

# 2017-18 ECNL CONFERENCE PREVIEWS

Established in 2009, the Elite Clubs National League has transformed youth female soccer over the past 8 years, and is the highest level of competition in the United States. With thousands of alumni current playing women's college soccer, 90% of the league's graduating classes moving on to college soccer every year, and stars dominating the best conferences in collegiate soccer, the ECNL is the proving ground and development platform for the future. In the 2017-18 season, the collegiate stars of the future will be competing in one of eight conferences across the United States.

While the ECNL National Events Series is the primary destination for scouts and college coaches to recruit elite level players, and are some of the most exciting events in youth soccer, it is ECNL Conference competition that lies at the heart of the ECNL. Conference play is the primary method by which teams qualify for the ECNL Post Season, and conference games feature some of the most heated rivalries in youth soccer. With teams and players that know each other well, and compete against each other every year, winning an ECNL Conference Championship is a matter of huge pride for every player and member club.

# MID-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE



The ECNL's Mid-Atlantic Conference is comprised of eight member clubs across three states: North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia. The primary competition season is the fall.

The 2017-18 ECNL Season marks the addition of three new member clubs in the Mid-Atlantic Conference: BRYC Elite Academy from Fairfax in Northern Virginia, Carolina Rapids from the Charlotte region of North Carolina, and South Carolina United from Columbia.

"The Mid-Atlantic ECNL member clubs are eagerly looking forward to the upcoming season. As the youth soccer landscape continues to change, the ECNL is appropriately positioned to deliver on its mission to raise the game. As the competition for player talent increases, we feel that the Mid-Atlantic Conference is poised to successfully improve our contribution to the development of the ECNL and the youth soccer landscape." -Clyde Watson, McLean Youth Soccer's Director of Coaching

#### MID-ATLANTIC CONFERENCE BOARD MEMBERS



#### **Jay Howell**

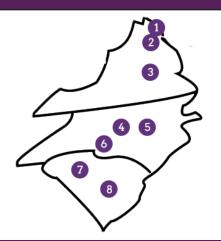
**Board Representative** 

Executive Director for Richmond United



# **MID-ATLANTIC** CONFERENCE





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## 2016-2017 IN REVIEW



#### CONFERENCE CHAMPIONS

U14 - Charlotte SA

U15 - Internationals SC

U16 - McLean YS

U17 - McLean YS

U18/U19 - Ohio Elite SA

#### CHESAPEAKE DIVISION **CHAMPIONS**

U14 - Charlotte SA

U15 - Charlotte SA

U16 - McLean YS

U17 - McLean YS

U18/U19 - McLean YS

#### OHIO VALLEY DIVISION **CHAMPIONS**

U14 - Indiana Fire

U15 - Internationals SC

U16 - Ohio Elite SA

U17 - Indiana Fire

U18/U19 - Ohio Elite SA

## CHAMPIONS LEAGUE QUALIFIERS

NCFC Youth

McLean YS

NCFC Youth McLean YS



**U15** 

# 2017 ECNL/ID2 NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP

The 2017 ECNL/id2 National Training Camp is a joint effort between the ECNL, U.S. Club Soccer's id2 National Player Identification and Development Program, and Nike. The camp is open to all players regardless of U.S. Soccer affiliation, or lack thereof, and is sanctioned as an Olympic Development Program by US Soccer and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).

The ECNL held the 2017 ECNL/id2 National Training Camp July 27-30, 2017 at the University of Portland in Portland, Oregon. Players were elected based on their performances at ECNL competitions, ECNL PDP events and other events throughout the year. The camp was made up of 97 of the top female youth soccer players across the ECNL, staffed by an elite staff of expert coaches, and included many stars from the Mid-Atlantic Conference.



## 2017 NATIONAL TRAINING CAMP ATTENDEES



Angela Caloia McLean YS



Claire Constant
McLean YS



**Isabel Cox** NC Fusion



Emily Crocco
Richmond United



Aleigh Gambone McLean YS



Kiersten Hening Richmond United



Julia Leas McLean YS



Natalie Maurer Richmond United



Maggie Pierce NCFC Youth



# **BRYC ELITE ACADEMY**

**ABOUT:** BRYC Elite Academy is committed to producing players who demonstrate advanced technical skills, those who value ball retention and can perform at an aesthetically pleasing level, and players who are able to operate effectively in multiple systems of play and with a greater cerebral appreciation of the game. Our emphasis at all stages of player development is to stress individual player improvement/ growth, and to protect against the tendency for players, parents and coaches to focus on the success of independent teams within our club.

CITY: Fairfax, Virginia ESTABLISHED: 1966

**HOME FACILITY:** Robinson High School # **OF FEMALE PLAYERS:** 250

WEBSITE: www.brycsoccer.com TWITTER: @BRYCElite



## **BRYC COACHING STAFF**

Director of Coaching - Larry Best ECNL Director - Mark Dolansky

U13 & U18/U19 - Tom Hopkins U14 - Dan Caracciolo U15 & U16 - Michael Welsh

U17 - Abe Thompson U18/U19 Composite - Mark Dolansky

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH





















"This is an incredible opportunity and challenge for our girl's program to play with the best clubs in the country. The ECNL offers a development platform that will challenge our players in every facet of their development while allowing them a proven path for their college recruiting track."

