



<p>IWWFA Goes Non-Profit <i>IWWFA now holds non-profit status in the US, making it easier for teams to get sponsorships.</i> Page 2</p>	<p>Meet the New Board <i>Bios and pictures of the new board members, and what they are doing for you!</i> Page 3</p>	<p>Finland Wins Political Struggle <i>After years of penalties for teams participating in the IWWFA, the athletes are now free to play.</i> Page 7</p>	<p>Going Viral <i>The internet connects players, and teams while sharing photos and videos.</i> Page 4</p>
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A NEW LOOK AND A NEW STRUCTURE WILL STRENGTHEN IWFFA

IWWFA experienced major facelifts to it's website, the Forward Pass and most importantly; the **political structure**.

The people behind the change are the board members. They were first positioned in early 2008 as one of the requirements of non-for-profit status. This quickly became a large strength in the organization. The distribution of responsibilities is spread out so the IWWFA can get more done and give more benefits to it's members. You may learn more about the board on page three. The board's new structure calls for volunteers to head and participate in committees. We are now accepting volunteers for these committees. For more information check out IWWFA.com

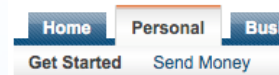


While you're surfing the IWWFA's website to volunteer, you will notice the website has had a facelift. We now have an easy to use layout to navigate to the official video and the new pay online options through Pay Pal. Keep checking back the website for more videos and additional updates on tournaments.

The IWWFA has finally reached Non-for-profit status. This news comes just in time for the 2009 Kelly McGillis Classic and we couldn't be more thrilled. Read more about how it will benefit you on the next page.

The Forward Pass has also received a facelift, and a few new columns like "The Girl's Corner." This is where our girl's teams can submit photos of their local events and games. We will continue to invite IWWFA members to submit stories and photos for up coming issues. The Forward Pass will come-out twice a year, in Winter and Spring, to inform and keep members connected to what's new in the organization.

- Written by Mary Angelini



Opt to Pay Online

Now its easier than ever to pay your team registration and membership fees. We have linked up with Paypal to make paying your dues effortless.

The best part? You can use your credit card securely online.

Just go to the main website, click on the Kelly McGillis Classic link and follow the Paypal instructions.

IWFFA Goes Non-Profit

The 501 3C non-profit status is almost complete! The IWFFA will gain status after a lengthy application process including supporting documentation to the IRS. The non-profit status will help in a number of ways, both for the tax exemptions of the organization and it's members.

- Receive public and private grant money
- Donations given to the IWFFA by companies and individuals are now eligible for a tax write-off

This news is especially joyous for the numerous teams who will now have the opportunity to receive grants from their home country. This will also help the IWFFA apply for grant monies to further spread women and girl's flag football internationally.

President's Corner

Greetings!

Finally the 2007 - 2008 Forward Pass Magazine is here! We missed the 2007 edition because our small group of volunteers could not manage to produce the issue. So this issue, which includes two years of materials, has been an even greater task to produce. Many thanks to Mary Angelini, who has created such a beautiful and informative production.

The IWFFA is becoming a non-profit 501 (c) (3) so that we can better support our Nordic teams and North American teams. Through tax deductible donations, grants, government support, etc., our non-profit status can be utilized by all teams. Another purpose of changing our status is that one day I myself, as the founder, will not be able to continue. Better we prepare for the future and incorporate a board, directors to operate and continue our organization as well as open our doors for more ideas and talents to enhance the IWFFA. You can see already that with the additions of our IWFFA Face book and Blog, that we are benefiting from the contributions of our younger members.



Diane Beruldsen, President of the IWFFA is seen here coaching a group of girls in Key West, FL

I am concerned with national leagues across the U.S. whose force is diminishing. It seems that the founder's of these league are retiring and their leagues have no one to continue to run the league. We need administrators, and organizers willing to do the tasks and take responsibilities to run leagues. We need to encourage players and non-players to take on these tasks.

We also need to support and offer girls teams in these leagues to plant the seed for women's flag football and also to offer the opportunity for them to play (remember what it was like for us older athletes growing up with no such opportunities to play?)

