



Contact: Yiannis Kosmas  
Phone: (847) 722-4848  
Email: [john@greeksoccer.com](mailto:john@greeksoccer.com)

Hellenic United Athletic Club  
8926 N. Greenwood Avenue  
PMB#139  
Niles, Illinois 60714  
[www.hellenicunited.com](http://www.hellenicunited.com)

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# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hellenic United Athletic Club announces exclusive Chicagoland area rights partnership with Green Football Development (GFD) USA, the official academy network operating under the authority and auspices of Panathinaikos F.C.

**Chicago, Illinois, USA - June 25, 2009:** Hellenic United Athletic Club (HUAC) is proud to announce its exclusive rights partnership that will bring Panathinaikos' Green Football Development (GFD) USA academy to the Chicago and northwest Indiana areas in the fall of 2009. The newly created academy will operate under the name GFD Chicago. The programs will be directed by Hellenic United A.C. coaches with operations in different facilities throughout the greater Chicagoland area and will be offered to individual soccer players committed to training year-round, within an Academy structure that follows the programs, guidelines, professional performance levels and expectations of Panathinaikos F.C. and GFD.

The official announcement was made on June 20, 2009 when GFD USA President, Mr. Nicholas Karidis, and GFD USA General Manager, Mr. Robert Kowalski, made the trip to Elmhurst, Illinois from GFD USA headquarters in St. Louis. A full capacity crowd heard Mr. Karidis and Mr. Kowalski welcome Hellenic United Athletic Club to the Panathinaikos F.C. Green Football Development USA academies program.

"Hellenic United and GFD USA are a perfect fit. We are excited to partner with clubs such as Hellenic United Athletic Club as they bring the true spirit of the academies to those who need it", said Mr. Karidis.

"Hellenic United will pave the way for others to follow," added Mr. Kowalski, as future locations in the USA are forthcoming.

## HUAC ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH GFD USA

"We've all heard about the quality of players coming out of the Panathinaikos academies in Greece, but Hellenic United and its partners now have the opportunity to offer those same resources and skills to players here in Chicago," noted Hellenic United Athletic Club President, Yiannis Kosmas.

Hellenic United Athletic Club is the only to date Chicagoland Soccer Club (Men's and Youth) to have an official partnership with a professional Greek Football Club. With European Club soccer at its peak, along with Panathinaikos, a European Champions League powerhouse, Hellenic United Athletic Club will be able to give children the opportunity to fully develop their talent and shine on the biggest stage with a direct link to Panathinaikos F.C. Panathinaikos' Academies have flourished throughout Europe and playing against some of the best youth academies in the world such as, Ajax FC(Netherlands), FC Barcelona (Spain), Manchester United (England), and more, proving that their consistent youth program has the ability to unravel the rawest of talents in children.

Hellenic United AC is looking forward to offering clinics this summer that will demonstrate to parents and young players alike how they can develop their skills and love of the game to the fullest extent of their abilities.

For more information please visit: <http://www.hellenicunited.com>

### **About Hellenic United Athletic Club**

Hellenic United Athletic Club was formed in 2008 to support the unmet demand of the Hellenic community in the Chicago metro area. The club participates in Chicago's premier National Soccer League.