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**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 25, 2021**

**USVI Soccer Association Lady Dashing Eagles Holiday Camp**

The US Virgin Islands Soccer Association’s Female Program is taking advantage of the postponement of the revamped 2022 Concacaf W Championship and ramping up player engagement. The tournament was originally scheduled to start November 2021 and is now scheduled to start during the FIFA February 2022 International Window. Head Coach Jorge “Yoyo” Zavala and support staff will conduct a year end close out training camp in Tampa Fl, December 26-31, 2021. Attendees can expect activity packed days, of 2-a-day training, team meetings, treatment sessions, and game time. The twenty ladies attending the camp were selected based on a variety of criteria, such as valid US Passport and residential or familial connections to the USVI, participation on previous USVISA teams (U17-U20). In addition to locally based talent, players were recruited through the US Youth National Leagues and Associations, college contacts and referrals.

Training sessions will be held at the JC Handly Sports Complex in Brandon FL, which has nine soccer fields. The multi-sport facility hosts yearlong youth soccer, tennis, and football programs.

Senior women teams from CONCACAF countries ranked 3-30 were placed in the following groups of five teams:

**Group** **A**: Mexico, Puerto Rico, Suriname, Antigua and Barbuda and Anguilla
**Group B**: Costa Rica, Guatemala, Saint Kitts and Nevis, US Virgin Islands, and Curacao
**Group C**: Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Bermuda, Grenada and Cayman Islands
**Group D**: Panama, El Salvador, Barbados, Belize and Aruba
**Group E**: Haiti, Cuba, Honduras, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and British Virgin Islands
**Group F**: Trinidad & Tobago, Guyana, Nicaragua, Dominica and Turks and Caicos Islands

Head Coach Jorge “Yoyo” Zavala is looking forward to this camp and the matches in February. “I am excited for the next few months of preparations and games, which will be challenging,” stated Coach Zavala.

The Lady Dashing Eagles will need to brush up on their Spanish when they play their 2023 Women World Cup qualifier matches in February 2022. On February 16, 2022, the campaign kicks off with an away match in Guatemala. The ladies take the field at home, at the Bethlehem Soccer Complex against Costa Rica on February 20, 2022. Ranked number Six in the CONCACAF region, Costa Rica will be the highest ranked team USVI Lady Dashing Eagles have ever played. With the increased interest worldwide for female soccer, Coach Zavala believes these matches will bring a lot of excitement to the USVI for everyone, not just the soccer enthusiast. In an international friendly, earlier this year, Guatemala, ranked 80th by FIFA, lost to Costa Rica ranked 36th, 1-3.

For more information on USVI Soccer Association programs, please feel free to contact the USVI Soccer Association office at (340)-719-9707 or email us at usvisoccer@gmail.com. Follow us on Facebook at: USVI Soccer Association