

Dean Conway, former Director of Coaching for Massachusetts Youth Soccer

FRISCO, Texas (February 15, 2006) – Dean Conway, the former Director of Coaching for Massachusetts Youth Soccer, a proud member of US Youth Soccer, has been chosen to receive the US Youth Soccer Excellence in Youth Coaching Education Award, "The Dr. Thomas Fleck Award" during the 2006 US Youth Soccer adidas Workshop and Coaches Convention next week in Houston, Texas.

Conway will be presented with the award during the 2005 US Youth Soccer adidas Coach of the Year Dinner held Friday, February 24 in conjunction with the 2006 US Youth Soccer adidas Workshop and Coaches Convention in Houston, Texas.

The award is designed to honor a lifetime of dedication where one has with integrity, honor, humor and humility made extensive and far-reaching contributions to the process by which youth soccer coaches are educated in America.

Conway is a member of the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Hall of fame. He is also the author of Soccer Calling: A Handbook for Youth Soccer Coaches. Conway has coached soccer for over 30 years. He holds the United States Soccer Federation "A" License and National Youth License.

As a long-standing member of the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Instructional Staff, Conway has spent the majority of his time educating coaches throughout Massachusetts and the country. He also served on the U.S. Soccer National Instructional Staff for over five years.

“You would be hard-pressed to find anyone who has taken a course he has taught or listened to him speak that has not left feeling more confident, knowledgeable, enthusiastic and appreciative,” said Mike Singleton, Massachusetts Youth Soccer Director of Coaching. “His love for the game and for children is contagious and his passion is unmistakable.”

Also, Conway served as the Massachusetts Youth Soccer Association’s Director of Coaching from 1997-2002. He pioneered coaching courses for beginning and recreational coaches. He is also noted for his promotion of small-sided games. Before US Youth Soccer started promoting small-sided games, Conway succeeded in setting up an 8v8 non-competitive league within the largest travel league in Massachusetts.

He has run free coaching clinics for Special Olympics and countless inner-city organizations, as well as helping to guide and oversee his local Jamaica Plain soccer. He serves on the board of New England Scores, serving urban public schools through a unique and exciting program of after-school creative writing and soccer activities.

Conway is the first recipient of the award other than Dr. Thomas Fleck himself.