

## ILLINOIS PRESIDENTS CUP

# First 4 Earn Spot To Midwest Regional Presidents Cup

Chris Jamroz,  
Illinois Youth Soccer

Following a successful first year in which two Illinois champions, Schaumburg Premier U16 and Ajax FC U17, went on to win Region II titles, the Illinois Presidents Cup is back offering teams the chance to compete for State, Regional and National titles against teams of similar talent. In the fall, four girls teams earned spots in the US Youth Soccer Midwest Regional Presidents Cup, which will be held June 14-17, in Overland Park, Kansas with wins in the Illinois Presidents Cup. GLSA Libertyville won three state titles (Under-15, Under-16 and Under-17) and the Midwest Wings took home the U14 title.



## Under-14 Girls Illinois Presidents Cup Championship Midwest Wings: 4 – Heat United: 2

Nicole Vega's foot was the hottest thing on a cold and rainy afternoon notching three goals to lead the Midwest Wings to a 4-2 win in the Girls Under-14 Presidents Cup title match.

"Nicole is one of the most loyal and hardworking players in today's game," Bill Dekker, Midwest Wings Head Coach said. "In the Presidents Cup match she did what she usually does and worked very hard off the ball and through excellent team possession of the ball made sure to play her in. In her normal determination, Nicole managed three sensational goals."

Although Vega did most of the scoring, it was Mackenzie Peirick that got the Wings on the board first. Playing for injured central midfielder Renae Melone, Peirick showed she was ready to play when she gave her side the early 1-0 advantage.

"Mackenzie had to step in and take that role, something we wondered if she was ready to do," Dekker said. "She did amazingly well and stepped up better than we could have imagined."

With their starting goalkeeper, Eleni Georgalas, slowed by a knee injury, the Wings defensive front led by Andrea Cervantes and Adrianna Vera kept most of the pressure off their keeper, but when the Heat did advance Georgalas was there to stop all potential scores.

"Eleni made a couple of fantastic saves to keep us in the match," said Dekker. "Knowing she was not as mobile, the team did a great job in controlling possession and keeping some of the pressure off of her. The rest of the defense worked well in the link between our midfield and keeper. They all played in a sync together under Andrea and Adrianna's leadership."

Georgalas' knee would prevent her from playing in the second half and the Heat made a late charge to cut the lead to 4-2 before time expired.

"The Heat was a very strong team, well coached and full of great athletes who competed incredibly hard and very sporting in their effort," said Dekker. "It was a really good game to be part of."

"Every single one (of our players) stepped up and did what they always do, work hard and care for each other," Dekker added. "They truly are a great team. It means a ton to our club (to win the Presidents Cup) and we are focused to working hard and doing our best to represent our club and Illinois in the Regional Presidents Cup."



## U14 Girls Presidents Cup Champs: Midwest Wings

Andrea Cervantes, Adriana Garcia, Eleni Georgalas, Alondria Lopez, Loraina Lopez, Paola Lopez, Saveda Majety, Elisabeth Melone, Renae Melone, Paige Osika, Mackenzie Peirick, Mackenzie Portone, Nicole Vega, Adrianna Vera, Jasmin Villanueva, Kayleigh Yaeger; Coach: Bill Dekker



## U16 Girls Presidents Cup Champs: GLSA Orange

Stephanie Bauer, Sarah Bowles, Kathleen Graham, Kristen Huard, Sadie Jung, Kristen Kinast, Sophie Lombardo, Sydney Mudd, Chelsea Olson, Erin Parro, Michelle Schick, Katherine Schwede, Cecilia Serb, Ariel Serrano, Daria Szczepanek, Ali Urbanski, Jessica VanRoeyen, Nicolette Westberg, Mikaela Winkler; Coach: Tom Holveas



## U15 Girls Presidents Cup Champs: GLSA Orange

Amy Andrea, Carly Babelch, Allison Brucato, Michelle Chemesky, Lexi Francke, Kaitlin Gramins, Isabelle Griffith, Kristen Guglielmi, Laura Janousek, Amanda Lasso, Nora Marciniak, Nathalie Orozco, Abby Peters, Jennifer Schick, Danielle Swift, Alex Yoor; Coach: Tom Holveas



