

Loudoun Soccer Joins Forces with Virginia Valor, Great Falls-Reston for Elite Girls and Boys Pathway

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Leesburg, VA – Today, Loudoun Soccer, Great Falls-Reston Soccer Club, and Virginia Valor FC jointly announced the formation of the <u>Northern Virginia Alliance</u>, a coalition formed to develop the most elite teams and players in the region.

The Alliance aims to establish the area's most competitive teams playing at the national level in the Elite Clubs National League (<u>ECNL</u>). The ECNL provides a top-tier platform for elite players nationwide, with a particular focus on increasing players' post-high school educational opportunities via athletic scholarships.

The three founding Technical Directors are bullish on the Alliance's prospects:

Mark Ryan, Technical Director, Loudoun Soccer: "Our Club is delighted to be a part of the Northern Virginia Alliance. As members of the ECNL, we believe the Alliance has the potential to elevate soccer pathways in our region, affording more players greater access to the regional and national stage. The benefits of superior player pathways, continuous player improvement through club collaboration, and a broader geographical footprint will be the hallmarks of NVA moving forward. Loudoun Soccer is enthusiastic about the future of this forward-thinking organization."

Paul Ellis, Technical Director, Virginia Valor FC: "We are excited to take our elite programming to the next level with this Alliance. As co-founders, we look forward to providing our players with levels of competition and programming that are second to none in the region."

Kurt Borel, Technical Director, Great Falls-Reston Soccer Club: "The excitement of this Alliance is being able to combine with growth-minded and progressive-thinking groups whose main interest is the greater good of the soccer community. There are limitless opportunities to continue to develop players that go on to produce nationally-successful teams."

While the three clubs share in the Alliance, all other club programs, including Rec and other Travel teams, will remain under the umbrella of their home clubs. For more information, visit the Alliance's Frequently Asked Questions page.