

★ U14 Girls Advance to Final Round at River City Champions Cup.

The Placer Prestige U-14 Girls advanced to the final round and took home the second place trophy at the River City Champions Cup at Cherry Island over Labor Day Weekend. This was the second consecutive tournament in which the team has advanced. The Prestige '92 battled through two days of tough preliminary round play before earning the right to advance to semi-final action on Monday morning at Cherry Island. Facing off against the Diablo Valley SC Black Pearl, the team combined a strong defensive effort with an aggressive offensive attack and came away with a solid 2-1 win that put them in the championship round against the Marin FC Blue '92. In the final game, the Placer and Marin teams were well matched, with both sides having opportunities to score but coming up just short because of determined defense and strong goalkeeping. After seventy minutes of scoreless play and two overtime periods, the outcome of the match had to be settled by a penalty kick shootout. On this occasion, the Marin FC Blue proved to be the more accurate of the two teams, edging out the Placer team to take home the first place trophy. Given the overall quality of the twelve team field, and also the fact that they reached third place in the Santa Rosa Champions Cup just two weeks earlier, Coach Leo Marin and the U-14 Girls were proud to take home second place as acknowledgement of the progress they've made since the season began in April. Throughout the tournament, each member of the team and many spectators pledged to contribute \$5 a goal to support the Red Cross's effort in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, and by the conclusion of Sunday's play had collected nearly \$300 in donations. It is an idea the U-14 Girls hope will expand to other teams and tournaments throughout Northern California and beyond.



★ **U9 Girls take 2nd place in CVU State Fair Tournament.**

After a testing Saturday where the Pulse fought to a 2-2 tie with the ASA Fireballs and lost to San Juan 1-4, the girls regrouped; with great determination, fantastic defense, and high intensity, the Pulse dominated their two opponents on Sunday with shut-out victories, 1-0 vs. El Dorado and 2-0 vs. Sacramento United. The score was indicative of the furious and explosive defensive effort displayed by all the girls – they all hustled and assured a very limited number of shots on their goal (4). The shut-out victories assured the girls 2nd place and the silver medals that came along with it. Outstanding offensive effort by Elle Gollnick and Taylor Greer who both had multiple goals for the tournament; great support both offensively and defensively by Riley Sims, Sydney Talmi, Sarah Kreiser, Carly Olcomendy, Sierra Shell, Tamren Johnk, Olivia Brown, and Taylor Borges. Simply put, the girls played as a solid unit on Sunday and it paid off handsomely.



★ Placer U13 Gold Girls Bring the Heat to the Bay Area.

The U13 Gold girls and Coach Bart Morefield battled to advance to the semifinals in the Mustang Stampede Aug 13-15. They lost 1-0 in a tough overtime game to the Pleasanton Rage who went on to win in the finals. The team kept their focus into the next weekend and brought the heat yet again to the Novato Classic Aug.20 -21. Smacking their opponents in all games, they advanced to the finals and won the championship 4-0 against Solano County. In the combined 2 weekends, the U13 girls scored 21 goals and allowed only 2. Congratulations to the U13 Gold Placer United Girls and Coach Bart Morefield.



★ Placer Wins!!!

Placer had great success in area tournaments IN August. On the Girls side, two teams took first place. The U13 Gold team won the Novato Tournament and the U15 Gold team took top honors at the Davis Shootout while the U17 girls came in 2nd. At the CVU State Fair Tournament the U9 girls came in 2nd. Many teams made it to the semi-finals including U13 Gold - Mustang Stampede Classic, U14 Gold – Santa Rosa Championship Cup, U12 Black – Castro Valley Summer Shootout, U11 and U12 Black teams - Santan Tournament.

The Boys teams did just as well with two teams taking the first place trophy. The U14 Black team won the Novato Tournament while the U13 Gold team came out on top at the Ballistic Tournament. Making it to the finals were the U12 Gold – Santa Rosa Champions Cup and U11 Black – Davis Shootout. Several teams represented Placer in the Semis at Semis including U18, U11 Gold, and U16 Gold. Congratulations to all the teams and thanks for making Placer one of the top clubs in Northern California. GO PLACER!

★ U9 Girls take second place in El Dorado Gold Cup.