## U17 Girls Presidents Cup Champs: GLSA Orange

Margaret Avampato, Elizabeth Bream, Courtney Corrado, Greta Gustafson, Genevieve Kapecki, Kathryn Keefe, Samantha Marsh, Katie McAuliffe, Savannah Mudd, Caitlin Murphy, Annie Rigali, Samantha Rodriguez, Jessica Stanley, Tierney Wessel, Jessica White, Kendall Winkler, Heidi Vander Bloomer, Sarah Zaccarine; Coach: Josh Paskiewicz

**"This tournament is perfect for us. We aren't likely to win a State Cup as most of the top talent at these ages has migrated to a few select clubs. We can't compete with that, so Presidents Cup is great competition for us."**

-Josh Paskiewicz,  
Under-17 Girls GLSA Head Coach

## Under-15 Girls Illinois Presidents Cup Match GLSA Libertyville Premier Orange: 4 – TCSA Red Stars Elite: 0

Lexi Francke led a dominating GLSA offensive attack with three scores to give the Libertyville club a trip to Regionals

"The team has a very high work rate and are very disciplined about how we play our system," said Tom Holveas, GLSA head coach. "They do a great job of staying focused at all times. Our team speed put lots of pressure on TCSA to play quick. They had a difficult time dealing with that."

While the offense had a steady attack the defense stifled any TCSA run of play.

"(Goalkeeper) Laura Janousek played well, but it was the whole team and our ability to pursue over the field," Holveas said.

"The girls are very excited with the win. It took a few minutes for it to set in that they had just won a state title and will move on to the regional tournament. This is a good event for the clubs/teams that just are not ready to compete at the higher state level."

## Under-16 Girls Illinois Presidents Cup Championship GLSA Libertyville Premier Orange: 5 – Schaumburg FC Red: 4 (PKs)

After falling behind 3-1, GLSA was able to fight back with two scores by Chelsea Olson and one each from Dari Szczepanek and Nicolette Westberg in the Under-16 Presidents Cup title contest, a rematch of last year U15 final.

"They showed great character in coming back from being down 1-3," said Tom Holveas, GLSA head coach. "They always believed they could do it. As defending President Cup state champs at U15 the girls very much wanted to compete again this year."

Just as last year, after regulation and two overtime periods ended in a draw, 4-4, GLSA was able to outlast Schaumburg in a shootout to earn the Presidents Cup State Championship victory thanks to shots made by Sadie Jung, Michelle Schick, Westberg, Olson and Cecilia Serb.

"Last year the girls weren't sure how to react after they won, they stood around and looked at each other," Holveas said. "This year they chased after each other screaming and hugging each other. They are excited to go back to Regionals."

**Boys U13-U17 & Girls U13 Presidents Cup Registration Now Open**

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## ILLINOIS YOUTH SOCCER SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

**Red & White Classic**

May 11 - 13  
 Registration Deadline: April 13  
 West Chicago, IL  
 Boys U8 - U14  
 Girls U8 - U14  
 Fee: U8 \$475  
 U9-U10 \$500  
 U11-U12 \$550  
 U13-U14 \$575  
 Contact: Vince Kalke  
 Phone: (630) 245-8502  
 Email: vkalke@chicagofirejuniors.com  
 www.chicagofirejuniors.com

**SASA Lincoln Land Invitational**

May 11 - 13  
 Registration Deadline: April 30  
 Springfield, IL  
 Boys U8 - U19  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-U9 \$450  
 U10-U11 \$500  
 U12-U19 \$550  
 Chuck Eguetz  
 Phone: (217) 891-4486  
 Email: ceguetz@yahoo.com  
 http://www.sasasoccer.org/page/show/452038-lincolnlaind-invitational-tournament

**Illinois Fusion Spring Shootout**

May 18 - 20  
 Registration Deadline: April 16  
 Bloomington, IL  
 Boys U9 - U19  
 Girls U9 - U14  
 Fee: U9 \$450  
 U10 - U12: \$475  
 U13 - U19 \$525  
 Brenda Seger  
 Phone: (309) 663-1105  
 Email: segersix@comcast.net  
 http://www.illinoisfusion.com/page/show/48939-tournament