-Larry Best, BRYC Elite Academy Director of Coaching



# CAROLINA ELITE SOCCER ACADEMY (CESA)

**ABOUT:** Carolina Elite Soccer Academy is committed to providing every player within our program the opportunity to achieve his or her individual goals with respect to soccer. CESA's mission is to develop and implement an athletic performance program for CESA athletes that will enhance the wellbeing of an athlete through strength and conditioning, injury prevention, rehabilitation, nutrition, and educational programming.



CITY: Greenville, South Carolina ESTABLISHED: 2004

**HOME FACILITY:** MESA Soccer Complex # OF FEMALE PLAYERS: 1200

WEBSITE: www.carolinaelitesc.com TWITTER: @CESA2004

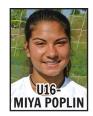
### **CESA COACHING STAFF**

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH















"We are excited about the upcoming ECNL season and as we move into the Mid-Atlantic Conference, we look forward to top level competition on a weekly basis. The ECNL continues to afford our players the chance to develop and grow in a meaningful and competitive environment."

-Andrew Hyslop, CESA Director of Coaching

#### **2016-17 HIGHLIGHTS:**

U16 Qualified for North American Cup Post Season Competition

## CAROLINA RAPIDS

**ABOUT:** The Club's purpose is to provide members of our community the opportunity to participate in, support, and enjoy the sport of soccer through offering quality programs that reflect our core values, teach key life lessons, and are open to all ages and abilities. To achieve our mission and help players and parents get what they want, we believe we need to provide: a world class coaching structure, a high motivated, trained, licensed and skilled team of coaches and year-round access to team training sessions.

CITY: Charlotte, North Carolina ESTABLISHED: 1987

**HOME FACILITY:** Bailey Road Park # OF FEMALE PLAYERS: 700

**WEBSITE**: www.carolinarapids.org **TWITTER**: @RapidsGirls



## CAROLINA RAPIDS COACHING STAFF

Director of Coaching - Ray Fumo ECNL Director - Nathan Willams GK Coach - Erin Lykon U13 & U14 - Jeremy Weeks U15 & U16 - Stephen Glass U17 & U18/U19 - Nathan Williams U18/U19 Composite - Mike Johnson Performance Coach - John Lytton

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH





















"We know the ECNL will be a huge challenge for us in our first season, but we are excited and looking forward to the competition. We will continue to elevate the level of soccer in the greater Charlotte market."

-Nathan Williams, Carolina Rapids ECNL Director



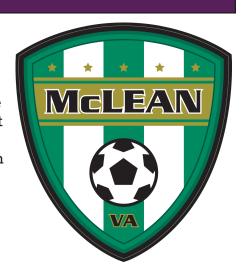
# MCLEAN YOUTH SOCCER

**ABOUT:** The purpose of McLean Youth Soccer is to provide a place for every player and a player for every place. McLean Youth Soccer will be a leader in player development and in establishing a lifelong appreciation for soccer among our members. We will be a model soccer club for all developmental levels from the recreational to the elite player. McLean Youth Soccer develops youth through the sport of soccer by providing quality coaching, a high caliber environment and a commitment to best practices. We impart life lessons through soccer.

CITY: McLean, Virginia ESTABLISHED: 1972

**HOME FACILITY:** Lewinsville Park # OF FEMALE PLAYERS: 500

**WEBSITE**: www.mcleansoccer.org **TWITTER**: @mcleansoccer



#### MCLEAN YSA COACHING STAFF

Director of Coaching - Keith Tabatznik ECNL Director - Clyde Watson

U13 - Clyde Watson U14 - Cindi Harkes U15 - Spencer Henderson U16 - Stephen Glass

U17 - Brent Leiba U18/U19 - Nadir Moumen

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH













"We are excited to welcome three new member clubs to the highly competitive Mid-Atlantic Conference for the 2017-18 season and look forward to working toward repeating the accomplishments of our 2016-17 season." -Clyde Watson, McLean YS Director of Coaching

#### **2016-17 HIGHLIGHTS:**

U16 & U17 Mid-Atlantic Conference Champions U18/U19 Mid-Atlantic Chesapeake Division Champions U16, U17 & U18/U19 Qualified for Champion's League Post Season Competition



# **NCFC YOUTH**

**ABOUT:** NCFC (formerly CASL) consistently looks to expose the clubs players to challenging and competitive environments. NCFC has a proud and successful tradition and the club looks forward to continuing that tradition in ECNL throughout the 2017-2018 season. NCFC's mission is to provide positive, high quality soccer opportunities at all levels of play for youth and their families and to serve as a valuable community partner.

