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Story script and Shot log

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STORY HEADLINE: WILD BOARS THAI FOOTBALL TEAM ARE GUESTS OF HONOUR AT THE SUMMER YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES BUENOS AIRES 2018

DATE: 7 October 2018

LOCATION: Buenos Aires, Argentina

LANGUAGE: English, Spanish

Broadcast quality footage available at the IOC Newsroom: <http://iocnewsroom.com>

STORY SCRIPT:

The 'Wild Boars' football team, who gripped global attention as they were rescued from a flooded cave in Thailand, were honoured by the Olympic Committee with an invitation to the 3rd summer Youth Olympic Games, Buenos Aires 2018.

On Saturday, IOC President Thomas Bach and the Mayor of Buenos Aires, Horacio Rodriguez Larreta, welcomed them to the Argentine capital. The boys, aged between 11 and 17, were introduced to the hundreds of thousands of spectators partying on the streets of Buenos Aires for the opening ceremony of the Games.

President Bach told the crowd: "We remember the group of youngsters who stayed trapped for 17 days in a cave, the members of the football team, the Wild Boars. They demonstrate the importance of sports values."

The 'Wild Boars' became one of the most famous football teams in the world earlier this year - for all the wrong reasons. They were stranded in an air pocket for several days as waters rose around them in a complex network of caves they were exploring last June.

The special opportunities did not stop with their appearance at the opening ceremony. The boys were also invited to play on Sunday against the junior team of one of Argentina's most famous clubs, River Plate, at the iconic Estadio Monumental.

"The boys are very pleased to be here, and very excited," said Werachon Sukondhapatipak, head of the Thai Olympic delegation, who accompanied them on a VIP tour of the famous stadium's museum before the match.

The admiration was mutual. Buenos Aires' mayor, Horacio Rodriguez Larreta, said: "We are very proud to see these boys and very happy to have them here. When the IOC told us this idea, to have them come and play a game, we thought it was great."



The Wild Boars did not seem overwhelmed by the occasion. Facing some of the top youngsters aged 12 to 15 in Argentina, the Thai side were equally as skilled during the small-pitch game, leading 3-1 before eventually drawing 3-3, as an excited Thai delegation looked on from the stands.

River Plate's chairman Rodolfo D'Onofrio, was impressed "To see them play against River Plate was wonderful. Today they will also receive the River kit as a present, so they can show their friends back home about River, how they played in this stadium."

The Wild Boars later watched some roller speed-skating and met IOC president Thomas Bach.

"It's very emotional because the whole world was feeling with them at the time," Bach said. "I was almost in daily contact with our IOC members in Thailand (during the rescue). To see them now enjoying life and enjoying sport, it is a great experience."

"It is what sport is all about. This determination to never give up, to have faith that you can make it. So this was the reason why we invited them here, because this was Olympic spirit at its best."

"I told them that as a kid I was a football player, so we have a common experience. They asked me if I could be their coach. I said that they already have a good one."

The 'Wild Boars' football team are staying in the Olympic Village at Buenos Aires 2018 for the next couple of nights along with the young elite of world sport before returning home to Thailand.

SHOTLIST:

00:04 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (Spanish Language)

"(Hoy) Recordamos al grupo de valientes jóvenes tailandeses que estuvo atrapado durante diecisiete días en una cueva, los miembros de equipo de Fútbol „ Jabalíes Salvajes“ – „The Wild Boars“. Los hemos invitado a venir aquí para compartir su experiencia con otros jóvenes atletas. Welcome Wild Boars!"

[Today] we remember that group of brave Thai youngsters who were trapped in a cave during 17 days, the members of the Wild Boars football team. We have invited them here so that they could share their experience with other young athletes. Welcome Wild Boars!

00:40 SOUNDBITE: Thomas Bach, IOC President (English Language)

"We are very happy that the thailand wild boars football team has accepted our invitation to join the young athletes here at these YOG. They will live together with these young athletes in the Olympic village and in such a way they will be able to share their experience."

01:15 IOC President Thomas Bach during a gathering with the Wild Boars team

01:21 Detail shots of players of the Wild Boars team as they listen to IOC President Thomas Bach

01:31 Various shots of the Wild Boars team and Thomas Bach interacting during their gathering

01:53 The Thai players are welcomed by a guard of honour into the River Plate Stadium by the club's youth team



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02:00 Wild Boar Football Team are presented with an emblem of the River Plate Club by a player as both captains shake hands in front of their teams.
02:06 Action of both teams practicing drills together at the River Plate stadium
02:21 Detail shot of a near goal from River Plate
02:25 Action of Roller Speed Skaters travelling around the track on their race
02:29 Detail shots of the Wild Boars Football Team watching the Roller Speed Skating action
02:33 IOC President Thomas Bach applauds the athletes in the crowd
02:37 The Wild Boars team walks towards and get onto their bus
02:47 Shots of the boys waving goodbye out of their bus window
02:52 Various shots of the Football Team walking to the Olympic village where they were accommodated during their visit to the Youth Olympic Games Buenos Aires 2018.
03:09 Close up shot of Thai boy with his room key in the Olympic Village.
03:16 Various shots of the team looking around their accommodation
03:39 Pan shot of some of the team outside their accommodation at the Youth Olympic Village in Buenos Aires .

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