**Wheaton Wings Spring Classic 2012**

May 18 - 20  
 Registration Deadline: April 14  
 Wheaton, IL  
 Boys U8 - U14  
 Girls U8 - U14  
 Fee: U8 \$400  
 U9-U10 \$485  
 U11-U14 \$535  
 Brad Keene  
 Phone: (630) 281-0870  
 Email: bkeene@wheatonparks.org  
 www.wpdathletics.org/pgs/wheatonwings/default.html

**Morton Blaze Memorial Classic**

May 25 - 27  
 Registration Deadline: May 6  
 McClallen Park  
 Boys U8 - U19  
 Girls U8 - U14  
 Fee: U8-U12 \$450  
 U13-U19 \$500  
 Contact: Cathy Beebe  
 Phone: (309) 266-6279  
 Email: memorialclassicTD@morton-blaze.com  
 www.mortonblaze.org

**Grove United Memorial Day Shootout**

May 25 - 28  
 Registration Deadline: April 6  
 Schaumburg, IL  
 Boys U8 - U19  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-U10 \$550  
 U11-U12 \$575  
 U13-U19 \$625  
 Contact: Joel Manning  
 Phone: (847) 652-3060  
 Email: manning824@aol.com  
 www.groveunitedsoccer.com

**Oswego Soccer Classic**

May 25 - 28  
 Registration Deadline: May 6  
 Oswego, IL  
 Boys U8 - U19  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-U10 \$570  
 U11-U19 \$595  
 Michael Mockenhaupt  
 Phone: (630) 554-2763  
 Email: mockenhauptsoccer@gmail.com  
 www.panthersoccerclub.org/2012-tournament.com

**Libertyville Cup Youth Soccer Festival**

May 25 - 28  
 Registration Deadline: April 23  
 Libertyville, IL  
 Boys U8 - U19  
 Girls U8 - U14  
 Fee: U8-U10 \$525  
 U11-12 (9v9) \$550  
 U12-U19 \$600  
 Contact: Michael Zovistoski  
 Phone: (847) 489-2416  
 Email: michael@glisa.org  
 www.glisa.org

**Palatine Celtic Cup**

August 31 - September 3  
 Registration Deadline: August 3  
 Palatine, IL  
 Boys U8 - U14  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-10 \$550  
 U11-U12 \$575  
 U13-U14 \$625  
 U15-U19 \$675  
 Contact: Laurie White  
 Phone: (847) 202-0484  
 Email: palatinecelticcup@comcast.net  
 www.palatinecelticsc.com

**SEPTEMBER****Morton Blaze 2012 Pumpkin Classic**

September 21 - 23  
 Registration Deadline: August 26  
 McClallen Park, IL  
 Boys U8 - U14  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-U12 \$475  
 U13-U19 \$500  
 Contact: Wendy Aggen  
 Phone: (309) 263-4048  
 Email: pumpkinclassicTD@morton-blaze.org  
 www.mortonblaze.org

**Mid-America Shootout**

September 28 - 30  
 Registration Deadline: September 7  
 Peoria, IL  
 Boys U8 - U15  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-U9 \$500  
 U10-U14 \$575  
 U15-19 \$625  
 Contact: Tony Allen  
 Phone: (309) 202-1344  
 Email: tdallen4@gmail.com  
 www.fcpeoria.org

**JUNE****River City Soccer Invitational**

June 15 - 17  
 Registration Deadline: May 31  
 Peoria, IL  
 Boys U8 - U19  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8-U9 \$450  
 U10-U12 \$500  
 U13-U19 \$525  
 Contact: Vito Minneci  
 Phone: (309)243-2545  
 Email: peoriasoccerclub@aol.com  
 www.peoriasoccerclub.com/tourney/tourney.htm

**AUGUST****Buffalo Grove Kick-Off Classic**

August 25 - 26  
 Registration Deadline: July 27  
 Buffalo Grove, IL  
 Boys U9 - U14  
 Girls U9 - U14  
 Fee: U9-U10 \$425  
 U11-U14 \$450  
 Contact: Chris Eckert  
 Phone: (847) 850-2123  
 Email: ceckert@bgpkr.org  
 bgpkrdistrict.org/pr\_youthsp\_kickoff.htm