The IWFFA will focus it's promotional tours in the U.S. for 2009 as well as be more aggressive to sign up leagues to then support their needs.

The best way for the IWFFA to communicate with our players is via email. If you do not receive our monthly IWFFA updates, please contact our office.

Monthly updates are filled with so much important information.

We have made great changes inside the IWFFA in order to better promote and expand flag football . I hope you will enjoy and get involved, because that' what it's all about: Experience the Excitement!

Diane Beruldsen / Founder

Advertise HERE

Advertise in the Next Issue

Place an Ad in the Forward Pass for your business or product starting at \$250. For additional information contact our office at (305) 293 - 9315

or e-mail us at

Iwfffa@iwfffa.com Subject Line: Ads on Forward Pass

FORWARD PASS

Meet the New Board

Diane Beruldsen, Founder and President

Her experience of playing football began as a young child playing with the boys in the streets of Brooklyn, NY. Even from a young age she saw the lack of importance that our society gave for girls playing sports. As an adult she leveraged that experience to change the way women view football today.



Diane founded the International Women's Flag Football Association in 1997 to help organize the sport as well as spread women's flag football to other regions of the world.

As well as helping the organization grow she keeps busy as a participant in the Kelly McGillis Classic, as well the trainer, coach, and officiates for the IWFFA.

Lena Johansson, Executive Board Member

In 2000 she was recruited to play Center in the Nordic Promotional Tour and was bitten by the football bug. She has been an Athlete all of her life playing handball and soccer in Partille, Sweden where she was born and raised. She has competed in the Kelly McGillis



Classic in Key West, FL starting in 2001 and hasn't missed one tournament since. She has also been highly involved with the IWFFA Nordic Region Tournaments, as well as helping the Nordic Region's teams grow and prosper.

Mary Angelini

She is a business owner and has been playing Flag Football for over 9 years. She started playing for the Lady



Wolverine High School Varsity Flag Football team in Wellington FL. She later joined the IWFFA as a Loose Woman in the Kelly McGillis Classic. She currently plays for the Blue Wave team in Melbourne, FL.

She serves as Editor-in-Chief of the Forward Pass Magazine. She is dedicated to improving the IWFFA and the sport of flag football for women and girls.

Rori Baldari

Currently a member of the IWFFA Board of Directors, Rori had been designing graphics for the IWFFA since its inception.



Extraordinary to say the least. she has helped promote women's flag football for the past 29 years offering her creative flair to tournament programs, newsletters, advertisements and other visual media for the sport.

A graduate of Rutgers University College of Art & Design, Rori enjoys a career in the printing industry as a package designer. Her devotion to the IWFFA's philosophy of "planting a seed for a stronger female in our society" is what drives her. Rori firmly believes that this

dream is a vehicle to bond and empower females in today's world. Good humored and very witty, we are grateful to have her with us.

Yvonne Mullet Secretary

She started playing in Brooklyn NY in one of the first women's teams in the area. She has been present for the progression of the IWFFA. She helped form the Brooklyn Women's Flag Football League which turned into the then NY Women's FF league which then bloomed into the KWWFFL, National Women's Flag Football Association and finally into a more recognizable IWFFA.

She serves as secretary on the board with the drive to continue the growth of the organization.



**Volunteer
on a committee!**

for details
visit iwffa.com

FORWARD PASS

Meet the Contributors of the Forward Pass Magazine



Editor-in-Chief

Mary Angelini

IWFFA Board Member. She plays Safety in the Kelly McGillis Classic with the Blue Wave 'A' Team. They competed in the Middle Division in 2008. She was also recruited by Team US in the World Challenge I.

President of the IWFFA

Diane Beruldsen

President and founder of the IWFFA, she is the heart of the organization. She continues to build the organization strength by outreaching to girls and women teaching them the game of contact flag football.



Op-Ed Writer

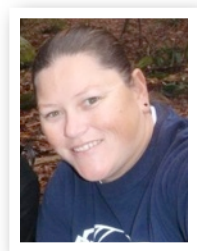
Eduardo Gonzalez

Blue Wave Head Coach, he shares his experience as a male coach in a women oriented tournament. He has taken his team to the Kelly McGillis Classic for over 6 years, last year bringing two teams.

