



Express Soccer  
Academy



# Dubai Tournament 2017 Report

— 29th Nov – 4th Dec —

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Express Soccer Academy



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## Introduction

Express soccer academy is a private soccer development company / academy that promotes opportunities for children who have passion for playing football. Together with Bona holidays and Aspire sports we participated in a soccer tournament in United Arabs Emirates (U.A.E) in Dubai which took place from November 29th to 4th December 2017 at Dubai Sports Complex.

## Accommodation and meals

Players, coaches and a few parents who accompanied them were hosted in Ghaya Hotel, a four-star hotel, full board inclusive of lunch. Safety, quality service and location influenced the selection of the hotel- The team was transferred to another hotel for two last nights- Dubai Grand Hotel.



## Health and safety

The players, coaches and parents who travelled were open to receive treatment courtesy of the insurance cover by resolution Health. Players were to receive standby medical points at the training venue.



## Fun activities and other tours

Express team had fun visiting the national museum, cultural centers, Dubai city tour and desert excursion.







### Tournament fixtures:

Dubai Classic Tournament is one of the toughest and well organized tournaments in the world. Express soccer academy had the opportunity to take part in it. Being one of the competitive tournaments, we managed to play against some big academies and clubs. Express academy won and lost matches against the following teams:-

#### **DAY 1.**

##### **Under 12/13.... Category 3**

Express Soccer Academy vs FCB Escola Academy Riyadh

##### **Under 9 / 10 Category 2**

Muscat Football Academy vs Express Soccer Academy

#### **DAY 2**

##### **Under 12/ 13**

AC Millan Academy Kuwait VS Express Soccer Academy

##### **Under 9/10**

Sadan Academy VS Express Soccer Academy



### Why Dubai Winter Classic Tournament?

It brings on board several teams from Asia, Europe, South America and African countries hence this makes it to be one of the best organized youth tournament and very competitive short pieces in the world. It is also very cost effective and done at the end of the year. Teams get humble time to prepare for it.

Hosted at the regions premier sporting facility the UAE Winter Classic is the only tournament of its kind in the Middle East. Sending the Dubai football scene soaring to the new heights focusing on the fundamentals of the game as well as encouraging players to create lasting friendship through the number one sports in the world, football, this annual event takes place at Dubai Sports City Sports Village Complex.



## Challenges

Our players did not match our opponents because we had a mix team. Most of those who played for Under 12/13 were actually younger.

Some players were confirming their participation past the deadline. We really had to race against time to get them visas.

The training days before the tournament were too short to prepare a winning team.

Our players' mental strength was wanting since most of them were focused on the holidays rather than competition.

We registered few players as compared to what our opponents had. We hardly afforded 3 substitutes whereas as our opponents had 5 substitutes.

### Achievements

Good organization by Express coaches & administration together with competition organizers in Dubai.

Express U13 ability to score goals against tough teams.

The boys maintained high levels of discipline, cooperation and good behavior before and during the tournament.

## Recommendation

Contracts and deadlines should be adhered to.

Start organizing another Dubai tournament early enough to get the best category of players as opposed to mix -group players.

We must to adhere to TRIAL & SELECTION criteria for the boys in the next year Dubai fete.

At least 4 months intensive preparations to register good results

Must have teams in all the categories i.e. U9, U11, U13 and U15, not less than 12 players in each team.

A committee comprising of express administration & coaches, parents and other stakeholders in preparing the team and enhance proper information flow.

## Action points

Express to communicate with parents about the forth coming Dubai trip early enough to get many eligible players. This is the main tournament Express Soccer

Academy wants to concentrate on. The academy will engage the parents and other stakeholders from February to make this tournament a success.



## Photo gallery

The photos will be available on the Express soccer academy website. Visit [www.expressocceracademy.com](http://www.expressocceracademy.com)





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