



# CELTIC SOCCER ACADEMY

## CLUB PARTNER NEWSLETTER

March 2015



## INTERNATIONAL COACHES CONVENTION 2015

Celtic FC hosted its 4<sup>th</sup> annual International Coaches Convention from 26 - 28 February 2015 and was attended by a record breaking 50 coaches from 10 different countries. During the 3 day event, the coaches were given unique access to what goes into developing a youth player at Celtic FC and that 'Every Player Is An Individual Project'

The coaches in attendance were given an insight into the academy through theoretical and practical sessions from the staff at Celtic FC which included Academy Director Chris McCart, Junior Academy Manager Martin Miller (Pictured above) and first team manager Ronny Deila.

The International Coaches Convention was rounded off with a trip to watch the Under 11's and 12's in action against Rangers and then to watch the Celtic 1<sup>st</sup> team win convincingly against league rivals Aberdeen 4 - 0 in front of 50,000 supporters at Celtic Park.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the Convention and for making it the most interactive one to date and we are now putting plans in place for 2016!

[http://www.celticfc.net/pages/celticsocceracademy\\_international](http://www.celticfc.net/pages/celticsocceracademy_international)

## ACADEMY UPDATE

Since the turn of the year the u12s have now switched from 7 a side to 11 a side football which follows the Scottish FA player pathway guidelines. For the remainder of the season, they will play with modified goals (larger than 7 a side and smaller than 11 a side goals) and the pitch is shortened slightly by 6yds at each end. This is to allow a smoother transition for the players into the full 11 a side game.

As you can imagine the players have been looking forward to this change for some time now and have made the transition very well. They are deep in the learning zone at the moment and every training session for them is vital as they learn their position and the style of play of the Academy.

Obviously when they are making this change it is important not to flood the players with too much information. In order to help us achieve this we are focussing our sessions just now mainly on 3 areas. Balance of the back 4, building from the back and switch of play utilising the space on the bigger pitch (Which this month's session is focussed on).

John McStay  
Under 12 Academy Coach

## UNDER 12'S IN ACTION



Under 12's Jude Smith (GK) and Liam Parker playing against St Johnstone.



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### SESSION OF THE MONTH "SWITCH OF PLAY THROUGH MIDFIELD"

#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. A passes to B who checks away to receive.
2. B plays into 10 who moves to receive pass.
3. 8 spins and gets into a position to switch the play wide to A who then plays to C to start the process.
4. Repeat down opposite side.

**8 & 10 stay in their positions and A & B, C & D swap positions.**

#### PROGRESSION

GK plays to A who plays to 8 who switches to B. B then passes into 10 who lays off for 8 to switch the play to D. D then crosses for C to finish on goal or lay back to A who can play a deeper cross to C to finish. The other GK starts again by throwing out to player D.

#### COACHING POINTS

1. Weight of pass.
2. Angle of pass, no straight passes so we don't get caught with a counter attack.
3. Scanning – Check your shoulder before your receive, see a picture!
4. Timing of run to receive the pass.



This session is based on our Junior Academy curriculum for ages 5 – 12 years

For more information on the Celtic Club Partnership Programme contact:  
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## GLOBAL FOOTPRINT



The Celtic Soccer Academy's 'Global Footprint' has grown massively over the last 18 months and now boasts 50 partners in 15 countries. So what does this mean to our current partner clubs? As well as having a link to Celtic FC, each partner club now has a worldwide network of partners where the sharing of methodology, player development ideas and coaching principles can now take place.

The image above represents the countries where we have club partners and we will aim to bring all of these partners closer together and make the programme even stronger. This shows how powerful the club partnership programme really is and brings another added benefit of being partnered with Celtic FC.

Over the coming weeks, a club directory will become available to each partner club so that you can contact each other directly to share ideas on player/coach and club development as well how your club made the partnership with Celtic FC work for you.

**For more information on the International Club Partnership Programme contact:**  
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