

## TONKA UNITED – FUSION SC ELITE PARTNERSHIP

Minnetonka, MN (June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017) – At Tonka United, we have built a positive soccer culture centered on the player. We now look and focus our attention on improving the quality of the soccer experience for all our players at all ages and all levels. In the past year, we have implemented a deliberate style of play that challenges players to solve problems, while establishing and developing a first-rate coaching staff invaluable to our club and community. We are also collaborating with other top Minnesota clubs to create new development pathways for our players. It is an exciting time in youth soccer; it is an exciting time at Tonka United.

We are extremely proud to announce an exciting partnership between Tonka United and Fusion SC. In this innovative partnership, the two proud clubs will come together to establish an Elite program with a distinct culture of excellence that will allow players to reach their fullest potential both on and off the field. Through providing best-in-class resources such as a qualified staff, premier facilities, and a holistic development program that seeks to develop the total player, we will define and create new pathways that will allow our players to achieve their highest soccer aspirations. In addition to a long-term player development curriculum, players will have access to programs including a Collegiate Soccer Advisory Program, Strength & Conditioning Training, and Nutrition Education.

Jonathan Schaefer, Director of Coaching & Player Development of Tonka United, described this partnership as "Two monumental west metro clubs with similar resources and visions collaborating to provide a player-focused development model for the elite player in their communities."

For the 2017/2018 season, the two clubs will join forces to create a top boys and girls team at the 2004 and 2005 birth years under a co-brand of "Tonka-Fusion Elite," with plans to expand to additional age groups over time. Tonka United and Fusion SC will continue to operate all MYSA classic level programming independently. In other words, all other teams will operate as usual without any disruption.

"The development of this program represents the deep trust and partnership that our two proud clubs have developed over the past year," says Lawrence Tsoi, Technical Director of Fusion SC. "This partnership will create a defined pathway for success and further our collaboration in ways that will enhance the development of all of our players. Together, we will not only elevate elite soccer programing for our two clubs, but we will work together to raise the bar in Minnesota."

More information will be released soon regarding the Tonka-Fusion partnership. Please visit <a href="https://www.tonkaunited.org">www.fusionsoccermn.com</a>.