CITY: Raleigh, North Carolina ESTABLISHED: 1974

**HOME FACILITY:** WRAL Soccer Park # OF FEMALE PLAYERS: 92

**WEBSITE**: www.ncfcyouth.com **TWITTER**: @caslnc



## NCFC YOUTH COACHING STAFF

Director of Coaching - Paul Forester ECNL Director - Willie Davis
U13 - Jason "Buddha" Keys U14 - Brett Malone U15 - Tom Misuraca
U16 & U18/U19 - Willie Davis U17 - Tim Evans

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH













"NCFC is excited and eagerly anticipating the upcoming season and all that it has to offer. The players and staff welcome the competition and look forward to the character building situations that the players will be exposed to on daily basis." - Willie Davis, NCFC Youth ECNL Director

#### **2016-17 HIGHLIGHTS:**

U15 & U17 Qualified for Champion's League Post Season Competition U16 Qualified for North American Cup Post Season Competition



# **NORTH CAROLINA FUSION**

**ABOUT:** The aim of North Carolina Soccer Fusion is to provide a professional learning environment for highly committed elite players, of the Triad and its surrounding areas, to develop their individual skills and techniques to highest possible standard. This will prepare them for the physical, mental and emotional complexities of the modern game of soccer and allow them to compete both regionally and nationally. We also want our players to be thoroughly prepared to progress to the next level.

CITY: Greensboro, North Carolina ESTABLISHED: 2013

**HOME FACILITY: BB&T Soccer Complex # OF FEMALE PLAYERS: 100** 

**WEBSITE**: www.ncsoccerfusion.com **TWITTER**: @NC\_Fusion



## NC FUSION COACHING STAFF

Director of Coaching - Tony Da Luz ECNL Director - Chad Heinicke
U14 - Andrew Fleming U15 - John Pardini U16 - Kelly Grant U17 & U18/U19 - Chad Heinicke

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH















"Our Fusion teams look forward to another great year of ECNL competition and working with other member clubs to create the best environment and exposure for young women soccer players today. I am also extremely excited to have such a talented coaching slate for the upcoming 2017-2018 season."

-Chad Heinicke, NC Fusion ECNL Director

#### **2016-17 HIGHLIGHTS:**

U15 Qualified for Showcase Cup Post Season Competition

# RICHMOND UNITED

**ABOUT:** Our philosophy is embodied in three words:

**UNITE**: Richmond United will unite the Richmond soccer community by uniting talented players, coaching expertise, club resources and state of the art facilities.

**INSPIRE**: Richmond United will inspire our players by creating an inspirational learning environment and fully integrated player development model that allows them to maximize their potential.

**ACHIEVE**: Richmond United will achieve success by:

- 1. Attracting the best players from a 75 mile radius of Richmond
- 2. Graduating 75% of players to Division I College programs
- 3. Producing nationally respected players, coaches and teams

CITY: Richmond, Virginia ESTABLISHED: 2014

**HOME FACILITY:** West Creek Field & Ukrop Park # **OF FEMALE PLAYERS:** 115

**WEBSITE**: www.richmondutd.com **TWITTER**: @richmondunited



## RICHMOND UNITED COACHING STAFF

Director of Coaching - Jay Howell ECNL Director - Aaron Brunner
U13 & U16 - Andy McIntosh U14 & U17 - Aaron Brunner U15 - Eric Dutt U18/U19 - Rob Ukrop

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH









"This year is going to be a exciting. Expectations are high and we look forward to the challenge ahead."

-Aaron Brunner, Richmond United ECNL Director

#### **2016-17 HIGHLIGHTS:**

U16 Qualified for North American Cup Post Season Competition

# SOUTH CAROLINA UNITED FC

**ABOUT:** South Carolina United FC is the largest youth soccer club in South Carolina. Its mission is to provide an opportunity for all to play soccer at a level commensurate with their skill level. Over 1700 female players ensure a deep talent pool that has allowed the club to have a strong history of success at all levels within US Youth Soccer and one that should allow them to be an immediate competitor within the Mid-Atlantic Division. The ECNL program will be led by a strong core of coaches that are licensed and experienced in coaching at the highest levels of female youth soccer. Our mission of providing the highest level of play for our female players is now complete with our entry into the ECNL.



CITY: Columbia, South Carolina ESTABLISHED: 2006

**HOME FACILITY:** Monticello Soccer Complex **# OF FEMALE PLAYERS:** 1706

WEBSITE: www.southcarolinaunitedfc.com TWITTER: @SCUnited\_FC

## SC UNITED COACHING STAFF

Director of Coaching - Rob Strickland ECNL Director - Tomasz Kluszczynski
U13 & U14 - Brian Harper U15 & U16 - Phil Savitz U17 & U18/U19 - Tomasz Kluszczynski

2017-18 PLAYERS TO WATCH

















"Becoming a member of ECNL is a tremendous opportunity for the girls in our community and surrounding areas to showcase and challenge themselves against top teams in the country. ECNL's competitive platform raises our standards and we are thrilled with the college showcasing platform that it provides for our kids. I'm very thankful to our players, parents, coaches and administrative staff for their hard work in the past and looking forward to the challenging season. As a local club with local coaches, we are excited to be able to provide this service and national exposure to our current members and players from the Midlands and beyond."

-Tomasz Kluszczynski, SC United ECNL Director

