

# 2021 Annual Report



## PRELUDE

The year 2021 was one where we saw the light beginning to shine through at the end of the tunnel of COVID 19 lockdowns. While still under difficult protocols, the Secretariat working along with the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Health Services, was able to get our National Teams out to train as well as for us to add very important staff members to help us achieve our difficult road of rebuilding programs.

Special thanks goes out our Club Presidents who under strong pressure from their members, did their endeavor best to uphold the protocols mandated by the Government.

## MEN'S NATIONAL TEAM QUALIFIES FOR GOLD CUP COMPETITION



The men's National Team had a very busy schedule 2021. First out there were World Cup Group Qualifying matches :

3/27/2021	VS	St. Kitts & Nevis
3/30/2021	VS	Guyana
6/2/2021	VS	Puerto Rico
6/5/2021	vs	Trinidad & Tobago

### GOLD CUP QUALIFIER

July 3rd, 2021

## WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

In 2021, Women's Football officially returned in the country in a big way and it is the desire of the Association to see the resurgence of senior women playing the game, continue.

Our Women's program included both the Beach Soccer as well as the Grass format. Because of the restrictive Covid 19 protocols, Government only allowed National Teams to train in a closed environment.

Our Ladies participated in the TCIFA Beach Soccer Tournament in March 2021 and this was followed by the Women's Grass Team participating in the TCIFA Women's Soccer Festival in July 2021



# YOUTH FOOTBALL



**COVID-19**

**CANCELLED**



**FEBRUARY**

**COVID-19**

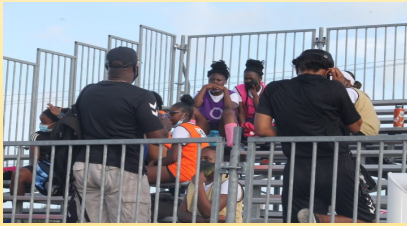
**CANCELLED**

# Samuel P. Haven Jr National High School Soccer Championships



# Women's Development Program

In June of 2021 the call went out to all interested young female players to be a part of history and they turned out in numbers. From this group, a Women's Squad was selected to participate in the TCIFA Women's Festival in Turks & Caicos where they finished 2nd behind the Cayman Islands.



## Referee Department

The Referee department had the same challenges as all the others with the mandated lockdowns related to the COVID 19 pandemic. With the extended lockdowns, attrition in the numbers of available referees increased.

The department adjusted to the moment and focused on developing those who wanted to continue improving by conducting training for both disciplines. The training also included more online sessions as the in person sessions were limited by protocols.

Later in the year with the protocols relaxed, they were able to conduct a Grass FIFA MA Course in August . This would be their first in person course.

In November, the department hosted a Beach Soccer MA Course which included a number of participants from our neighbors, The Turks& Caicos .

Finally, in November , the Bahamas Football Association agreed to host a training camp for the Lithuania National team and put on a friendly match. This allowed some of our newly minted referees to get much needed experience. In the end, the officiating was conducted by three female Bahamian referees, a first in the region.



## International Events

With the easing of COVID 19 Protocols, the Government allowed National Teams to train and participate in International Events once all of the protocols were followed. We participated in World Cup Qualifiers for Men locally and abroad. We also participated in Gold Cup in the USA.

Not to be left out our Women's Team participated in competition in the Turk & Caicos Islands and our U 20 team travelled to Curacao for the CONCACAF W U 20 Qualifiers.



## Member Associations Meetings

Regional Partner CONCACAF and Governing Body FIFA, with COVID 19 lock-downs in effect, made full use of Zoom and other online platforms to maintain communication with the Member Associations world wide.

