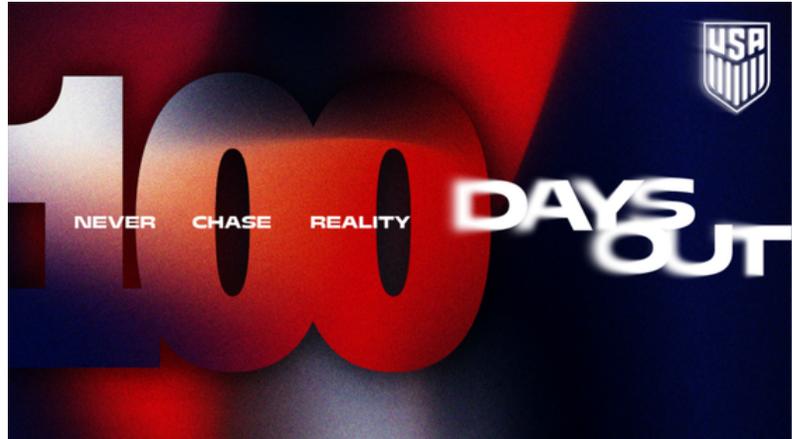


DYSA CHRONICLES



The latest news from Delaware Youth Soccer



We are officially 100 days from the FIFA World Cup 2026!

A home World Cup is a once-in-a-generation moment for our sport and our country. The countdown starts now, and U.S. Soccer members will be at the center of bringing that excitement to life in communities across the nation.

Beginning today, we are marking 100 days until kickoff with a nationwide slate of fan and community activations designed to bring supporters closer to the game than ever before. From Insiders Chapters launching in 12 cities and Soccer Forward Fests engaging communities coast to coast, to the Insiders World Cup ticket draw, Jersey Drop, pre-tournament matches, a live roster reveal celebration in New York City, and the opening of U.S. Soccer House in Los Angeles, the next 100 days are packed with opportunities for fans to experience the World Cup in meaningful ways.

Together, these efforts will reach millions across digital, broadcast, and in-person platforms and ensure that this tournament feels national in scale and local in impact. We are also putting the finishing touches on the U.S. Soccer World Cup Watch Party Toolkit, developed in partnership with members, and will share it with you as soon as it's ready so you can bring the World Cup to life in your community.

The next 100 days are about capturing the energy of this moment and channeling it across the country. The days will celebrate the growth of our game and invite more fans, families, and communities to be part of something bigger than a tournament.

We encourage you to share the 100 Days Out assets across your channels after they go live at 8 a.m. ET and to lean into the momentum locally. Whether through watch parties, community events, or simple storytelling, your leadership will help ensure this World Cup feels national and local at the same time.

The world is coming. The stage is set. The next 100 days matter. Let's make them count together. Look for updated information as we move closer to World Cup 2026!

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**100 DAYS OUT
WORLD CUP 2026!**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

CLUB NEWS

Soccer Forward Fests Are Underway in Communities Nationwide!

The celebration has begun!

Yesterday, as we officially hit 100 days until the FIFA Men's World Cup 2026, Soccer Forward Fests kicked off in Los Angeles, hosted by FOX Sports and the Boys & Girls Club of Long Beach. These Fests are all about celebrating the power of soccer to bring communities together as part of the Keeping Score of What Matters campaign—and Members are already leading the way. More than 20 member organizations have registered already, and we're just getting started!

Upcoming Soccer Forward Fests already reflect the breadth of this movement, with member-led events including Wyoming Soccer Association's Soccer Fest on March 6, Maryland Youth Soccer's Summer Soccer Fest Series kicking off in June, and Delaware Youth Soccer's Mickey Wherry Recreational Tournament in May.

Soccer Forward Fests are designed to be community-led and easy to activate anywhere in the country. From play days and skills challenges to small-sided games and soccer-inspired celebrations, your organization can now register your own events and join a growing national movement that showcases the many ways soccer helps people keep score of what matters most beyond the scoreboard.



DYSA CHRONICLES

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY: CHAD REED, DYSA PRESIDENT

DYSA MEMBERS,

AS THE EXCITEMENT AROUND THE WORLD CUP INSPIRES FANS ACROSS THE GLOBE, THE DELAWARE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION IS PROUD TO SEE THAT SAME PASSION GROWING RIGHT HERE IN OUR COMMUNITIES. MOMENTS ON THE WORLD STAGE REMIND US HOW POWERFUL THIS GAME CAN BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER AND INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF PLAYERS.

