

Soccer star Kaylyn Kyle visits AYSC



By Jake Courtepatte

It isn't every day that a young athlete gets to train with one of their sport's brightest shining stars.

But the Aurora Youth Soccer Club (AYSC) gave their members the opportunity on Saturday when they brought in Kaylyn Kyle, a long-time member of the women's Canadian national soccer team. Kyle is one of the most capped women in the team's history, representing internationally on almost 150 occasions since 2004.

"We're excited to have Kaylyn come to Aurora and share her knowledge and vast experience she's gained over her career," said AYSC Executive Director Jimmy Brennan. "This is a great opportunity for our players to interact with one of the top players in the country."

Kyle led the large group of young hopefuls in a pair of on-field sessions at the Aurora Sports Dome, teaching skills like dribbling, passing, and even penalty kicks. During lunch break, participants were given the opportunity to ask Kyle about her success in soccer.

"It's great to be interacting with the younger players," said Kyle. "If I can teach them anything then it's worth it."

Kyle is also a Right to Play ambassador, a global organization that uses sport to educate and empower youth.

"Playing sports is more than just about competition, it's about teamwork, social skills, communication?obviously sports have played a large role in my life, and I hope it does for those that are here today too."

The 27-year old from Saskatoon first joined the senior women's team in 2008, earning a gold medal with Canada at the Pan Am Games in 2011. One year later, she captured bronze with the team at the 2012 London Olympics.

She recently joined the Orlando Pride of the National Women's Soccer League.