

May 5, 2017

Campbell River soccer season kicks it up a notch this season with Mini World Cup

Campbell River expects to host up to 3,000 people over the May 13-14 weekend during the Mini World Cup youth soccer tournament at Robron Park.

“This is the kind of sport tourism we anticipated with the opening of the new Robron field,” says Al Rimell of the Campbell River Youth Soccer Association. “With approximately 1,200 players coming from all over Vancouver Island and the Yukon, and about 200 games being played, there’s going to be lots of excitement at Robron Park and in town that weekend.”

The Campbell River Youth Soccer Association is encouraging local businesses to download the Mini World Cup logo from the Mini World Cup webpage (miniworldcupsoccer.weebly.com) to print and post welcome signs in store windows.

“Local businesses can expect to be busy as kids and families roll into town for this event,” says Rose Klukas, the City’s economic development officer. “In particular, we anticipate restaurants, hotels and motels could see a big bump in traffic.”

The Mini World Cup is a fun tournament for boys and girls aged 7 to 10 (U8 to U11), with sportsmanship and skill building as the main objective. Each team plays at least three games.

Numerous local organizations are sponsoring the event, which will include:

- Parade of Nations at noon Saturday
- Salmon barbeque fundraiser sponsored by Marine Harvest from 11 to 3 Saturday
- Sunday concession to support U14 Strikers travel to 2017 Provincials in Vernon

“We congratulate Campbell River Youth Soccer Association on the drive and love of sport that is behind hosting this great event, and we wish all the players and their support entourages great games, and great times in Campbell River,” adds Mayor Andy Adams. “We encourage Campbell Riverites and ‘true football fans’ to drop by and enjoy the festival Mini World Cup atmosphere.”

Each year since 2001, the Upper Island Soccer Association has sponsored this event, and this year, the Campbell River Youth Soccer Association was chosen to host.

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