

PLAYER Q&A: JAYDEN CHAIYOTE

We sat down for a Q&A session with one of ESI's newest players, Jayden Chaiyote (06 team).

Q: Why did you choose ESI?

A: I chose ESI because my goal is to play soccer at the highest and I believe that Stéphane can help me reach my goal.

Q: What is different about ESI?

A: The difference between ESI and other clubs is that ESI is more focused towards player development. Whereas at other clubs it's more focused on winning at all cost and doing whatever it takes to win.



Jayden chose ESI to reach his goals.

Q: What aspect of your game did you improve the most?

A: The aspect of my game that I believe I improved in the most is my control of the ball. I believe this because before joining ESI my first touch was always stuck between my feet, but after a year of training my first touch has gotten a lot better. Also, before joining ESI my juggling was terrible but after doing the juggling chart I would say that my juggling has improved a lot and that my control of the ball has improved a lot.

Q: Do you benefit from playing at different positions?

A: Yes you do benefit from playing at different positions because if you are at a tryout and the coach asks you to play a different position - so that they can look at a different player - you won't have problems not knowing what to do because you have played different positions.

Q: What are your individual goals?

A: My individual goals are to play soccer at the highest level and represent either USA or Thailand at a World Cup.

Q: Stéphane said that for the past 3 weeks he noticed a change in you; an increase in motivation and leadership. Do you agree? Why?

A: I agree because I noticed that whenever an opposing team scores on us or someone makes a mistake, I see some of my teammates' heads drop, and when this happens, they tend to lose focus, and this really messes up the flow of our game. So, to prevent that I started to tell my teammates to keep their heads up and motivate them, so that our level does not drop.

Q: Stéphane often speaks about the necessary mindset to be a high-level soccer player. What is your understanding of that concept? Do you feel that ESI creates that environment?

A: To be a high level soccer player you do need to have the right mindset because I believe pros can't take things for granted such as stretching, eating properly, and working hard in training because there is always someone behind them working twice as hard trying to replace them.

Q: How would you describe the way Stéphane sees the weekend game?

A: How I would describe how Stéphane sees the weekend game is to show what you learned in training and how you apply it to the game. Whether it be possessing the ball in the opposing team's half or winning the ball right away after we lose it or using a move you learned in training. It is a chance to show what you have learned.

Q: What would you tell a player who is going through his first year at ESI?

A: What I would tell a player going through his first year at ESI is to trust in Stéphane's process, and don't worry about the results. The results will come later if you put in the work.

Q: Anything you wish to add?

A: While being at ESI I learned that part of the development to becoming a high level player is learning the value of becoming a better teammate because in life or sports you cannot always succeed by yourself, but if you support your teammates and be a team player you will find success.

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“I feel the focus is on learning which is different from my previous club where we played to win at all cost.”

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