Editor

Jamie Albury

She plays Center in the Kelly McGillis Classic with the Blue Wave 'A' Team. She also plays intramural flag football at Florida Institute of Technology, where she is enrolled in a Masters Program for Applied Behavioral Analysis.



facebook

It's Going Viral

Players, coaches and fans share videos, photos and stay in the loop by using the Facebook group.



Join a topic on Facebook. The IWFFA group shares photos, videos and keeps in contact with old buddies. Go and see what other members have posted.

What's up for discussion right now?

"IWFFA in Hawaii"

Not a member of Facebook? It's free and easy. Go to www.facebook.com to get started.



Tell us what's going on!

To contribute a story, idea or photo for the Spring Forward Pass Magazine e-mail the IWFFA at iwffa@iwffa.com

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FORWARD PASS

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293 - 9315 or e-mail us!

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2008 TEAM RESULTS

	PRE07	POST07	PRE08	Point Diff	Division	Div Correct	Rank pts	Roster Size	SEED	Seed Corrected	Actual Seeding 2008
				47%	11%	11%	33%	9%	100%	100%	
				0.7	0.16	0.16	0.49	0.13	1.48	1.48	
Richmond One	10	1	1	15	1	1.5	11	15	51.44	36.86	95.83
NY TNT	3	2	2	43	1	1.5	9	15	51.11	36.53	94.98
Tampa Lethal Weapon	4	4	4	10	1	1.5	4	15	47.89	33.31	86.61
Sting Rays/Playmakers	1	3	3	-13	1	1.5	5	15	47.85	33.26	86.48
VA Badd Girls	2	6	5	56	2	2	14	15	31.99	31.99	83.18
Rode Is. Hurricanes	6	5	8	-55	1	1.5	1	15	44.91	30.32	78.84
Lyte and Tyte	7	7	6	66	2	2	7	15	28.80	28.80	74.87
Rebels	12	15	13	126	4	3	14	15	22.69	26.33	68.47
Brew Crew	5	8	7	-17	2	2	5	15	25.88	25.88	67.28
Oslo Panthers	0	0	12	0	3	2.5	11	15	21.92	24.84	64.58
Milwaukee Pints	17	11	9	68	3	2.5	7	15	21.55	24.47	63.61
Anger Management	8	9	11	-46	2	2	3	15	24.22	24.22	62.98
Blue Thunder	9	10	14	-52	2	2	1	15	23.10	23.10	60.06
Comp Loose Women	14	13	15	-22	3	2.5	8	15	19.94	22.86	59.43
Sweden Angels	0	0	19	0	3	2.5	6	15	19.47	22.39	58.21
Tennessee Turkeys	0	0	10	0	3	2.5	5	15	18.98	21.90	56.94
F Fighters	0	0	17	0	3	2.5	4	15	18.49	21.41	55.67
Danish Devils	0	0	21	0	3	2.5	4	15	18.49	21.41	55.67
Diesel Daises	16	12	16	-22	3	2.5	3	15	17.49	20.41	53.06
NC Stray Dawgs	11	14	20	-24	3	2.5	3	15	17.44	20.36	52.94
Blue Wave A	13	16	18	11	4	3	7	15	16.57	20.22	52.57
Nordic Mean Machine	0	0	24	0	3	2.5	1	15	17.02	19.94	51.84
Spyner Dawgs	15	17	22	-20	4	3	4	15	14.38	18.03	46.87
Oslo Polar Bears	0	0	27	0	4	3	1	15	13.38	17.02	44.26
Oslo Tigers	0	0	28	0	4	3	1	15	13.38	17.02	44.26
Blue Wave B Team	n/a	n/a	23	0	4	3	0	15	12.89	16.53	42.99
Brady Bunch	18	18	25	-64	4	3	3	15	12.86	16.51	42.93
Loose Women	19	19	26	-47	4	3	2	15	12.77	16.42	42.68

FORWARD PASS

Ed(itorial)

Key West on a Dime

An Op-ed column written by a IWFFA team coach;
Eduardo Gonzalez

Ever wonder if there is a cheaper way to travel to Key West and spend a weekend full of football accompanied by nightlife mayhem?