OUR MISSION IS TO GIVE EVERY YOUNG ATHLETE IN DELAWARE THE CHANCE TO EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF SOCCER, BUILD CONFIDENCE, AND DEVELOP TEAMWORK AND SPORTSMANSHIP. WHO KNOWS—TODAY'S YOUTH PLAYERS MAY BE TOMORROW'S STARS.

THANK YOU TO OUR PLAYERS, COACHES, VOLUNTEERS, AND FAMILIES FOR CONTINUING TO GROW THE GAME ACROSS DELAWARE.

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING STATEWIDE:

MARCH 21-22, 2026	DE FC SPRING CLASSIC, HOCKESSIN, DE
MAY 2 & 3, 2026	ANNUAL MICKEY WHERRY REC. TOURNAMENT, KENT COUNTY
MAY 16-17, 2026	2 ND ANNUAL BEACH CUP, RIVER SOCCER COMPLEX
JUNE 6-7, 2026	ODP EAST REG. TOURNAMENT, TBD
AUG. 29-30, 2026	RUSH TO THE SHORE CUP, OCEAN CITY MD



DYSA Awards Luncheon

DYSA hosted our Annual Recognition Awards luncheon on February 1 at Wild Quail Country Club. This year we received over 30 nominations for the various categories. **Congratulations again to this year's winners!**

Kaitlyn Schech, Kent County Parks & Rec., Administrator of the Year-Female
Nomination forwarded to USYS

Tom Mccauley, Concord Soccer, Administrator of the Year-Male

John Andrews, River SC - Volunteer of the Year
Nomination forwarded to USYS

Danielle Parker, Concord Soccer
Rec Coach-Female

Kyle Gaffney, Concord Soccer
Rec Coach-Male

Shannon Anfuso, Delmarva Rush, Comp Coach-Female
Nomination forward to USYS

Nick Hess, DEFC, Comp Coach-Male
Nomination forward to USYS

Beckett Green, River SC
TopSoccer Buddy (2024)

JP Sarant, DEFC, TopSoccer Buddy-Male (2025)
Nomination forwarded to USYS

Angelina Mangano, Concord SC, TopSoccer Buddy-Female (2025)

Michael Wikol, DEFC, TopSoccer Coach

Robert Bussiere, Concord, Lew Atkinson Mentor

Sam Burns, DYSA/ODP
Hall of Fame

Rebecca Mais, River SC
Hall of Fame

Bill Sturdivant, DYSA
Hall of Fame

Executive Director's Updates

By: Sebastian Acosta-Nijamkin, Executive Director

This past month, I had the opportunity to attend the U.S. Soccer Annual General Meeting (AGM), an outstanding learning and networking experience that brought together leaders from across the country. What stood out most was the shared commitment to collaboration and cohesiveness at every level of the game. The conversations centered not only on where soccer is today, but where it's heading and how we can work together to move the sport forward in a unified way.

There is tremendous momentum building within youth soccer nationwide, and Delaware is well positioned to be at the forefront of that growth. From grassroots participation to competitive pathways, the opportunities ahead are significant. One exciting highlight for our state is the upcoming Soccer Forward Fest in May, which will showcase innovation, education, and community engagement around the game we all love.

We're also seeing meaningful progress through the continued expansion of the Girls Initiative, which is creating more access, visibility, and long-term development opportunities for female players across Delaware. The energy around girls' soccer is real, and we're proud to help lead that movement within our state.

And of course, with the 2026 FIFA Men's World Cup kicking off this summer, excitement for the sport is reaching new heights. Global events like this inspire the next generation of players and bring renewed attention to the power of soccer to unite communities.

The future of the game is bright. Through strong partnerships, intentional leadership, and continued collaboration, DYSA is committed to ensuring Delaware remains proactive, progressive, and prepared for what's next. We're excited for what's ahead and grateful to everyone who plays a role in moving the game forward in our state.



This month, we're addressing one of today's most critical topics: burnout. From micro-practices for managing stress to building emotional awareness and setting healthier boundaries, this drop is all about helping your teams reclaim energy and prevent burnout before it starts. [Click here](#) to learn more on this topic



Delaware ODP Update - 2025-2026 Campaign & Winter Camp Success by: **Tyler Bastianelli, Director of Talent Identification & ODP** **Delaware Youth Soccer Association**

I was extremely impressed by the players' attitude, effort, and overall level of play throughout the camp. The quality of performances made the selection process highly competitive as we finalize the roster to represent Delaware at the East Region Tournament in June 2025.

