



**CITY OF DURHAM**  
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## Media Advisory

For Immediate Release November 3, 2016

### Police Athletic League Holds Soccer Showcase Events

- What:** Police Athletic League (PAL) Soccer Showcase
- Who:** Durham Police Department Community Services Division, Durham elementary schools and volunteers
- When:** Saturdays, November 5, 12 and 19, 2016, from 9 a.m. to Noon  
*(See schedule below for games on Saturday, November 5, 2016)*
- Where:** November 5 and 12, 2016: Holton Career and Resource Center (401 N. Driver Street)

**FINAL GAMES** - November 19, 2016: Koskinen Stadium, Duke University (106 Whitford Drive)

#### Fast Facts

- PAL's 2016 Soccer season kicked off October 15 after being postponed one week due to Hurricane Matthew. The season is now in full swing. The public is invited to attend the remaining games.
- DPD's 2016 PAL Soccer League consists of approximately 180 elementary school students from 15 Durham schools. This season 18 police officers and three non-sworn employees are participating in PAL soccer as coaches or support staff.
- PAL utilizes athletics and other activities to foster and maintain mentoring relationships between police officers and youth (and their families). The Durham Police Department implemented its PAL program in 2010 as a crime prevention initiative in North East Central Durham (NECD).
- PAL programs are held year round including basketball, baseball and soccer. Team coaches are volunteers including police officers, police non-sworn staff, physical education teachers and parents. In addition to PAL program coordination, the police department provides uniforms and equipment for each team.

- As elementary schools generally do not have organized sports teams, PAL provides a valuable recreational service to the community while helping to build character in youth and strengthen police-community relations.
- The PAL program accepts financial contributions. Checks should be made payable to Durham Police Department (PAL) and sent to DPD Grants Manager, 505 W. Chapel Hill Street, Durham, NC 27701.
- DPD's PAL program partners with Triangle United Soccer Association (TUSA). This season TUSA's Martin Rodriquez is assisting PAL coaches by giving practice tips and teaching soccer maneuvers. Coach Rodriquez also visits on game days to show support. Rodriquez followed his passion of soccer to the USA bringing with him over 35 years of experience playing soccer. Rodriquez began playing soccer at an early age and continued through high school and college. He has taught the sport in multiple countries to demographics of various ages, backgrounds and skill levels. Rodriquez also has experience working with kids with disabilities. His mission is to teach every player to appreciate the benefits of discipline, hard work, socialization, sportsmanship, personal achievement and team spirit.

**PAL Soccer Schedule for Saturday, November 5, 2016**

**LOCATION:** Holton Career and Resource Center (401 N. Driver Street)

9 a.m. Elementary	Lakewood vs. Eastway	Easley Elementary
Elementary Elementary	vs.	Merrick Moore (A)
10 a.m. Elem. school)	C. C. Spaulding vs. I.D.Y.L. (charter vs.	Holt Elementary Y. E. Smith Elementary
11 a.m. Elem. Elem. Elementary	Pearson vs. W.G. Pearson vs.	R. N. Harris Elementary Fayetteville Street
Noon school) Elem. Elementary	FACA Pros (charter vs. Club Boulevard vs.	Morehead Elementary Merrick Moore (B)

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