The story starts with a small intramural team of ten college girls that had just come off of a disappointing second place finish on the intramural league at the Florida Institute of Technology. Sometime in November I found the IWFFA website and decided to contact Diane to see if there was any way the team could afford it, but more important, if the team could be competitive in any way in a full contact league.

They practiced harder than ever and tried to get as good as they could possibly could. With absolutely no experience in the 8on8 contact play format, it was really difficult to know what type of offense and defense to set up.

The team was ready in every way except economically. So we needed to find a way to get to Key West, and we need to find a way to get some severely cheap housing. As the tournament got closer we decided that each player could afford to eat and drink at Key West as long as the tournament, housing and transportation all added up to \$100 dollars or less. You might be thinking, they got down to Key West for \$100 bucks?!?! Yep, it was possible back then but it did have its setbacks.

Traveling down to Key West was by no means comfortable. We had a full cab dodge truck and a sedan to fit ten girls and three coaches. So we packed the truck with eight people and all the luggage and the sedan carried five people. Now, if you are driving down to Key West and you choose to travel through the east coast, DO NOT GO THROUGH I-95 unless you are driving at night time. We figured we could save six dollars in toll money by not going through the Turnpike. Big mistake! We ended up stuck in heavy traffic in Miami. So after a ten hour ride (seven hrs through the turnpike) we arrived at the Grand Oak Tree hotel where the captain's meeting was held. The team registered, the coaches got their schedules, and the girls started partying. We finally checked into our hotel the Fairfield Inn. How could we save ourselves some money? Two rooms for the entire team! Packed like sardines we slept but it didn't matter because everyone was usually so tired from the combination of football, walking around Duval St. and partying.

While at Key West, we would go to the beach, Fairvilla and Mallory Square were we got entertained for free. At football we would not only play our game but we would watch higher division teams play so that we could get a glimpse of what real 8on8 flag football was. At the end of the tournament, after a 2-1-1 record (1-0-1 vs Angels and 1-1-0 vs Loose Women) we somehow came up top by point differential, that gave us the #1 spot. Who would have thought of that? Well, after the award ceremony we went back to the hotel and slept four hours before heading back to Melbourne. We had to beat all sort of traffic if our players were going to make it for their 9am exams.

In the end it was all worth it. The Blue Wave Flag Football Club(FFC) now had something to look forward to in the Spring semester. Since then Blue Wave FFC has participated in every Kelly McGillis Classic.

Then and Now

Then: 10 Players, a sedan, a pickup and 2 Coaches



Now: 2 teams, 10 staff, 2 passenger vans and a pickup just for luggage



FORWARD PASS

News from around the globe



IWFFA Wins the Battle with Finland! The True Story of the Finnish Turkey Spy

A shocking story about a political struggle to play flag football internationally with out penalty.

To understand the situation a peek into its history is needed:

SOME HISTORY

Here is a little history:



Women played Flag Football in Finland for over 20 years with a varying rule book. They sought out other teams outside of

Finland, but they thought they were the only ones. Once the IWFFA discovered Finland playing flag football three players were invited to participate in the Key West tournament. The following summer the IWFFA traveled to Scandinavia to form new teams and leagues.

The Finnish association (SAJL) who governs the flag football leagues gave Finland notice that they were forbidden to compete in any IWFFA sanctioned events. They vaguely explained the reason but none of them made much sense to the teams involved. They first said that players were not allowed to participate because the IWFFA was not a non-profit organization, then it was said that players may go there as individuals (not as "Team Finland" or by the name of the club that is a member of SAJL) and finally they said that it's about the rules. As long as IWFFA has different rules than SAJL then they were are not

allowed to take part in the tournaments without permission. Sanni Virtanen, a player of Team Finland explained "When we attempted to get the permission the answer was a clear "no". When we asked why the answer was "It's in the IFAF (International Federation of American Football) rules". They exhausted all attempts to petition the rules to be changed.

