



For Immediate Release:

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ECNL GIRLS LAUNCHES ECNL REGIONAL LEAGUE - GREAT RIVER

-League welcomes six new clubs into the platform for 2022-23 season-

RICHMOND, Va. (April 12, 2022) – ECNL Girls is thrilled to announce the creation of the ECNL Regional League - Great River with clubs located in Indiana and Ohio, set to kick off in the 2022-23 season. The league will introduce six new clubs to the ECNL platform and will expand the ECNL in one of soccer’s most talent-rich regions.

“We are extremely excited about the launch of the ECNL Regional League - Great River and the continued expansion of the Regional League platform,” said Jen Winnagle, ECNL Girls Commissioner and COO. “This league and these six new clubs will bring more depth and talent to the platform, will increase competitiveness in the Midwest, and will allow athletes new opportunities and chances to reach their full potential.”

**FC Dayton
Dayton, OH**

One of Dayton’s premier clubs, FC Dayton has programs for kids of all ages, drawing talent from throughout central Ohio.

“FC Dayton is delighted to be selected to be a part of the ECNL Regional League platform,” said Paddy King, FC Dayton Executive Director. “ECNL has long represented the elite level of female soccer in the US and we are proud that the work we have put into our club over the last few years has been recognized and we have been provided with a seat at this distinguished table. The ECNL Regional League is an integral part of our mission to provide all levels of soccer to our players, or as we put it, from first kick to first team.”

**Greater Toledo FC
Toledo, OH**

Founded in 1996, Greater Toledo FC was founded by professional soccer coaches with the aim to develop the next generation of stars. Today, the club features more than 1,000 players across more than 75 teams.

"Greater Toledo FC Impact is thrilled and honored to be a part of the ECNL Regional League - Great River," said Mike Aubry, GTFC Executive Director. "The professionalism of the ECNL Regional League, coupled with the tremendous competition provided, is the perfect platform for our growth and development."

Indiana Elite Crown Point, IN

Indiana Elite was founded in 2006 and quickly established itself as one of the largest and most successful clubs in Northwest Indiana. Since 2006, Indiana Elite has grown to more than 350 athletes from U8 to U20 with the goal to develop the complete athlete both on and off the field.

"It is a huge honor for us here at Indiana Elite to be joining the ECNL Regional League," said Novi Marojevic, Indiana Elite President. "Our Girls program has been growing in numbers and in quality over the last few years and we know the move to the ECNL Regional League will make us even stronger as a program."

Ohio Galaxies FC Dayton, OH

Ohio Galaxies FC was founded with the principle of providing players an environment to develop skills and foster leadership opportunities. Throughout the years, program alumni have gone on to play collegiate soccer at more than 30 different schools.

"Ohio Galaxies FC is excited to participate in the ECNL Regional League - Great River platform," said Nancy Shields, Director of Operations. "This is a great opportunity for our players to participate in regional competition against quality opponents in the Midwest."

Sporting Columbus Columbus, OH

Sporting Columbus was founded to develop the best, high-level players and build them up for success on and off the field.

"We are always looking for ways to increase the culture of player development," said Dave Merrick, Girls Director. "Participation in the ECNL Regional League - Great River provides a platform for players to take the next step in their development."

TFA Cincinnati Cincinnati, OH

TFA Cincinnati was founded in 2009 through the merger of two clubs to promote better player development on and off the field by combining resources for the best athletes in the region.

“TFA Cincinnati is excited to give our players another platform to showcase their ability,” said Erik Schoening, Executive Director of Coaching. “Our entrance into the ECNL Regional League is an exciting opportunity for our club and players.”

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About the ECNL:

The ECNL is the nation’s leading youth soccer development platform. The ECNL respects and celebrates the unique individuality of every youth soccer player and club, supporting and enabling them to unleash their unfettered passion and fierce tenacity in striving to achieve their potential.

The ECNL mission to Raise the Game is a total commitment to create the best possible environment for players, coaches, referees and administrators, with a determination to constantly question convention and challenge the status quo in youth sports.

The ECNL Commitment:

We will lead, set our eyes on new horizons, and pursue them relentlessly. Born out of the belief in a better way. Continued in the ever-evolving pursuit of excellence.

www.TheECNL.com

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