



PACIFIC RIM CUP

POWERED BY
 UNDER ARMOUR.

Takehiko Nakamura
President/CEO, Blue United Corp.
event@blueutd.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PACIFIC RIM CUP LAUNCHES IN HONOLULU IN 2018

World-class soccer leagues to clash at Aloha Stadium on Feb. 8 and 10.

HONOLULU – International soccer stars from Japan, Canada and the USA are geared up and ready to clash in the 1st annual Pacific Rim Cup, held Feb. 8 and 10, 2018, at Aloha Stadium in Hawaii. This marks the first time in six years that the Japan Professional Football League (J.League) and Major League Soccer (MLS) will compete in Hawai'i. DOME Corporation, the exclusive partner of Under Armour in Japan, is the Title Sponsor of the Pacific Rim Cup.

Blue United Corporation is the host organization for the inaugural Pacific Rim Cup. Blue United President, Takehiko Nakamura states, “We are pleased to announce the Pacific Rim Cup. Our hope is that this tournament will be an annual event that the local community can be proud of, and look forward to, with the vision to expand within the Pacific Rim region and showcase Hawaii as the destination to host international sporting events.”

The four teams competing include the Vancouver Whitecaps FC and Columbus Crew SC from MLS and Hokkaido Consadole Sapporo and Iwaki FC from the J.League. In May 2017, Hokkaido Prefecture and the State of Hawaii signed a sister-state relationship. Iwaki City is a sister city with the island of Kauai.

Tournament Schedule / Kickoff Times:

Thursday, February 8, 2018, at Aloha Stadium:

1st Game: 5 p.m. – Vancouver vs. Iwaki (Japan Time: Fri., Feb. 9 at noon)

2nd Game: 8 p.m. – Columbus vs. Sapporo (Japan Time: Fri., Feb. 9 at 3 p.m.)

Saturday, February 10, 2018, at Aloha Stadium:

1st Game: 4 p.m. – Third Place Match (Japan Time: Sun., Feb. 11 at 11 a.m.)

2nd Game: 7 p.m. – Championship Match (Japan Time: Sun., Feb. 11 at 2 p.m.)

For more information, please visit pacificrimcup.com

Ticket Information for the Pacific Rim Cup:

Tickets will go on sale starting Wednesday, November 22.

Reserved Seats: \$15 in advance (by Jan. 31), \$20 starting Feb. 1.

General Admission Seats: \$12 in advance (by Jan. 31), \$17 starting Feb. 1.

Youth (Ages 6-17) / Military / Seniors (65 and older): \$9 in advance (by Jan. 31), \$14 starting Feb. 1

Ages 5 & Under will be admitted free for General Admission seating.

To purchase advanced tickets, please call the Aloha Stadium Charge Line at 808-483-7123 or visit the Aloha Stadium Box Office. Charge Line and Box Office are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mon. – Fri. Mastercard and Visa credit cards accepted.

Tickets will be available online at **etickethawaii.com** in early to mid-December. A follow-up release will be sent with the launch of online ticket sales along with a special holiday ticket promotion.

Here are bios on each of the four competing teams:

About Vancouver Whitecaps FC

Originally established in 1974, Vancouver Whitecaps FC are among the oldest and most decorated soccer clubs in Canada. At the core of club is a commitment to the community through a variety of programs and initiatives that positively impact the lives of youth and encourage a fit and healthy lifestyle through soccer. Whitecaps FC are fully

integrated across the country, housing one of the most unique soccer development programs in North America from grassroots programs to professional development. Since 2011, the club has played in Major League Soccer, the top tier of professional soccer in the United States and Canada.

For more information, visit whitecapsfc.com.

About Columbus Crew SC

Columbus Crew SC began play in 1996 as one of the ten charter clubs of the league, and in 2015, Crew SC was crowned MLS Eastern Conference Champions in the organization's 20th season. Owned and operated by Precourt Sports Ventures (PSV), it won its first MLS Cup championship in 2008 and also won the 2002 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup as well as MLS Supporters' Shield titles in 2004, 2008 and 2009. The 2017 campaign is the Black & Gold's 19th season at historic MAPFRE Stadium -- the first soccer-specific stadium in the United States -- where the club set single-season sellout records and hosted the 2015 MLS Cup.

