

April 4 Update

Yesterday started off with a training session with the Liverpool Academy staff in cool conditions. After training, the boys headed to Crewe to play their Academy team – the boys fared well in this match and starting to come together in a very short period of time. They then had a great learning session and questions/answers with the Crewe Academy – they really are all about development Crewe and the players got to see how they develop players. “The soccer education has been fantastic! It’s been beyond technique and tactics. The conversations I’ve had with my players about their experiences training with the Liverpool coaches and playing against some of the top academy teams in England have been the most enlightening conversations I’ve had with any players I’ve coached because they now have the perspective that most players who don’t travel and play abroad will never have,” said Fonyam Atanga, head coach for the 2001 Boys teams.

The girls also had breakfast then a session with the Liverpool Ladies Coaching staff lead by Vickie Jepson. It was such a pleasure to have Vicki with our girls – she is a trend setter in women’s soccer. After a short rest, the players had to opportunity to play the Liverpool Academy girls team that evening – you can see the confidence in the players building each day. “The players mentality to learn, on and off the field, has been fantastic. Spirits have been high, and I know when they leave England the memories they’ve made this week will last them for a lifetime,” said Dustin Downey the head coach for the 2001 girls team.

After the games, everyone met back at the hotel for dinner and then watch the Champions League game – what a great win for the home side.