

SPORTS

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INTERNATIONAL SOCCER COACHES TO HOST CLINIC AT JOHN CARROLL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL IN JUNE

BY LOYD MCINTOSH



The coaches clinic is a great opportunity to learn how Eintracht Frankfurt runs their youth academy both on the field and in the classroom.

Area soccer players and coaches will have an excellent opportunity to improve their skills and be seen by coaches representing some of the world's top teams this summer.

Eintracht Frankfurt, one of the top clubs in the German Bundesliga, is bringing a multi-day soccer event to John Carroll Catholic High School in late June. All events are led by Nicolai Adam, Head of International Sports Project for Eintracht Frankfurt, a UEFA Pro License coach and former U17 national team coach in India and Azerbaijan, and Taskin Askoy, also a UEFA Pro License holder and head coach with experience in the Turkish Super Liga and Fortuna Düsseldorf of the German 2nd Bundesliga, Germany's second-division professional league.

The five-day soccer event, held from June

20-25, is organized by David Kearney, a 1989 graduate of John Carroll, former player at Birmingham-Southern College and youth coach and board member with area soccer club FC Birmingham.

The relationship with Eintracht Frankfurt and other German clubs goes back to the 1980s, when former Birmingham-Southern head coach Preston Goldfarb invited club coaches and players to Birmingham for his Excellence Through Fundamentals Soccer Camp.

Kearney recalls attending one such clinic at Legion Field, where he received instruction from players such as West Germany national team goalkeeper Toni Schumacher and Eintracht Frankfurt player and coach Armin Kraaz, who came to Birmingham each summer for many years to coach Goldfarb's camp until his retirement in 2023. Today, Adam is carrying



FROM LEFT: Nicolai Adam, head of the International Sports Project for Eintracht Frankfurt, Doug Walk FC Birmingham founder and Taskin Askoy UEFA Pro License holder and head coach.

18-26, combining a field assessment with a classroom session explaining pathways to playing in Germany's 5th and 6th divisions—with top performers eligible for consideration by Eintracht Frankfurt's 4th Division Regional Liga team.

The week concludes with a Youth Camp running Monday through Thursday, June 22-25, open to soccer players ages 8-18. Each day features a morning clinic session from 9 to 11:30 a.m., a midday break, and evening games coached by Adam and Askoy, giving players the experience of being coached by high-level coaches with post-game evaluations each evening.

Adam, who was in Birmingham in April for some organizational meetings, says the goal of these clinics is to evaluate all players and coaches and build on their existing knowledge and skill set, rather than starting over from a clean slate. "It's a player-centered approach," says Adam. "Whatever helps the players, we try to use because the players are our most important asset. I'm not coming to tell you this is the way you should do it. We try to figure out what fits you. We hope to try to look at the game, maybe, from a different angle. That's what we try to do."

Registration costs vary by event, with the Coaches Clinic and both Scouting Combines each priced at \$100 and the Youth Camp available for \$250. Each player attending the Youth Camp will receive a full Eintracht Frankfurt kit as part of their registration, and clinic coaches will receive lunch as part of their registration. To register, go to <https://bit.ly/EFSC-Registration> or contact David Kearney at david.kearney@fcbirmingham.com. **OTMJ**



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NICOLAI ADAM

* UEFA Pro License
Former Youth National Team Coach U17 (India, Azerbaijan)
Talent ID & Development Expertise for these ages



TASKIN ASKOY

* UEFA Pro License
Head Coach: Turkish Super Liga/Fortuna Dusseldorf
German 2nd Bundesliga High-Level Insights



SCAN HERE TO REGISTER

REGISTER NOW!

DETAILS & LOCATION:

- Time:
 - Clinic - 9:00 AM - 11:30 PM
 - Games: 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM
- Location: John Carroll Catholic High School (JCCHS)
- Evening Games Coached By UEFA Pro Coaches with Post Game Evaluation Each Night
- Includes: Official Eintracht Frankfurt Training Kit
- Registration information:
 - David Kearney - david.kearney@fcbirmingham.com
 - (205) 515-4970



INVESTMENT \$250