



Fury FC Sign Irish Midfielder Richie Ryan

Irish Player of the Year Brings Experience to Fury FC Midfield

- For Immediate Release -

Tuesday, December 3, 2013 (Ottawa, ON) – Ottawa Fury FC and head coach Marc Dos Santos today announced Richie Ryan as the North American Soccer League club's third international signing pending international transfer. Ryan has signed a one-year contract joining Fury FC from the historic Shamrock Rovers of the Premier Division of the League of Ireland.

"Richie is a player that will bring experience to our midfield," said Dos Santos. "He has the exact profile we were looking for in a defensive midfielder. Richie is a winner and he will definitely push everyone around him."

Ryan, 28, is a 5'10 midfielder who spent three successful seasons from 2008-2011 with Sligo Rovers, also of the League of Ireland's Premier Division. In 2010, Ryan was named PFAI Player of the Year and was named Sligo's captain for the 2011 campaign where he led his team to their second straight FAI Cup – redemption for Ryan after missing their 2010 FAI Cup win due to suspension. During his tenure at Sligo Rovers, Ryan scored 5 goals in his 111 appearances that included qualifying matches in the UEFA Europa League.

"I am delighted to be given the opportunity by Marc who really impressed me when we spoke about joining Fury FC," said Ryan. "I've seen the project that the club and city are building and it is a privileged that Marc and John Pugh want me to be a part of what the club is building. I really believe that in the clubs first season that we can bring success to the city"

A native of Clonmel, Ireland, Ryan began his youth career in the Academy of English Premier League club Sunderland where he would also make his professional debut in April 2003. He would be loaned to Scunthorpe United before signing permanently with the club in 2005. A year later Ryan continued his play in England this time with Football League side Boston United. In 2007 he would sign with the oldest club in Belgium – Royal Antwerp – before returning to Ireland where he signed with Sligo Rovers.

A cornerstone of Sligo Rovers sound defensive game, Ryan departed in 2012 and joined Scottish Premier League club Dundee United where he made 33 appearances





for the Terrors including a pair of UEFA Europa League qualifiers. He would return to Ireland in August signing mid-season with the Republic of Ireland's most successful club – Shamrock Rovers. Ryan made 13 appearances helping Shamrock capture the EA Sports Cup that included a semi-final win over his former club – Sligo Rovers.

Ryan, the second midfield signing by Dos Santos, will join fellow midfielder Nicki Paterson (Scotland) and forwards Oliver Minatel (Brazil) and Carl Haworth (Canada) in Ottawa for the opening of Fury FC training camp in February. A complete bio on Richie Ryan is available at OttawaFuryFC.com.

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About Ottawa Fury FC

On June 20, 2011 the North American Soccer League (NASL) announced that Ottawa, ON had been awarded an expansion franchise. The new team, owned by the Ottawa Sports & Entertainment Group (OSEG), will commence League play in the 2014 NASL season. On February 26, 2013 OSEG announced that Ottawa's NASL franchise would be named Ottawa Fury FC. For more information about Ottawa Fury FC, visit www.OttawaFuryFC.com. Follow Ottawa Fury FC on Twitter [@OttawaFuryFC](https://twitter.com/OttawaFuryFC) and Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/OttawaFuryFC>

About the NASL

The North American Soccer League is a professional soccer league established in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. The NASL member teams are: Atlanta Silverbacks, Carolina RailHawks, FC Edmonton, Fort Lauderdale Strikers, Minnesota United FC, New York Cosmos, Puerto Rico Islanders, San Antonio Scorpions FC and Tampa Bay Rowdies. Indy Eleven, Ottawa Fury FC and Virginia Cavalry FC will begin play in 2014 and clubs in Jacksonville and Oklahoma City will commence play in 2015. For more information about the NASL, visit www.NASL.com. Follow the NASL on Twitter [@NASLOfficial](https://twitter.com/NASLOfficial) and Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/NASL.fans>

