



MEDIA INFORMATION

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LAUNCH OF AFC 'C' COACHING CERTIFICATE COURSE @ RP 2014

FAS and Republic Polytechnic collaborate to offer Asian Football Confederation (AFC) 'C' Coaching Licence as part of Diploma in Sports Coaching Course

SINGAPORE, 15 MARCH 2014: Republic Polytechnic's (RP) students in the Diploma in Sports Coaching course will now receive additional coaching certifications in addition to their diploma, giving them a head start to their fledgling coaching careers.

The coaching course was launched earlier today by Mr Lim Kia Tong, FAS Vice-President, at Republic Polytechnic, when it was announced that the 22 selected students of RP's Diploma in Sports Coaching course will also be awarded the National Coaching Accreditation Programme (NCAP) Level One Certificate, a coaching certification accredited by the Singapore Sports Council, upon successful completion of the AFC 'C' Coaching Certification.

Among the participants are familiar names to Singapore football fans, including LionsXII's Ignatius Ang, as well as Women's National Team player Nabilah Abdul Latiff.

Said LionsXII midfielder Ignatius Ang, currently a second-year student of Republic Polytechnic: "Possessing an AFC "C" Licence will certainly help me both on and off the pitch. It will set the technical foundations for me as a player to see through the eyes of a coach. It will also give me an option to pursue coaching as a career in future. I'm delighted to be in the pioneer batch of RP students to be given this opportunity."

Miss Nabilah said: "Although I am still playing competitive football, getting my coaching certifications early helps me prepare for a post-playing career in coaching. It is also good because while doing so, I also get the NCAP certification, which is recognised at the national level. In addition to the coaching certifications, we also get our academic diplomas so it is a triple bonus for us students."

Mr Lim Kia Tong, Vice-President, Football Association of Singapore, welcomed the development and hoped for similar tie-ups in the future: "The launch of and the injection of the AFC 'C' Coaching Certificate Course as a module of Republic Polytechnic's Diploma in Sports Coaching Course is a brilliant idea emanating from Republic Polytechnic. The implementation of the AFC 'C' Coaching Certificate Course for students of Republic Polytechnic is very important milestone and chapter in the history of Republic Polytechnic and the Football Association of Singapore ("FAS"). For the first time in the long history of the AFC 'C' Coaching Certificate Course, we see the youngest cohort of participants of the ages between 18 and 22 years.

“It is very beneficial to see people being trained to be coaches from a young age as the AFC ‘C’ Coaching Certificate is the first step towards the AFC Pro Diploma coaching licence, which is the qualification required to coach at the elite level. It would be very interesting if all the students in this cohort obtain the AFC ‘C’ Coaching Certificate at these ages. They will have many years to polish up their coaching skills as they journey towards getting the AFC Pro Diploma Coaching Licence. The training of our coaches at a younger age is indeed one of the objectives of the FAS Strategic Plan which is the development of our coaches.

“We endeavour to increase both the number of quality coaches and strengthen our coaching development programmes. By strengthening our coaching development, we produce better-quality coaches who in turn will produce better players and ultimately benefit Singapore football as a whole. We will continue to work closely with our stakeholders and partners, including academic institutions such as polytechnics, to ensure that our players and coaches attain both academic and professional certifications for their development, and for the continued development of Singapore football as a whole.”

Said Mr Seto Lok Yin, Deputy Principal (Industry Services), Republic Polytechnic, “We are privileged to be the first institute of higher learning to partner FAS in offering this customised programme. This collaboration will value add to our sports coaching diploma’s curriculum, and allow our students to deepen both their theoretical knowledge and practical coaching skills as they strive to become the next generation of football coaches.”

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About Football Association of Singapore (FAS)

The Football Association of Singapore (FAS) is responsible for developing and advancing the game at all levels. Providing a structure for the game to flourish and governing the running of football in Singapore, the FAS also ensures that the Laws of the Game are adhered to, from the professional S.League to amateur leagues.

The FAS also manages the organisation and running of league and cup competitions, the stewardship of international teams, the establishment of youth development, women’s football, refereeing and coaching frameworks.

The mission of the FAS is to enhance lives by leading innovative development of competitive and recreational football in Singapore together with all our partners.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.fas.org.sg>

About Republic Polytechnic

The first educational institution in Singapore to leverage the Problem-based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and two academic centres offering thirty-nine diplomas in Applied Science, Engineering, Enterprise and Communication, Events and Hospitality, Infocomm, Sports, Health & Leisure, and Technology for the Arts.

Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving skills and lifelong learning opportunities. Its holistic and broad-based curriculum prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society as problem solvers, respected professionals and passionate citizens.

Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO 9001, ISO 14001, OHSAS 18001, ISO 22301, Singapore Quality Class, People Developer, Innovation Class, and Service Class.

For more information, visit <http://www.rp.edu.sg>

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