We plan to begin sending invitations to selected players between January 26 and January 31, 2026. Once an invitation is received, please review your calendar promptly and complete registration as soon as possible to secure your roster spot. Invitations will have an approximate seven-day response window; after that deadline, we will move to the next player on our depth chart and extend additional invitations as needed.

Below, you will find links to photo albums from Winter Camp, captured by our outstanding volunteer photographers. I hope you enjoy viewing them as much as I did. You are welcome to download and share the photos with family and friends.

Thank you again for your participation and commitment to Delaware ODP.

Delaware ODP Winter Camp Photo Albums

Day 1: December 26, 2025

[Photo Album 1](#)

[Photo Album 2](#), Patrick Breslin Photography

Day 2: December 29, 2025

[Photo Album](#)

[Photo Album 2](#)

*If you have photos you would like to share, please email tyler@dysa.org and I'll provide information on where to upload them so I can share with our ODP Program families.

East Region ODP Tournament details:

Dates:

June 5-7, 2026 (for 2009-2011 age groups)

& June 6-7, 2026 (for 2012-2014 age groups)

Location:

Girls: Tuckahoe Turf Farm in Hammonton, NJ

Boys: PA Classics in Manheim, PA

Note to Delaware ODP Players:

We will continue to closely monitor ODP player performances through ongoing scouting efforts and regular communication with club coaches and contacts. Please remain focused, committed to your training, and physically prepared in the coming months so you are ready to perform at your best should you be selected to represent Delaware at the East Region Tournament.

ODP Process, 2025-2026 Campaign Summary:

The Delaware ODP Program is for Under-12 to Under-18 players, and the first step is to attend tryouts in August. Then for the player to be selected at tryouts or get recommended and be selected to our Delaware ODP Player Pool Winter Camp.

Winter Camp is used to identify the best players in the Delaware State Player Pool to then select to represent Delaware in the East Region Tournament in June 2026. Our Delaware state teams have been very successful in competing with the other states in the East Region, and we have had a strong number of players selected to the next phase of ODP.

The East Region Tournament is used by the East Region staff to identify and select players to the East Region Summer ID Event Pool Camp (top players in East Region) in July 2026.

The East Region Summer ID Event Pool Camp, July 2026, is used to pick the top 18 players to represent the East Region in the Interregional Event in January 2027 competing against the other regional teams.

The Interregional Event is used by the USYS ODP National Team staff to identify the best players from the Regional Teams to be selected to the USYS ODP National Team which will attend an event (domestic or international) the following Summer in 2027.





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2. Access the store via link below
 1. You must be logged in before clicking the team store link
 2. You can also view your team's stores in your account's "Locker"
3. Check out like any standard online shopping experience
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4. For questions on completed orders, or for help logging in or checking out:
 1. Refer to your order confirmation email
 2. Contact Customer Care
 1. <https://www.newbalanceteam.com/customer-care>

Store Link

[New Balance Footwear Store Link](#)

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Size Chart

Go to Help at the bottom of the store

Size Guide will be in the bottom left corner

Questions

Text or call (844-628-3267)

Email Customer Care at customercare@newbalanceteam.com



DELAWARE'S WORLD CUP WATCH PARTY TICKETS

DE TURF

05.19.26

PEP RALLY!

BOB CARPENTER
CENTER

06.12.26

USA VS. PARAGUAY

HUDSON FIELDS

06.20.26

GERMANY VS.
IVORY COAST

DELAWARE STATE
FAIRGROUNDS

06.26.26

URUGUAY VS. SPAIN

DELAWARE STADIUM

07.19.26

WORLD CUP FINAL



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DYSA CHRONICLES

CLUB NEWS

MICKEY WHERRY RECREATIONAL
TOURNAMENT 2026

DYSA BOYS AND GIRLS **DYSA**
AGE GROUPS

SAVE THE DATE

MAY 2 & 3, 2026
Kent county Parks and Rec Center
For more information contact
recreation@dysa.org

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INFORMATION,
PLAYER
HIGHLIGHTS AND
CLUB RECOGNITION**

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- MEET NEW PEOPLE
- LEARN AND DEVELOP LIFE SKILLS
- STAY ACTIVE
- UPHOLD THE LAWS OF THE GAME IN THE COMMUNITY
- PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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