**Labor Day Shootout**

August 31 - September 3  
 Registration Deadline: August 3  
 Jacobs Park  
 Boys U8 - U14  
 Girls U8 - U19  
 Fee: U8 \$350  
 U9 \$375  
 U10-U11 \$450  
 U12-U14 \$475  
 U15-U18 \$525  
 Contact: Marcy O'Brien  
 Phone: (309) 781-7721  
 Email: director@emssc.org  
 www.emssc.org

**OCTOBER****IFC (LISC) Fall Cup**

October 12 - 14  
 Registration Deadline: September 14  
 Champaign/Urbanda, IL  
 Boys U9 - U14  
 Girls U9 - U19  
 Fee: U9-U11 \$500  
 U12 (9v9) \$500  
 U12 - U19 \$550  
 Contact: Mike Wilson  
 Phone: (217) 649-6240  
 Email: tournaments@illinoisfc.com  
 www.illinoisfc.com/page/show/411150-2012-ifc-fall-cup

**BFC Fall Classic**

October 20 - 21  
 Registration Deadline: September 26  
 Belleville, IL  
 Boys U8 - U14  
 Girls U9 - U19  
 Fee: U8 \$465  
 U9-10 (6v6) \$465  
 U9-12 (8v8) \$525  
 U12-U19 \$615  
 Contact: Harvey Lewallen  
 Phone: (618) 570-3225  
 Email: bfc tournaments@bfc soccer.org  
 www.bfc soccer.org

**Presidents Cup (Page 9)****Under-17 Girls Illinois Presidents Cup Championship****GLSA Libertyville Premier Orange: 2 - Schaumburg FC Red: 0**

Greta Gustafson's header off a corner kick not only gave GLSA a 1-0 lead but some desperately needed assurance that they could beat the defending Midwest Regional Presidents Cup champions and National Presidents Cup Third Place finishers, Schaumburg FC.

"When Greta headed in off a corner kick, there was a huge sense of relief and a feeling of confidence that we were going to win," said Josh Paskiewicz, GLSA Head Coach. "The game was closely contested. We had one called back on a close offside call and had one cleared off the line right before halftime. (After the score) the girls looked composed and kept their heads to put it away. We knew Schaumburg was the defending Regional champs so we were expecting quality and they did not disappoint."

The first half saw both teams attacking hard but unable to finish with GLSA goalkeeper Maggie Avampato coming up with three big saves to prevent Schaumburg from scoring first and the defensive backline disrupting most runs before shots could be taken on goal.

GLSA also got a little help when on a free kick, Schaumburg's potential score hit the post.

"Maggie was calm and kept us organized," Paskiewicz said. "Our back four were tremendous. Katie McAuliffe was amazing in central defense,

effectively destroying anything Schaumburg played through the middle. Kathryn Keefe played a great attacking outside back, making great runs, serving balls and tracking back to make timely tackles." Heidi Vander Bloomer added another second half tally to GLSA a 2-0 win and a trip to the Regional Presidents Cup.

"The girls are excited about traveling to Kansas and representing Illinois," said Paskiewicz.

The Illinois Presidents Cup offers teams an alternative to the Illinois State Cup and allows teams an additional opportunity to play in a progressive tournament against teams of similar skill level for a National title. Teams that play in the Presidents Cup are not eligible play in the Illinois State Cup, but this tournament expands the chances for more Illinois teams, who otherwise may not get the opportunity, to play in a Regional and National tournament.

"GLSA has always focused on player development more than winning, but we are trying to win at the upper ages," Paskiewicz said. "This tournament is perfect for us. We aren't likely to win a State Cup as most of the top talent at these ages has migrated to a few select clubs. We can't compete with that, so Presidents Cup is great competition for us."

"The Presidents Cup allows us the chance to compete in something with advancement and a Region II type program in the hopes are team can focus on that and work hard," Dekker said. "I personally love the concept."

The Boys Illinois Presidents Cup will be played in Spring and registration is currently open for the U13 - U17 age groups and the Girls U13 division.

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