



VA National Championship Series Week 2 Spotlight 12U Girls

10 teams in our youngest age group will begin their State Cup journey this weekend while the top three teams have a bye-week.

- **FC Richmond Mystx** will take on **Herndon Lightning Black** in a great match-up. Herndon recently went to the Championship match at Jefferson Cup, while FC Richmond were runners-up in the fall at the Virginia Beach Classic Tournament.
- **Northern Virginia Soccer Club** is matched up against **New River United**. The girls from NVSC will be looking for a win after several ties at Jefferson Cup. NRUS is coming to State Cup as the fall 12U Skyline League Champions.
- Coach Roger Friedman has his **Burke Athletic Club** team ready to take on **Virginia Rush**, coached by Technical Director, Matthew Mittelstaedt. The girls from Virginia Rush were recent finalists at the Ultimate Cup and Burke Athletic went undefeated in NCSL league play in the fall.
- **Springfield/South County Pride** will take on **Southwestern Youth Association Cardinals**. SYC Pride, coached by Director of Coaching Harry Opoku, started the spring strong with a trip to the semi-finals at the FFC St. Patrick's Day Invitational. Carolyn Rice, DC-VA Hall of Fame member, is looking for her team to rebound after some very close losses in Jefferson Cup last month.
- The final match for the 12U age group is **SOCA** versus **Lee-Mount Vernon**. LMV coach Aldo Landeros has double duties, also coaching their 14U State Cup team. SOCA's coach Amy Martin was a state and national champion as a player with her Fairfax club team in the 1980's. These teams are familiar foes with similar records in CCL 1, setting up for a great match.