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USA Football • 8300 Boone Boulevard • Suite 625 • Vienna, Virginia 22182 • 1.877.5.FOOTBALL • usafootball.com

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Steve Alic, USA Football, 703/992-8325
salic@usafootball.com

ERIC HARBAK OF GOLD BAR (WASH.) SELECTED BY USA FOOTBALL TO ATTEND 2010 NFL/USA FOOTBALL YOUTH SUMMIT IN CANTON, OHIO

USA Football Tabs Washington State Youth Football Leader to Partake in National Forum

USA Football, the sport's national governing body on youth and amateur levels, recently selected **ERIC HARBAK** of Gold Bar, Wash., to attend the 2010 NFL/USA Football Youth Football Summit in Canton, Ohio, this July. Harbak is the President of the Greater Snohomish County Youth Football League. The league is comprised of 1,000 youth football players from Granite Falls, Lake Stevens, Marysville, Monroe, Snohomish and Sultan.

Harbak and youth football leaders from throughout the region attended USA Football's Washington State Leadership Forum hosted by the Seattle Seahawks at the Virginia Mason Athletic Center on March 13. Harbak was selected at the event to represent the area at the youth football summit in Canton. USA Football's Washington State Leadership Forum is among dozens of meetings that the non-profit holds across the country to share best practices within the youth football community.

USA Football is the official youth football development partner of the Seahawks as well as the NFL, its other 31 teams and the NFL Players Association.

USA Football's 2010 State Leadership Forum schedule will reach hundreds of league commissioners nationwide to impact approximately 20,000 coaches and 500,000 youngsters.

"I look forward to discussing youth football with perspectives from all over the country, understanding what high school coaches would like to see youth programs teach and the possibilities of founding uniformity throughout youth football across the country," Harbak said. "I hope this helps me to get my member associations to adopt USA Football's coaching programs as minimum requirements to coach. I hope to be able to establish bridges with other leagues, so we can work together. I think USA Football can help us in our state to find the things we have in common and build on those things to work together more."

"Since 2006, dedicated volunteers who power youth football leagues continue to enjoy sharing their knowledge and ideas at our state forums," USA Football Executive Director **SCOTT HALLENBECK** said. "We're pleased to have Eric contribute to this discussion on a national level at this summer's youth football summit in Canton, thanks to the support of the NFL and the NFL Players Association."

The NFL/USA Football Youth Summit, funded by the NFL and NFL Players Association, assembles nearly 200 youth and high school coaches from all 50 states and Washington, D.C., along with grassroots football leaders, including former NFL players now coaching at the high school level.

Among the topics discussed at the NFL/USA Football Youth Summit in Canton, Ohio, this July:

- Inspiring youngsters to reach their potential as people and athletes;
- USA Football's CDC-approved concussion awareness and management information;
- The NFL's ATLAS & ATHENA Anti-Steroid Education Program; and
- Role-playing demonstrations regarding coach-player-parent relationships

The NFL and the NFL Players Association have made a major commitment to invest in football's future with the establishment of the NFL Youth Football Fund (YFF) and other programs.

Established in 1998 by the NFL and the NFL Players Association, the NFL YFF seeks to use football as a catalyst to promote positive youth development, support youth and high school football needs nationwide and also ensure the health of grassroots football in future generations. Through the YFF's youth football initiatives and support programs, youngsters are provided with opportunities to learn the game of football, get physically fit and stay involved in productive after-school activities with adult mentors.

About USA Football

USA Football, the sport's national governing body on youth and amateur levels, hosts more than 80 football training events annually offering education for coaches and game officials, skill development for players and resources for youth football league commissioners. The independent non-profit is the official youth football development partner of the NFL, its 32 teams and the NFL Players Association. USA Football manages U.S. national teams within the sport for international competitions and provides more than \$1 million annually in equipment grants and youth league volunteer background check subsidies. Endowed by the NFL and NFLPA in 2002 through the NFL Youth Football Fund, USA Football (www.usafootball.com) is chaired by former NFL team executive Carl Peterson.