

22nd November 2005

SPURS STARS UNVEIL £600,000 SPACE FOR SPORT

Spurs manager Martin Jol along with star players Michael Carrick and Michael Brown, visited the White Hart Lane Community Sports Centre in Tottenham today, the first 'flagship' site to be opened by Barclays Spaces for Sports.



Following a £600,000 cash injection from Barclays and the Football Foundation, the centre has been transformed and now boasts a completely refurbished 11-a-side artificial turf pitch, four resurfaced tennis courts and new floodlights.

Local children from Broadwater Farm Primary School joined Jol, Carrick and Brown to take part in coaching sessions in football, hockey and tennis to mark the opening of the site for public use.

Funding from Barclays Spaces for Sports has completely redeveloped the community sports centre, owned and run by Haringey Council. The site, formerly known as the New River Sports and Recreation Centre, was previously in a dilapidated condition with several derelict areas and rundown facilities.

Part of a £30m investment from the Barclays Spaces for Sports initiative, which creates sustainable sports facilities across the UK, the project will receive a further £45,000 from Barclays to ensure the sustainability of the site plus kit and equipment worth £5,000.

Located just two miles from Tottenham Hotspur Football Club, the centre will provide much needed sports facilities for the surrounding wards of Woodside and White Hart Lane. A range of activities such as football, rugby, tennis and coaching courses will now be offered to all members of the community, including local schools.

Barclays Group Chairman, Matt Barrett, commented: "Barclays believes that sport has a key role to play in revitalising our communities and sites like The White Hart Lane Sports Centre are central to this. The completion of this site will provide local people with the opportunity to participate in and enjoy sport."

Dave Richards, Chairman of the Football Foundation and FA Premier League, added his support: "It is essential for the future of sport and the health of our nation that all communities have access to the kind of modern grass roots facilities that will be on display at The White Hart Sports Centre. This outstanding new development will offer a host of new sporting opportunities for communities in and around the Tottenham area, regardless of age, ability or gender."

Kathryn Robinson, Director of Tottenham Hotspur Community commented: "Last year we provided opportunities for 305,000 local children of all levels and abilities and this is exactly the type of facility we need to provide the high quality of coaching for which we are recognized and to coach even more children in the future. We know how sport can be a catalyst for a successful, healthy life and it is with facilities such as this that we can give local residents the chance to enjoy sport to the full. Tottenham Hotspur is delighted to be able to launch this facility with Barclays and the Football Foundation and we look forward to putting it to good use."

Cllr Charles Adje, Leader of Haringey Council, said: "This is a fantastic boost for Haringey. It will help engage local people in a diverse range of activities and introduce them to new sports. We look forward to working with our community partners to ensure the continued growth of the site. I would like to thank and congratulate Tottenham Hotspur, Barclays and the Football Foundation for making this happen."

Barclays Spaces for Sports, a partnership between Barclays, the Football Foundation and Groundwork, will create sports sites for local communities over the next three years and provides kit and equipment for sport groups across the UK.

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Notes to Editors

White Hart Lane Community Sports Centre

Facilities are available for community use but must be booked in advance. There is a pricing structure for adults, children and concessions. For more information please see www.haringey.gov.uk or call 020 8881 2323.

Barclays Spaces for Sports

- Barclays Spaces for Sports is a three-year £30m community sponsorship scheme and the main demonstration of the bank's commitment to invest 1% of pre-tax profits in the community.
- It is the single biggest investment in grass roots sport ever by a company in the UK.
- The scheme focuses on regeneration and sports, creating sustainable sports sites for people to engage in sport and physical activities in areas without such facilities.
- Barclays Spaces for Sports is a partnership between Barclays, the Football Foundation and Groundwork.
- Additional flagship sites have been announced in Liverpool, Birmingham, Chelsea,, Southampton and Norwich.
- For more details, see www.barclays.co.uk/spacesforsports

Football Foundation

Funded by the FA Premier League, the Football Association, Sport England and the Government, the Football Foundation is dedicated to revitalising the grass roots of the game, constructing modern football facilities, developing football as a force for social cohesion and as a vehicle for education in communities.

Groundwork

Groundwork is a federation of Trusts in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, each working with their partners to improve the quality of the local environment, the lives of local people and the success of local businesses in areas in need of investment and support.