For more information, visit columbuscrewsc.com

About Hokkaido Consadole Sapporo

Hokkaido Consadole Sapporo, established in 1996, is a professional football club in J.League, basing their hometown in Sapporo-city, Hokkaido. The name of the team "Consadole" was selected from the public. Consadole derives from the combination of the two; "dosanko," meaning Hokkaido people, reading reverse, and "Ole" from Latin. Known for their expertise in developing players in their youth, the team signed noteworthy players like Masashi Nakayama, a former Japanese national team player who joined in 2010, Shinji Ono in 2014, and Junichi Inamoto in 2015. The team also welcomed Vietnamese national team player, Lê Công Vinh in 2013 and Thai national team player, Chana Tip in July 2017. The team celebrated their 20th anniversary in 2016 by being awarded the J2 title for the third time and promoted to J1 for the fourth time.

For more information, visit international.consadole-sapporo.jp

About Iwaki FC

Iwaki FC is a soccer club based in Iwaki, a city of Fukushima Prefecture in Japan. They play in the highest division of Fukushima Prefectural Football League. Iwaki FC was founded in 2012, and the name of Iwaki FC got more attention when Under Armour decided to join the club and support it to climb the Japanese football pyramid.

There's a big vision behind the club, with the will of "making Iwaki the central football-city in Tohoku." In fact, a new training field opened in November 2016 and the clubhouse was just launched in May 2017: two central structures to rise to the top of Japanese football.

Results are pushing Iwaki FC, which has won several categories in the Fukushima Prefectural Football League, to advance to the first division: the next target is Tohoku Soccer League, while the club has even achieved their first win at National Club. Iwaki FC also debuted at the Emperor's Cup in 2017. After defeating Norbitz Hokkaido in the first round, they surprisingly overcame Hokkaido Consadole Sapporo after extra-time.

For more information, visit iwakifc.com

About Aloha Stadium – Host Venue

Aloha Stadium will be the site for all four Pacific Rim Cup matches. Located in central Oahu, the stadium is Hawaii's largest outdoor arena, home to the University of Hawaii football team. In addition, Aloha Stadium showcases a multitude of events attracting visitors from around the world with soccer matches, concerts, car shows, fairs and the ever-popular Aloha Stadium Swap Meet & Marketplace. Their mission is to meet the challenge of providing a first-class arena where the dreams of our young people can be realized through participation in sporting and other special events; where the spirit of achievement can be nourished by the thrill of competition; where families can gather to share their cultural diversity with pride and a feeling of Aloha.

Please visit: <http://alohastadium.hawaii.gov> for more information.

About Aloha Stadium's Turf

Aloha Stadium is proud to offer the UBU Sports Speed Series-S5-M synthetic turf. The turf was installed in 2016 and optimizes performance while maximizing safety. It also provides enhanced drainage capability and can withstands very heavy rains with no ponding. This turf is also used in many other professional sports facilities.

The turf features the Harmony slit-film fiber and a mixture of rubber and sand infill that ensures a fast, firm, safe and durable playing surface. The Speed Series incorporates ISO Grid fiber spacing ensuring consistent playability throughout the field, and features a dynamic multiple layer ARMOURWEAVE backing system that ensures dimensional stability and long-lasting seams.

About Under Armour

"Performance athletic brand" that states "to evolve athletes" as a mission.

A fast-growing athletic brand known for form-fitting clothing that absorbs and diverges sweat quickly. Under Armour has sportswear that keeps the body dry and comfortable to focus on maximizing athletes' performance in product development. U.S. headquarters sales have grown from \$1 billion in 2010 to \$3.6 billion in 2015, with market capitalization exceeding \$16 billion. The company continues to grow significantly since its foundation in 1996.

In Japan, Under Armour has been a uniform supplier for the baseball team Yomiuri Giants, football club Omiya Ardija, basketball team Ryukyu Golden Kings, and rugby team Panasonic Wild Nights. They have also been supporting performances of many top athletes and models including: Yuki Yanagida, baseball player for Fukuoka Softbank Hawks; Akihito Yamada, rugby player for Panasonic Wild Nights; Rumi Utsugi, football player for Seattle Reign; and Kelly, a professional model.

About DOME Corporation

DOME Corporation, established in 1996, started its business with handling taping. Today, the business develops sports products (Under Armour), sports supplement (DNS), and performance direction (Dome Athlete House), aiming to contribute creating a richer society based on their philosophy of "Enriching society through sports" and "Social value creation."

About Blue United Corp.

Blue skies and blue seas have no borders.

Blue United strives to combine Japanese spirit and Western learning while utilizing the "B.L.U.E. concept" to unify the sport of soccer globally.

Founded in 2015, the firm is headquartered in New York and maintains offices in Tokyo, Iida, and Phnom Penh. For further corporate information please visit www.blueutd.com.

Tournament Website: www.pacificrimcup.com

Official Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Pacific-Rim-Cup-186756861892189/>

Official Instagram Page: <https://www.instagram.com/pacificrimcup/>

For further Media Inquiries, please e-mail: event@blueutd.com