RIP Johan Cruyff 1947-2016

All, We are taking a moment today to acknowledge the passing of Johan Cruyff. The Dutch great, regarded by all as one of Soccer’s greatest players, died yesterday of cancer at the age of 68.

His influence on FCH is profound. The obvious is by way of Barcelona and their developmental concepts. Even more significantly, Cruyff anchored my belief in a style of play that will change the way we perceive soccer in the U.S.

The FC Hasental style of play is a direct extension of Cruyff’s interpretation of Rinus Michels original creation know as Total Football. Total Football is a concept that perceives the highest level of soccer to be one that sees all 10 field players being capable of playing all positions at anytime throughout a game. Players are free to leave their position to support the ball knowing that a teammate will always cover them.

This was a style of play I dreamed about playing since I was 12 years old. I struggled tremendously throughout my playing career due to the lack of interactivity between me and my teammates. Everything was results driven, playing to not lose. FC Hasental is the first time I could influence players directly to become creators, to become artists, to become part of family that changes the way we perceive soccer in the United States.

Johan Cruyff and Total Football provided a blueprint to help me manifest an idea that was previously disconnected to anything outside of itself. This realization has been galvanized by a relationship with personal friend and club friend, Jefta Bresser, of Nederland’s. The concept of Total Football requires impeccable technique and insight of every player on the field. Therefore pushing Dutch coaches to the top of player development. Coaches like Jefta are a direct extension of this. Jefta’s concepts of the game are directly in line with mine and together we have been able to map out a new path. A path that is becoming uniquely FC Hasental’s because of all of our contributions. This is a path our players create, that our coaches create, that our parents and supporters create. This path is bigger than all of us and one that I am honored to walk with you.

Today is a sad day, a day to mourn the passing of Johan Cruyff. Tomorrow will be a day to honor and celebrate his contributions to the game we all love.

Regards
Eric Warner
Director FCHasental