THE TRIP

With no opportunities to play flag football internationally, the players became more interested in trading in their flags for pads. It promised new experiences, teams and tournaments outside of Finland.

They attempted to fight the ban on IWFFA participation but stopped because the SAJL didn't show any consideration to their plea. So they decided to give up on Finland flag football.

They decided that they will end their playing days with a great party in Key West. Sanni Virtanen explained. "We started to save money and plan the trip, asked friends from other Scandinavian countries to join and happily waited for the days in the sun playing flag for maybe the last time." They kept quiet about the trip and even decided to play with false names, in addition to resigning from the sports club and SAJL before the trip.

THE SPY

Another team discovered that they were planning the trip and felt that what they were planning was completely wrong. "They decided to be sure that they -get what we deserve- so they asked somebody to spy on us and take photos to prove that

we were playing. .. And that is what happened." said Sanni Virtanen.

A person from Finland traveled to Key West and took pictures of the team "Tennessee Turkeys" warming up, playing and laughing on the sidelines. It was clear that the person who took the photos were standing in an angle that was next to bushes and a chain link fence as to hide their identity from the players.

HOME SWEET HOME

In the beginning of April SAJL sent a letter saying that they had proof that the Finnish women had taken part in an IWFFA tournament and stated the opportunity to plea a case before the board. None of the participating Finnish women were members of SAJL and many had decided not to play anymore.

However, there was a possibility to participate in a tackle football league and because of the prospect of a tackle league, they went to face the board.

The board decided to punish the team who's members went to Key West. They forced the team to forfeit over half of its 2008 season.

PROTESTING CHAIN GANG

The team felt like the punishment was not fair, and that there were bias among the board members. SAJL refused to make a ruling, even after repeatedly requested. Because there was no official ruling there was no opportunity for an appeal. After many request for the rules describing the the ban on the IWFFA, they finally received the rule book and the rules and were unclear.

(Continued on next page)

FORWARD PASS

News from around the globe

Continued


Powderpuff: an insult

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill implemented an intramural Flag Football program for men, women and co-rec teams. They called the flag football program specifically for women "Powderpuff".

Donna M. Bickford, Ph.D., Director of Carolina Women's Center Program Advisory Council was alarmed when she became aware of the program's name. The primary concern was referring to the sport of flag football as Powderpuff was trivializing and derogatory. The name leads you to believe that it is less real or authentic than the men's game.

"Surely the players are strong and committed athletes. Referring to their intramural sport as 'powderpuff' however, would lead to the opposite conclusion." said Bickford in her letter addressed to the Director of the Carolina Campus Recreation Program.

Immediately after the letter was received, the Women's Flag Football program's name was respectively changed.

According to their intramural newsletter, the Fall 2008 Season had over 231 Men, Women and

Co-rec teams and 3,199 participants. This coming Spring Intramural season will include, among other activities, Women's 4 v 4.

Diane Beruldsen, President of the IWFFA commented. "In our society, we have to be careful what we accept and must take a stand for what we do not accept or else it just continues. I am so proud [Bickford] has taken the time, to address sexism in the team sports clubs at their school, and for their success to over turn usage of these derogatory names."

IWFFA Wins Battle with Finland (Continued from page 7)

After the discovery of the murky rules, "We were mad and confused. It all felt unreal." Sanni Virtanen explained.

By the time of our first game in the beginning of July there still was no official information about the case.

"This made us even more angry and more determined to make the complaint. We took our IWFFA-caps, shirts and water bottles and spent the first game in the chain gang watching our own team win." said Sanni Virtanen.

THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH?

A new reporter interviewed the participating team's QB and made a full page story about the injustice. Sanni Virtanen added "Everything she said in the interview was true but SAJL decided that she had 'given bad reputation for the sport' and had to be punished." Because of her participation the SAJL prevented her from playing the entire 2008 season.


Since SAJL was not willing to cooperate the team took the case to the next level. Along with the help of a lawyer they made a complaint to the Legal Rights Board for Sport in Finland.

