’s young soccer players the opportunity to build on their soccer skills, develop positive discipline and learn how to become team players, both on and off the field.”

Telephone interviews regarding details for the Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic and College Prospect Programme are available today, Tuesday 26 April 2005, with David Bascome between the hours of 2pm-4pm Bermuda time on telephone 717 576 9394.

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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.bm](http://www.bankofbermuda.bm)
- Further information on HSBC can be found at [www.hsbc.com](http://www.hsbc.com)
- Attachments: Application forms for the Bank of Bermuda Pro Soccer Clinic and the Bank of Bermuda College Prospects Programme.

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**Media contact:**

Karen Madeiros

Bank of Bermuda

**Telephone:** (+441) 299 6709

**Fax:** (+441) 299 6559

**E-mail:** karen.madeiras@bankofbermuda.com

Press Release