

Fury FC Sign Former Benfica U19 Goalkeeper Marcel DeBellis

DeBellis Becomes Fourth Canadian Signing for Fury FC

- For Immediate Release -

Monday, January 13, 2014 (Ottawa, ON) – Ottawa Fury FC today announced Marcel DeBellis as the club's first goalkeeper signing. The former Benfica U19 keeper joins the expansion North American Soccer League club after impressing at the Open Tryout in November. DeBellis, who spent last season with Italian Serie B side Ascoli, has agreed to a one-year contract pending international transfer.

"I am very excited to be joining Ottawa Fury FC and returning home to Canada after playing in Portugal and Italy," said DeBellis. "I am looking forward to growing as a goalkeeper with Marc, David and the rest of the staff. The organization is getting a determined goalkeeper who will always be right behind his team. I can't wait to get started and meet all the Fury FC supporters."

DeBellis, 22, is a 6'3 goalkeeper who split the 2012/2013 season between Italian Fourth Division club AC Bellaria Igea Marina and Serie B side Ascoli. He has spent the last four years developing his game in Italy that also included seasons with Trento Calcio and Vincenza Calcio.

"Marcel will definitely push for the number one position," said Head Coach Marc Dos Santos. "We had great information about him and he was able to confirm and show all of his qualities during the Open Tryout. He will certainly grow and help the club going forward."

Born in Oakville, ON, DeBellis first made the move to Europe in 2008 signing with Portuguese powerhouse Benfica and suited up for their U20 squad. Prior to his European odyssey, DeBellis developed with Erin Mills Soccer Club and won Provincial and National gold medals with the club in 2005.

At the moment, the Fury FC updated roster for the 2014 season is as follows:

Goalkeeper: Marcel DeBellis

Defenders: Ramon Soria, Omar Jarun, Andrés Fresenga

Midfielders: Nicki Paterson, Richie Ryan, Mauro Eustaquio

Forwards: Oliver Minatel, Carl Haworth

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Ottawa Fury FC open their inaugural season against the Fort Lauderdale Strikers on April 12 before hosting Minnesota United FC in their home opener on April 19. Fury FC season tickets can be purchased in person at the Stadium Preview Centre (Monday to Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm) located at 2016 Ogilvie Road, Unit 3 or by calling 613.232.6767. Tickets to the Amway Canadian Championship preliminary knock-out round featuring Ottawa Fury FC and FC Edmonton are included in all Fury FC season ticket packages. Single Game tickets will go on-sale March 1.

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About Ottawa Fury FC

Ottawa Fury FC plays in the 10-team North American Soccer League (NASL) and operates under the ownership of the Ottawa Sports & Entertainment Group (OSEG). Fury FC begin play in the 2014 NASL season. Ottawa Fury FC season tickets can be purchased in person at the Stadium Preview Centre (Monday to Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm) located at 2016 Ogilvie Road, Unit 3 or by calling 613.232.6767. For more information about Ottawa Fury FC, visit <u>www.OttawaFuryFC.com</u>. Follow Ottawa Fury FC on Twitter <u>@OttawaFuryFC</u> and Facebook at <u>http://www.Facebook.com/OttawaFuryFC</u>

About the NASL

The North American Soccer League is a professional soccer league established in the United States and Canada. The NASL member teams are: Atlanta Silverbacks, Carolina RailHawks, FC Edmonton, Fort Lauderdale Strikers, Indy Eleven, Minnesota United FC, New York Cosmos, Ottawa Fury FC, San Antonio Scorpions FC and Tampa Bay Rowdies. Virginia Cavalry FC and clubs in Jacksonville and Oklahoma City will commence play in 2015. For more information about the NASL, visit <u>www.NASL.com</u>. Follow the NASL on Twitter <u>@NASLOfficial</u> and Facebook at <u>http://www.Facebook.com/NASL.fans</u>