THE RULING

After a few months of litigation- the Legal Rights Board for Sport ruled both complaints in favor of the team. "SAJL had no right to give us the punishments- we were not members at the time and the QB was only using the freedom of speech in the news paper interview." Sanni Virtanen explained.

AFTER THE VICTORY

Although Finland's Legal Rights Board for Sport's ruling was a strong message sent to SAJL, the future is still somewhat uncertain. The 2008 football season has passed and the team had to complete their punishment. The team has made a complaint to SAJL about the interpretation of the rules and the allowance of the members to participate in the IWFFA. The yearly assembly of SAJL's agenda focused on this very issue and has recently informed the team that the rules have not changed. Even if there is no flag football offered anywhere under EFAF/IFAA, the members of SAJL are not allowed to take part in any tournament that does not use the rules and regulations of IFAF. Unfortunately the rules that SAJL use for flag football are so individualized that no other organization, league or tournament follows those rules. That means Finland's flag football players are limited to playing only in their region with no opportunity to expand there experience.



"Hiding in the bushes in a complete spy-outfit."



curtesy of Info-Mural

FORWARD PASS

THE GIRL'S SECTION

TALKS OF A GIRL'S TOUR IN ENGLAND



Early talks of an official IWFFA tour specifically for girls in England have begun. Although the IWFFA is still in the beginning

stages of discussing a tour in England, if completed this would be the first IWFFA tour organized for girls only.

IWFFA holds tours in various parts of the world to teach girls and women the rules and skills necessary to play Flag Football. The tour aligns with local groups who sign up the participants and the IWFFA then travels to the region and teaches the sport to the players, coaches and officiants. The IWFFA provides flags, belts and balls to get their league started. After the girls learn the skills and understand the rules, they form teams and play against one another. This leads to more teams to play in IWFFA tournaments and the further spread of Women and Girl's Flag Football.

PICTURE YOURSELF

Send us your favorite picture playing flag football, traveling or just having fun and we may pick it for

Picture of the Season.

E-mail Picture and Caption to

iwffa@iwffa.com



Picture of the Season!

Florida Institute of Technology Girl's Fall Intramural Season. The girls took home the Championship for the 3rd year in a row, beating out Sororities and other clubs on campus.

The team does "clap-it-up" before and after each game for team spirit.



FORWARD PASS

2007 Porter Wilson Award



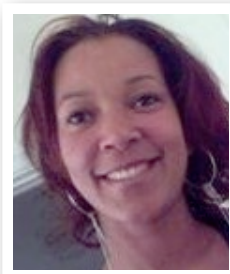
Yvette Henricksson

Yvette has kept the torch burning for Sweden's Women's Flag Football league.

Knowing nothing about American Football, she was invited to travel to the US to compete in the Kelly McGillis Classic in Key West, FL.

Yvette got hooked.

When she arrived back at home in Sweden she decided to form a team. She named the team after the city she lived in "Oostersund", meaning 'the land Republicans' and started with two teams; a Junior and Senior.



In that same year, following the IWFFA / Oostersund Women's Flag Football Tournament, team reps from Scandinavia officially joined together to support one another in growing American Flag Football in Scandinavia. Yvette helped represent Sweden.

Yvette was a board member, a team leader and played in Oostersund for the next two years.

Over the years she had competed in both US and Nordic tournaments never missing a year.

She enjoys exploring the differences between the Nordic and US team's style. Pointing out; "In Scandinavia it's more of a 'family' atmosphere as many of these

teams travel to each other's competition and see each other quite frequently."

Today she represents the Stockholm Mean Machine, for which she recruited players, made their travel arrangements and does most of the driving in the big city.

"Once a player catches the fever, they are hooked." She adds that most of the new players are younger and bring much more energy onto the team.

Now-a-days she plays less and focuses more on the growth of the teams. Yvette has been the driving force for fundraising for her team.

Now that IWFFA has gone non-profit, Yvette is committed to have SAFF recognize the IWFFA so that their teams can get the financial support as all other sports do in Sweden.

Yvette wants to lay low these days. She encourages younger players to assist in the organization and managerial responsibilities.