The following key meetings took place:

◇

**Zoom meeting with Head coach and asst. regarding Nations League.**

**BSWW Zoom Presentation**

**CONCACAF and FIFA Zoom Surveys fact finding on MA's**

**FIFA Financial Data Gathering via zoom**

**FIFA Congress conducted Via Zoom**

**Regional Meet with FIFA, CONCACAF and CFU via Zoom**

**FIFA Audit Review VIA Zoom**

**FIFA Safeguarding of Children Via Zoom**

**CONCACAF / TD Meeting on Forward 2.0**

**Zoom Meeting with Hummel USA to discuss Sponsorship Proposal**

**FIFA Zoom meeting on Infrastructure**

**CONCACAF Webinar on TMS**

**COVID 19 Protocols Revised and updated presented to Min. of Health**

**Zoom with FIFA Development Office , Barbados**

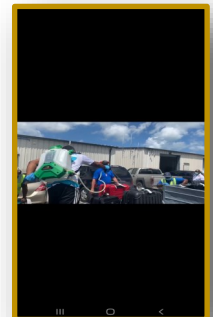
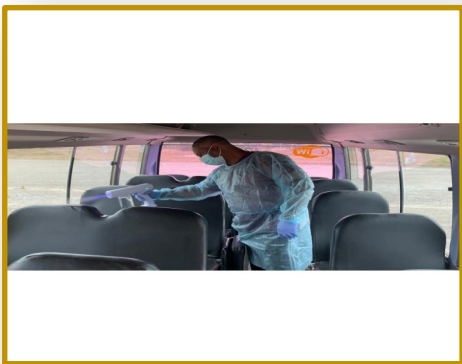
**First in a series of Webinars hosted by CONCACAF on the Commercialization of Football in Member Associations.**

## BFA Supports for Members

Covid 19 and its effects on our constituents was not lost on the Association. The Association invested in Equipment to assist Clubs with testing and sanitization to keep all players safe.

The BFA also had signage manufactured for Clubs to post at the training grounds, warnings about keeping the proper distance when training as well when sitting about.

The Association also entered into an agreement with a local Covid Testing company to use the Beach Soccer Facility which benefitted our national teams and other visiting teams during this period.



## **Milestones in 2021**

Jan 2021– March 2021

- ◆ The search and decision to hire the Director of Women's Football
- ◆ Continued work with the MOH and the Competent Authority for modified return to play for Clubs and affiliates (no contact). Stage 1 & 2 approved
- ◆ Purchase and distribution of COVID equipment for the Clubs
- ◆ Visitations to training grounds to ensure protocols were in place.
- ◆ Technical Department crafted a Master Calendar for Jan—Dec
- ◆ National Teams given the green light to train full contact. Both Beach and Grass.
- ◆ With Nations League looming in the distance, training camp in Florida arranged with Bermuda.
- ◆ Hosted St. Kitts & Nevis WCQ
- ◆ Played Guyana WCQ in Dominican Republic
- ◆ Technical Department presented a National Training Curriculum, BFA Coaches Booklet
- ◆ BFA Player Development & Tactics

## Milestones continued

- ◆ Applied for Stage 3 return to play: Full contact granted as long as protocols remain in place.
- ◆ Inter Clubs play allowed once protocols were being followed. Clubs slowly returned to full operations. Some faster than others.
- ◆ Beach Soccer World Wide Qualifiers returned with matches in Costa Rica
- ◆ Men's National Team participated in World Cup qualifiers as well as a trip to GOLD Cup competition VS Guadeloupe.
- ◆ We signed up and participated in the introduction of new CONCACAF initiative, CONCACAF Amazing.
- ◆ Hired New Technical Director
- ◆ We relaunched the COE for the under 17 Boys
- ◆ Women's U 20 qualifiers launched in Curacao
- ◆ Planning for League return to play begins
- ◆ BFA Congress.

## Conclusion

**On behalf of the Bahamas Football Association under the guidance of President Anton D. Sealey and the Executives, we offer special thanks for the efforts of many behind the scenes which enable football games, programs, events and activities to take place.**

**We would be remiss if we did not include all of our member clubs, affiliates, parents, sponsors, Government and volunteers in this expression of gratitude. Without you we could not have accomplished what we did in 2021.**

**THANK YOU!! MERCI!! GRACIAS!! DANKE!!DANKUWEL!!**

