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## HARMONY SPORTS COMPLEX SITE OF 2011 VANCOUVER UNITED SUMMER SLAM More than 5,000 players and spectators to gather for youth soccer tournament

**VANCOUVER, Wash**. — Youth soccer players, their families, friends and fans from throughout Washington and Oregon will be gathering at Vancouver's 40-acre Harmony Sports Complex for the ninth annual Vancouver United Summer Slam, an open soccer tournament hosted by the Vancouver Soccer Alliance. The three-day tournament, which will be held August 26 – 28, 2011, will involve 110 teams with about 1,700 players ages 10 through 18.

"Because of our exceptional sporting complexes, Vancouver is becoming a favorite venue for youth sports tournaments and events," said Ashley Shimer, Vancouver USA Regional Tourism Office's convention sales manager specializing in sporting events. "And, when they're not involved in the sporting events, there is so much for families to do and see including visiting historic sites, walking and hiking, wildlife viewing and bird watching, kayaking and canoeing, and so much more."

Harmony Sports Complex, located just north of downtown Vancouver, houses nine soccer fields, four baseball diamonds, one softball diamond and one miracle league field. The various sports fields are used by Cascade Little League, Vancouver United Soccer Alliance and the Columbia River Miracle League.

In addition to the Summer Slam soccer tournament, Vancouver has been the host city for the Little League Girls Softball Western Region Tournament, which has been held for eight consecutive years at the Fort Vancouver Little League Field. Other major sporting events held in Vancouver include: the Washington State Horse Expo; adidas Clash at the Border soccer tournament; US Rowing Northwest Junior District Championships; the NAIA Cross Country National Championships; and the Vancouver USA Marathon, among others.

The Vancouver United Summer Slam is open to "Under 10" and "Under 18" Select Teams and Recreational Teams. In addition to the soccer games being held throughout the week, children from five to 10 years of age will be able to participate in the Kohl's American Cup to be held on

Saturday, August 27. This tournament, designed specifically for younger children, will be a jamboree format with three games guaranteed for each team and lots of great prizes for everyone who participates. For more information about Summer Slam and the Kohl's American Cup, interested parties can email SummerSlamDir@live.com.

## About Vancouver USA Regional Tourism Office

Vancouver USA Regional Tourism Office (formerly Southwest Washington Convention & Visitors Bureau) is an economic development organization responsible for competitively marketing Vancouver and the surrounding area as a destination for meetings, conventions, and group and leisure travelers. The organization's mission is to promote Vancouver and Clark County by increasing convention and visitor business. For more information call 877-224-4214, or log on to <u>www.VisitVancouverUSA.com</u>.

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