



VA National Championship Series Week 4 Spotlight 12U Boys

Eight 12U elite boys teams from around Virginia will play in the quarterfinal round this weekend. Each team will be playing for the opportunity to compete in the semi-finals on Saturday, May 19th, at the Publix Virginia Training Center in Fredericksburg in hopes of becoming THE Virginia State Champion!

- Top seeded **Bethesda South Blue** had a bye the first round. They had a hard-fought match last weekend to beat Loudoun Red. Bethesda Age Group Director and coach Yuri Bogdanov will look to secure a home win against **Shenandoah Valley United** in the quarterfinals. SVU defeated Northern Virginia Soccer Club in a close 8 versus 9 match up in the round of 16. SVU coach Trevor Nichols has prepared his team for a very competitive match on Saturday.
- **Springfield/South County Youth Club** comfortably shut out their previous round opponent, Southwestern Youth Association Cardinals. **SOCA** also easily won their previous round match against Virginia Legacy. The team from SYC is led by their Technical Director Lee Chang. Chang has proven experience coaching national ranked teams. SOCA coach Kirk Shafer will have his team prepared for this four versus five match-up.
- Third ranked **Arlington Red** advanced from the round of 16 with a close win over New River United. Head coach Grant Smith, Arlington's Age Group Director, is also coaching the 14U Arlington boys team in the State Cup quarterfinals this weekend. Arlington will host **Herndon Estudiantes Black** with coach and club Technical Director Nick Arzani. Herndon beat Virginia Rush in the previous round with a shutout. Both coaches will have their teams prepared to play well.
- **Lee-Mount Vernon Soccer Club** squeezed out a nail-biting win in overtime last round against Braddock Road Elite Academy. Kyle Morsink's boys from Lee-Mount Vernon will have a very tough quarterfinal game against the number two-seeded team, Beach FC. **Beach FC** cruised into the quarter finals with a convincing win over VISTA Shenandoah FC in the last round. Coach Harry Gillespie and his boys from the beach will look to continue to ride the momentum into the semifinals.