
BANTAMS NEWS RELEASE



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MORRIS IN AS BANTAMS NEW GM

Columbia, SC – South Carolina United FC has hired Lee Morris as General Manager of its U23 PDL team, the SC UNITED BANTAMS. Morris, age 35, played professionally for 16 years in England including stays in the English Premier League with Sheffield United, Leicester City and Derby County. Holder of UEFA A, B and C licenses, prior to arriving in Columbia, Morris served as a head coach within the Derby County FC Academy and as manager of Loughborough Dynamo's semi-professional men's team in Yorkshire, England. "To say we are delighted with Lee's arrival would be an incredible understatement" says Ron Tryon, the club's CEO. "As a former member of England's U18 and U21 teams, Lee 'has lived' what it actually takes to become a professional and will prove to be an incredible resource for our PDL players seeking to play at the next level." In addition to being Bantams GM, Morris will serve as Director of Player Development for the club's 5,500+ player youth program. Says Morris, "I am incredibly grateful for the opportunity to help further develop United's massive player pool at all levels and I very much look forward to becoming a part of the club and communities we serve." Morris and second year Head Coach David Kenga are currently evaluating talent of all interested players who seek a slot on the Bantams 2016 roster. The club's final player evaluation session will be held February 13 and is by invitation only. Players interested in being invited should contact and send film to: davidkenga@southcarolinaunitedfc.com

ABOUT THE BANTAMS

The SC United Bantams is a pre-professional franchise based in Columbia, SC and participates in the Premier Development League (PDL) of the United Soccer Leagues (USL). Originally launched in 2012 as the Palmetto FC, the Bantams were based in Greenwood, S.C. and moved to Columbia in March 2013. The team is comprised of current and former collegiate players and plays a 14 game schedule during the summer months. Based on the finish in league play the team can qualify for the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup, which includes teams from Major League Soccer (MLS).

ABOUT THE PDL

The proven developmental leader in North American soccer's evolving tiered structure, the 2015 PDL season featured 63 teams within four conferences throughout the United States and Canada, including 10 teams affiliated with the USL or Major League Soccer clubs. The PDL has proven to be an important stepping-stone for top professionals now playing throughout the world, with 70 percent of all MLS draftees having PDL experience. The PDL provides elite collegiate players the opportunity to taste a higher level of competition while maintaining their eligibility. In addition to league play, PDL teams compete in the Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup as well as various exhibitions.



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