



VA National Championship Series Week 3 Spotlight 12U Girls

Eight teams in the 12U girls age group will be playing in the quarterfinals this weekend.

- **Herndon Lightning Black** beat **FC Richmond Mystx** in the opening round in a very close defensive match. Herndon will face tough competition as they take on top seeded **Loudoun Red** in the first quarterfinal match. Loudoun's coach, Rae Ann Taylor is the 2003 Region I Girls Coach of the Year and has coached past teams to State Championships. Herndon's coach Nadir Fouad is no stranger to coaching Virginia State Champion teams, doing so in 2009 and 2010.
- **Northern Virginia Soccer Club** cruised past **New River United** in their preliminary round. Their opponent in the quarterfinals will be **Virginia Rush**, who also sailed through their first round against **Burke Athletic Club**. **NVSC** coach Patrick DaCosta and **Rush** coach Matthew Mittelstaedt both led their teams to shutouts in the first round. This sets the stage for a defensive struggle in the quarterfinals.
- **Southwestern Youth Association Cardinals** shut out **Springfield/South County Youth Club** in the first round. **SYA Cardinals** will move on to the quarterfinals to take on third ranked **Arlington Red**. The girls of **Arlington** are coached by State ODP coach Gerardo Ramirez and the **Cardinal's** coach is Carolyn Rice, VYSA Hall of Fame member. Both coaches will have their young teams ready to play on Saturday.
- **SOCA** and coach Amy Martin, advanced to the quarterfinals after a very close and hard fought match against **Lee-Mount Vernon Red**. **SOCA** will take on second ranked **Beach FC Red** on Saturday. Daniel McVey, **Beach FC** alum and coach will be looking for his team to build on its recent success at Jefferson Cup in March.