The U9 girls started off the weekend playing a very tough and somewhat suspect Sacramento United team, losing 2-0. The girls regrouped and won 1-0 against El Dorado, with Riley Sims bringing home the victory, but with all the girls contributing. The next day was truly where the girls shone. Against a mixed U9 and U10 El Grove team, the girls scored 3 goals - one each by Carly, Taylor B, and Taylor G. The game ended in a 3-1 victory which sent the girls to the championship game at 3:00pm. against the unbeaten Sac United team. In the heat of the day, the girls fought and pressed and hustled without relent. With several unfortunate misses on S.U.'s goal and a very unlucky goal on our side, the victory for the Pulse was not to be. All the girls gave it their all and played both aggressively and hassled throughout each game. Some standout players for the tournament include Olivia Brown for playing outstanding goal keeper and saving many potential goals, Elle Gollnick and Riley Sims for pressing and continually pressuring the goal, Taylor Borges and Carly Olcomendy for playing fantastic defense and saving some potential break-aways. Sydney Talmi, Taylor Greer, and Sierra Shell for great mid-field and defensive support; and finally, Sarah Kreiser for playing and giving it her all, despite a nagging and hobbling ankle injury.

★ Prestige '91 girls, coached by Gene DuChateau, wins championship at the Pleasanton Rage College Showcase:

Good things happen on offense when the defense plays well. That's a lesson the U-15 girls of the Placer United Prestige '91 can take to the bank this summer. Solid defense gave them the championship in May at the San Francisco Cup and again last weekend at the Pleasanton Rage College Showcase.

The Placer girls, coached by Gene DuChateau, outscored their opponents 8-2 in four games at the Showcase, where the format was a bit different. Each team played four games and the winner was determined on a point basis rather than through playoffs. The tournament is set up as a showcase for the top teams in Northern and Southern California and attracts college coaches from all over the country, although mostly for the older age groups.

Still, Prestige '91 gave notice that they are a team on the rise, with three wins and a tie over the weekend, cinching the championship with a 1-0 victory Sunday afternoon over the Arsenal FC White team of Southern California. The only score of that game came on a header by Kaellie Stone, with the assist by Shea Peters. Key saves by goalkeeper Monica Chazen also preserved the win. All weekend long, Paige Thurlow, Abby Puente, Jillian Bennett, Jocelyn Rapp, Shea Peters and guest player Alex Highsmith from Vacaville provided the tough defense with Chazen in goal and Stephanie Sanchez and Laura Nasserri controlling the middle of the field. They were especially tough against the Arsenal, playing with intensity until the final whistle.

That was a lesson learned the hard way, giving up a goal 15 seconds beyond the regulation time against San Juan, as the game ended in a 1-1 tie. Placer scored first on free kick by Laura Nasserri. Placer came back strong in the second game Saturday against the host Pleasanton Rage, winning 3-0 on two goals by Alexis Knudtson and one by Nicole Zorio, assisted by Peters. Knudtson's goals were assisted by Rapp and by a combination from Puente and Cheryl Ford.

Placer came back with another strong offensive showing against Bay Oaks, winning 3-1, this time ruining a brilliantly played defensive game by allowing a surprise goal just seconds beyond the end of regulation. Anna Taylor scored twice in that game, with assists from Nasserri and Stone. Ford also scored with a perfectly timed header on a cross from Knudtson, who fought through triple coverage to deliver the assist.

Making the weekend even more impressive was that Placer was playing without two forwards, the injured Caitlin Pulver and the vacationing Briana Telford - and outside left halfback Molly Klier, also out with an injury. All are expected to rejoin the team in time for the Danville Cup tournament Aug. 13 and 14.

★ Placer United Prestige 93 Boys Gold - 2005 Cal Cup Champions!

The Sacramento weather may have been scorching but the 93 Boys Gold team was even hotter as they played their hearts out to win the 2005 California Cup

The boys got off to a great start July 15th against Portland Navy, with a result of 5-1, then went on to score 5 against Ajax Screaming Eagles, final score: 5-2. Fighting the blistering Sacramento heat, the boys had a tough game against opponents Juventus Monarcus, losing 2-5, but still managed to finish out the first round in 2nd place. Next up, another long time rival: Burlingame Juventus. The boys were fired up, and fought hard to shut out Burlingame 2-0, earning the Prestige a spot in the semi finals against Santa Cruz Breakers. The Placer 93's were in excellent form as they dominated the field, finishing out the game 3-0 and moving on to the final! And what a final! It was Placer's chance to meet up with long time opponent Santa Rosa. The same team who had put the boys out of Cal Cup twice: in the quarterfinals in 2004 and in the semis in 2003. Time for revenge! Each team played a hard and fast game, but neither was able to penetrate the other's defense - at the end of regulation time the score was 0-0. After 10 minutes of intense extra time, there was still no scoring. Penalty kicks would be the decider of this game. The Placer boys remained cool, calm and collected as they took their penalties. All that determination and composure finally paid off, resulting in a 3-2 advantage. Final score 1-0: Placer United Prestige 93 Boys Gold are 2005 California Cup Champions!