Her absolute most favorite experiences in flag football has been the Loose Women's team. There she is having fun and just playing flag football. She is also recognized at the 2007 IWFFA / Nordic Sportswoman of the year for her achievements as an Athlete.



The 2008 Porter Wilson Award winner will be featured in the Spring 2009 Forward Pass

The Sportswomen Foundation

Founded in 1974 by Billie Jean King, the Women's Sports Foundation is a national charitable educational organization seeking to advance the lives of girls and women through sports and physical activity. The Foundation's Participation, Education, Advocacy, Research and Leadership programs are made possible by gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations. Please visit www.womenssportsfoundation.org to contribute.

FORWARD PASS

2007 Sportswomen of the year

Stacy Elliot

North American Winner

A 14 year veteran of Flag football and fierce competitor from the Virginia based team The Richmond One.



Images by Doc

Stacy's Mother recalls when she played little league baseball at age five or six, "the boys

respected her, trusted

her and knew without her saying exactly what the expectation was."

She attributes team sports to her confidence and success in life today. She believes that without her team she would not be receiving this award. Stacy explains, "In football, every person matters." She notes that her teammates must be doing all the right things to make a successful play. Pointing out that star players do not succeed if the whole team does not pitch in.

Stacy has been playing sports since she was a small child. She gives her mother credit for supporting in sports her throughout the years. Stacy explains how she started playing football, "I had been playing Softball and a co-worker invited me to play, and she said if you've never played football then you haven't seen anything yet." After she played, she admits to loving the

sport, primarily because she discovered a true team sport. "In other sports you can place a player who isn't as good in a position and still have success. But in football the receiver must run the route properly, and the line must block or the play will not be a success." The whole team must be good to have a good team.



Images by Doc

When she is

not competing she is a League

Coordinator for the WFFA's Richmond's League which

Richmond One participates in locally. She has been awarded numerous MVP awards locally for her athleticism. She continues to

play competitively and looks forward to bringing her team to

another IWFFA Tournament in the future.

Overall she has taken over five IWFFA awards from 2004-2007. This includes MVP Awards from the DC Tournament in 2004, while playing for the VA ICE, MVP in the 2005 P-Town Tournament, All Star Punter at the P-Town Tournament in 2005, All Star Quarterback in 2007 playing for the Richmond One in the Kelly McGillis Classic as well as Higher Division Secondary Defense.

"If you've never played football then you haven't seen anything yet."

Yvette Henricksson

Norwegian Winner

Yvette is one of Sweden's toughest defensive linewomen.

Two weeks before the 2000 Kelly McGillis Classic Tournament Yvette received an invitation to travel to the US to play a sport she knew nothing about.

Throughout her years if Yvette could not field her own team she would continue to play on the Scandinavian Loose Women's teams or join another team. In Key West 2004 her team 'Team Europe' took first in the Beginner Division.

In February 2007 during the 16th annual Kelly McGillis Classic, her team the Competitive Loose Women's Team took first place in the Middle Division. It was the second time in IWFFA history that a Loose Women's team took a championship.

Her absolute favorite experiences in flag football has been playing for the Loose Women's team. There she is having fun and just playing flag football.

In eight years she has earned over 16 IWFFA awards, including six MVP Defense awards and ten All Star Awards including Primary Defense, Offensive Line and Secondary Defense.

She has also been awarded 2007 Porter Wilson Award for her continuing efforts to spread women's flag football in Scandinavia. *(see article on page 10)*

The 2008 Sportswomen of the year will be featured in the Spring 2009 Forward Pass

FORWARD PASS

Outstanding Members

Our Official 'Purist'

Scott Porto

Scott Porto walks onto the field in his Official's uniform. He has a very good temperament when dealing with hot situations. Somehow he knows how to calm irate players. He's played pro ball with the NFL Kansas City Chiefs and is now an investigator for AIG, his wife plays flag football for the Houston Women's Flag Football League and he will be Head Official for the Kelly McGillis Classic for the third year in a row.

