



Chicago Fire Youth Development Program Update

Chicago Fire Juniors–West Michigan players return from ODP trips abroad

CFJ–Chicago successful at Nike Classic Soccer Tournament

Three CFJ–Mississippi teams take top honors at Emerald Coast Cup

BRIDGEVIEW, IL (May 7, 2007) – While the Chicago Fire senior squad is seeing success on the field (3-1-1 10 pts.) in Major League Soccer play – so are the Chicago Fire Juniors Youth Programs. During the month of April nine CFJ teams won tournaments around the country, with a host of other CFJ teams nabbing runners up honors. CFJ-West Michigan will have the benefit of international influence as several of its players return from Olympic Development tours abroad, while CFJ-Mississippi teams go the distance to bring home trophies from the Emerald Coast Cup in Destin, Fla.

Chicago Fire Juniors-Chicago

• U10 Red Boys win Nike Classic Soccer Tournament

The U10 Red Boys team won the Nike Classic Soccer Tournament in Schaumburg, Ill. on April 27 and 28. The team won on penalty kicks after being locked in a 2-2 tie at the end of regulation. The U15 Red Boys and the U14 Red Girls were both runners-up in the tournament, each suffering heartbreaking 1-0 losses in their finals. The U15 Red Boys only gave up one goal in four games and the U14 Girls Red only gave up two goals in the four games, posting two shutouts.

Chicago Fire Juniors-West Michigan

• Three players return from ODP Region II international tours

Anne Steinlage, Lauren Gagnon, and Chelsea Peterson recently returned from international tours with their respective ODP Region II teams. Anne Steinlage and Chelsea Peterson of the 1991/92 combined Region II traveled abroad to play against teams from England and France. The teams won five of their six games during the trip. Lauren Gagnon traveled to Costa Rica with another 1992 Region II team where she played four games against the National teams of Costa Rica, Panama, Mexico, and Chile. Gagnon's team tied Costa Rica 1-1, beat Panama 5-0, lost to Mexico 1-4, and tied Chile 1-1.

• U14 and U15 Boys successful at the Grand Rapids Alliance Spring Invite

Congratulations to the CFJ-WM U14 Boys and U16 Boys teams which took first place in the Grand Rapids tournament on April 20-22. The U15 Boys and the U9 and U10 Girls were runners up in the tournament.

• U14 Girls Take First Place

The CFJ-WM U14 Girls won the Third Annual National Soccer Rankings Region II Cup Championship held April 27- 29. The U14's defeated FC Barrington 2-1 in the finals.

Chicago Fire Juniors-Mississippi

• Chicago Fire Juniors-Mississippi Fare Well at the Emerald Coast Cup

The Chicago Fire Juniors-Mississippi had three teams win the Emerald Coast Cup in Destin, Florida on April 21. The U11 Boys Red coached by Rigo Cedeno, The U11 Girls White coached by Derek Washer, and the U11 Boys White coached by Britton Webb all won their age group in their respective divisions.

• The CFJ-Mississippi '96 Girls Blue Team wins Gulf Coast Cup

The CFJ-Miss. '96 Girls Blue team, coached by David Johnson and William Ward, won the Gulf Coast Cup in Gulfport, Miss. by defeating the Mandeville Lakers 2-0, Gulf Coast United Blue 3-2, and the Biloxi Express 1-0 in the finals.

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TOYOTA PARK • 7000 S. Harlem Ave. • Bridgeview, IL 60455
Phone: (708) 594-7200 • Fax: (708) 496-6050



Chicago Fire Juniors-Mississippi (cont.)

• U13 Girls win the Memphis Grrrls Tournament

The CFJ-Miss. U13 Girls won the Memphis *Grrrls* Tournament at the Mike Rose Soccer Complex in Memphis, Tenn., April 28-29, with an impressive 12 goals for, and only four goals against. The U13's defeated Brentwood, Tenn. 5-2, the Lady Lobos 2-1, the Little Rock Futbol Club 2-0 in the semifinals, and Conway Ark. 3-1 in the finals. Three other CFJ Girls teams made it out of their brackets as well.

Notes

Fire Premier and Super-20 teams begin practice and games in May

The Chicago Fire Premier and Super-20 teams have begun training and are set to open play during the month of May. The Fire Premier will take on the Indiana Invaders May 16, at 4 p.m. CT on the TOYOTA PARK practice field while the Chicago Fire Super-20's will play Sunday, May 27, just following the Chicago Fire's match against Real Salt Lake (4:00 p.m. CT, TeleFutura) at TOYOTA PARK.

For more information about the Chicago Fire Premier and the Super-20 side, visit www.chicagofirepremier.com.

Fire/Daily Southtown Girls Soccer Player of the Week Honorees

- Kathy Susnjara – Argo High School
- Casey Cartwright – Marian Catholic High School
- Taylor – Sandburg High School
- Taylor Joosten – St. Ignatius College Prep
- Keli McLaughlin – Shepard High School

www.WestMichiganFire.com www.MississippiFireJR.com www.elmgrovesoccer.com

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