



Contact: Brenda N Heintz
Washington Youth Soccer
253-476-2237 (phone)
brenda@wsysa.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington Youth Soccer Awards \$19,000 To Scholarship Winners

FEDERAL WAY, WASHINGTON (Monday, April 13) –Washington Youth Soccer today announced the winners of the Scholarship Program. In total Washington Youth Soccer will award the sum of \$19,000 to help provide financial support to young student athletes faced with rising college costs.

The winners listed below represent one male and one female scholarship recipient from each of Washington Youth Soccer's seven districts; each student will be awarded \$1,000 for the upcoming school year. Rounding out the scholarship process, district winners were then be compared against one another to determine the overall winner and recipient of an additional \$5,000. Unlike other scholarships for athletic achievement, the Washington Youth Soccer Scholarship Program was open to members heading into their first year of college and focused primarily on academic merit. More importantly, scholarships were awarded to Washington Youth Soccer players that met the criteria regardless if he or she planned to continue a soccer career at the collegiate level.

Scholarship winners will be honored at SoccerPalooza Awards Dinner & Sounders Celebration, Sat., May 9, 2009 at the Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center.

The 2009 Washington Youth Soccer Scholarship Winners

District 1

Ian Frye (Arlington)

Club/Team: Marysville Youth Soccer Club

North County Youth Soccer Association

High School: Homeschooled

College: Whitworth University

Christina Ashley (Marysville)

Club/Team: Marysville Youth Soccer Club

Marysville Youth Soccer Association

High School: Marysville Pilchuck

College: Washington State University

District 2

Ryan Rae (Kirkland)

Club/Team: Juanita Club
Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association
High School: Juanita High School
College: Digipen Institute of Technology

Nicole Sternagel (Woodinville)

Club/Team: United Soccer Club
Northshore Youth Soccer Association
High School: Woodinville High School
College: University of the Pacific

District 3

Scott Morriss (Maple Valley)

Club/Team: Maple Valley Soccer Club
Maple Valley Soccer Association
High School: Tahoma High School
College: Brigham Young University

Theresa Edwards (Bonney Lake)

Club/Team: Cascade Foothills Soccer Club
Mount Rainier Soccer Association
High School: Bonney Lake High School
College: Willamette University

District 4

Michael Voigt (Port Orchard)

Club/Team: South Kitsap Soccer Club
Kitsap Peninsula Youth Soccer Association
High School: South Kitsap High School
College: Washington State University

Heather Cusenza (Port Orchard)

Club/Team: South Kitsap Soccer Club
Kitsap Peninsula Youth Soccer Association
High School: Explorer Academy/South Kitsap High School
College: Western Washington University

District 5

Adam Wisch (Kalama)

Club/Team: Kalama Soccer Club
Cowlitz Youth Soccer Association
High School: Kalama High School
College: University of Washington

Janet Dahl (Longview)

Club/Team: Longview Soccer Club
Cowlitz Youth Soccer Association
High School: Kelso High School
College: University of Washington or Pacific University

District 6

Nick Marquiss (Newman Lake)

Club/Team: Spokane Soccer Club
Spokane Youth Soccer Association
High School: East Valley High School
College: Whitman College

Victoria Grenz, (Green Acres)

Club/Team: Express Soccer Club
Spokane Youth Soccer Association
High School: Gonzaga Prep
College: University of Montana

District 7

Brendan Hann (Elma)

Club/Team: Elma McCleary Youth Soccer Club
Foothills Youth Soccer Association
High School: Elma High
College: South Puget Sound Community College and St. Martin's University

Emelia Sodders (Aberdeen)

Club/Team: Harbor Youth Soccer Club
Grays Harbor Youth Soccer Association
High School: Aberdeen
College: Central Washington University

Congratulations to all of the scholarship winners and we look forward to announcing the overall scholarship winner with \$5,000 at the SoccerPalooza Awards Dinner & Sounders Celebration, Sat., May 9, 2009 at the Hilton Seattle Airport and Conference Center. Please visit SoccerPalooza.net for more information about this exciting event or contact Brenda N. Heintz at brenda@wsysa.com.

For additional information about the Washington Youth Soccer Scholarship Program, please visit wsysa.com. Applications for the 2009-2010 school year will be posted before October 1st, 2009.

About Washington Youth Soccer

Washington Youth Soccer is the largest youth soccer organization in Washington. Washington Youth Soccer is the state's affiliate for US Youth Soccer, which is the largest sports organization in the United States and the most populous member of the United States Soccer Federation, the

governing body for soccer in the United States. Washington Youth Soccer boasts the sixth-largest membership in the nation; our organization represents over 128,000 players (ages 4-19) and their families, 15,000 coaches on 12,000 teams and 6,500 referees in the state of Washington. Washington Youth Soccer's mission is to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of the State of Washington's youth through the sport of soccer, at all levels of age and competition.

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