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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gary Martschinske Named Washington Youth Soccer's Administrator of the Year

FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON (Monday, April 28) – Over the weekend Washington Youth Soccer bestowed awards and special recognition upon its most dedicated volunteers and coaches at the 2008 Annual Awards Dinner. Held in conjunction with SoccerPalooza, Washington Youth Soccer's highly attended community event, more than 500 guests attended the dinner at the Tacoma Convention Center to celebrate the accomplishments of state-wide nominees in eleven different award categories. This year the Washington Youth Soccer Administrator of the Year Award was presented to Gary Martschinske of Camas, Washington.

Like many in youth soccer, Gary began his soccer career as the coach for his eldest son's first Under-6 team in 1992. Since then, Gary has held numerous positions within the Camas-Washougal Soccer Club including Vice President of Competition and Club President. A man with a true talent for accomplishing great things, Gary has used his passion and influence at every level to ensure soccer in the area is given the chance to thrive. His dedication and involvement are reflected in the numerous projects he has successfully carried out including the establishment of a better overall program which led to an increase in youth participation numbers, improved training for club coaches and managers, the creation of an enhanced online presence and resource center, a stronger relationship with the school district, a better structure for new Under-6 players and coaches, and the introduction of a TOPSoccer program for kids with disabilities.

Gary's work over the years has not only helped youth soccer in the local area, but high school and adult soccer as well. Thanks to his participation as a key committee member, Gary helped secure funding and installation for three brand new turf fields to the Camas-Washougal area. This important initiative provided soccer teams with a lighted practice field which has had a profound effect on the continuing development of the game for the players in the area.

Currently serving as the Club's Vice President of Mini's, Gary's administrative positions and responsibilities continue to evolve, but his passion for the game has never wavered. A true example of what dedication and passion can do both on and off the field, Washington Youth Soccer would like to congratulate Gary on being named the 2008 Administrator of the Year! For a recap on all of Washington Youth Soccer's 2008 Annual Award Winners, please visit www.wsysa.com

About Washington Youth Soccer

Washington Youth Soccer is the largest youth soccer organization in Washington. Washington Youth Soccer is the state's affiliate for US Youth Soccer, which is the largest sports organization in the United States and the most populous member of the United States Soccer Federation, the governing body for soccer in the United States. Washington Youth Soccer is the sixth largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 126,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 12,000 teams and 6,500 referees in the state of Washington. Washington Youth Soccer's mission is to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition.

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