His experience in the pros and how he got there was what most intrigued me. After all, many of us female flag football players wished we could be playing pro. Imagine getting a salary for doing something we loved, and getting respect and recognition along with the chance to break records, while being in the lime light. But it's not as glamorous as it seems says Scott. It was more of a "humbling experience".

When asked what he thinks of women's flag football he admitted when his wife, Darla Porto, decided to play in the Houston Women's Flag Football League, he did not want her to play. He thought that the game would not be taken seriously and the players would make fun of it. He thought he would see a bunch of 'model chicks' or cheerleaders on the field. He is a purist for the sport and wanted "True Football." However when he saw his first flag football games he was enlightened. Scott saw all the time and energy these women put into their games and the love they had for the sport. He discovered that women have the ability to play flag football today as the stereotype is being broken down. "If any female wants to play she can."

Scott was then asked what he thought of the IWFFA. Scott was excited to hear about it and thinks it's a good league which gives women the opportunity to play. He observed that the league tries to do what is best for girls and women and is fun while being competitive.

Does Scott think the sport will become professional? "NO". He believes that because the NFL does so well it takes away the chance for women's pro ball and believes flag football will remain an amateur sport.

When asked what what if sexism were used to help sell the sport as in Beach Volleyball? He answered:

"Well, then you loose me. I would not appreciate the game because I love the sport in it's purist form".

-Written by Diane Beruldsen



2006 Porter Wilson Award Recipient Rosaria Baldari



Dedicating her talents in helping the IWFFA share it's visual image. It is not only important to organize teams, leagues or officiate flag football in order to support the sport. It is also important to communicate with others who do not participate in flag football, to reach out and offer a visual image of what we flag footballers and flag football is about.

Hence, is the need for an artist who can make such a thing happen.

Rosaria Baldari, otherwise known as Rori, has really been a powerhouse for the IWFFA and women's flag football. Rori has been promoting women's flag football ever since 1979.

Every IWFFA art design, logo, website design, flier, poster, and tournament program have been created by Rori.

A graduate of Rutgers University College of Art & Design, Rori enjoys a career in the printing industry as a package designer.

She has devoted many years to promoting flag football even though she is not an athlete herself. She understands the opportunity for women to bond and the development of skills girls can obtain from the sport which can better their lives.

FORWARD PASS

Key West Bound

Kelly McGillis Classic XVIII

When the Forward Pass was sent out there was 21 Days, 14 Hours and 43 seconds until the games begin... but who's counting?

The 18th Annual Kelly McGillis promises to be yet another exciting event packed with football, warm sun and great parties.

Rumor has it that Kelly McGillis will make appearances too.

Save the Date! February 1-9th, 2009!

World Challenge I

The field lights were blazing on the worn field, the camera crew was in place and as soon as the whistle was blown you knew you were in for a good game.

The teams represented their countries and showed their pride

along with the cheering fans. Following our

regular tournament play the Championship team of the IWFFA / U.S.A. National Team Division had a showdown with the tournament's top International team. Rosters for these teams were opened and both teams had the



opportunity to "cherry pick" players from any of the Tournament Divisions Teams.

U.S. 13

Int. 6

The International team consisted of the Montreal Warriors along with recruited members of the Montreal Rebelles, Norway, and the Tennessee Turkeys.

The U.S. Team was headed by Lethal Weapon and recruited players from the Playmakers and Blue Wave A teams.

The International Team received the ball first. The Kick off returned a touch down in the first 30 seconds of the game!

The Coach of the Lethal Weapon, Shawn Millard, pulled through though with a final score of 13-6.

VIDEO COMING SOON!

The World Challenge video is going online. Keep checking back at iwffa.com to view the highlight video online.

CALENDAR OF 2009 TOURNAMENTS

FEBRUARY

1-9

Kelly McGillis
Classic,
Key West, Florida,
USA

MAY

30-31

6th annual
Hjorring, DK

JUNE

27-28

10th annual
Oslo, Norway

AUGUST

29-30

8th annual
Gothenburg, Sweden

SEPT.

26-27

1st annual
Shawnee, Kansas, USA

WHAT A TEAM!

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