

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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International Institute of SPORT Forms Haitian Amputee National Soccer Team to Compete in 2010 Amputee Football World Cup *IIOS seeks funds and equipment to benefit September tour of Texas and Arizona for amputee national soccer team of Haiti*

SAN ANTONIO and **PHOENIX** (Monday, August 30, 2010) – The International Institute of SPORT (IIOS) is proud to announce the formation of the Haitian amputee national soccer team, which will compete in the 2010 Amputee Football World Cup Oct. 17-27 in Crespo, Argentina. The team was a late entry into the event, and was formed during a recent mission trip to Haiti by the IIOS from Aug. 12-18. Funds permitting, the team's logistical plans include trips to Austin, Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio, Texas and Phoenix, Ariz., during September to train for the Amputee Football World Cup.

Dr. Fred Sorrells of the IIOS, Haitian national soccer team captain Pierre Bruny, Dr. Ed Sakiewicz and Chris Campasano, members of the IIOS contingent, assembled in Haiti Aug. 12-15 on a mission trip to meet members of the amputee community, and to begin forming the amputee national soccer team. Dr. Sorrells helped to form the Haiti Amputee Football Association, and under association guidance, amputees were invited to participate in try-out sessions for the national team.

"The final selection of the Haiti national amputee soccer team includes three victims of January's catastrophic earthquake," said Dr. Sorrells, Founder and President of IIOS. "The opportunity to participate on the national amputee soccer team is incredibly therapeutic, especially for the recent amputees."

"This is part of an amazing relief and healing effort for these individuals and the country of Haiti," said Dr. Sakiewicz. "We must raise the funds to secure passports, visas, equipment, travel and accommodations for training sessions in the United States and travel to the World Cup of Amputee Soccer in Argentina, so we are calling upon our communities in Texas, Arizona and worldwide to support this cause."

The World Amputee Football Federation will oversee the World Cup in Crespo, Argentina. The opening ceremonies will be held on Oct. 16, with the tournament concluding on Oct. 27. This is the 14th time the Amputee Football World Cup has been held and first time Haiti has entered a team. More information on the tournament, a list of participating countries and brackets can be found by logging on to www.worldamputeefootball.com.

Much of Haiti's earthquake-affected population lost identification documents as a result of this year's tragic earthquake, including many of the Haitian amputee football team members. Part of the logistical process being handled by the IIOS is the acquisition of new documents for all of the players including visas for travel to the United States and Argentina.

The IIOS, whose mission is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in less economically developed countries, is managing the trip for the Haitian Amputee National Team. The organization is seeking funds and equipment in order to assist these young men in achieving a dream of playing soccer for their nation. For more information, including how to contribute to the cause, please visit www.iisport.org

For a slideshow of the formation of the Haitian amputee national team, you may visit www.iisport.org/sport-for-the-disabled/haitian-amputee-football-slideshow.html. You may also visit the team's dedicated Facebook page at www.facebook.com/HaitiAmputeeSoccerWorldCupTour. Media inquiries should be sent via e-mail to media@iisport.org.

Working closely with the American Amputee Soccer Association and the Wounded Warrior initiatives, the IIOS is also encouraging the formation of amputee soccer teams in Texas and Arizona. Demonstrations

of the World's Best One-Legged Game are planned between local teams and the visiting Haitian national amputee soccer team.

About the International Institute of SPORT

OUR MISSION

The mission of the International Institute of SPORT (IIOS) is to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities in less economically developed countries worldwide.

WHO WE ARE

We are a non-profit advocating for the disabled in areas of public access, education, integration, job skills, physical rehabilitation, therapeutic recreation and disaster relief. We are educators, artists, administrators and professionals. We are also networkers and are grateful for our partners.

WHAT WE DO

We engage children and adults in art and adaptive sports projects geared to developing an understanding of disability. We help rehabilitate and train disabled athletes for recreational and competitive adaptive sports events such as the Paralympics. We help disabled people become employees and business owners. We provide art supplies, medical supplies, mobility devices, and adaptive recreation and sports equipment. We represent disabled artists in the world art market. We advocate for the disabled in business and government affairs to help secure access to jobs and transportation.

IIOS & Haitian Amputee World Cup Tour Contacts

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