

# SDA NEWSLETTER



March 2023

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# 2009 SDA Girls GA



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## **2009 Girls GA Team Competes in Champions League Cup Finals in Sarasota, Florida**

The 2009 Girls GA Team recently competed in the Champions League Cup Finals in Sarasota, Florida, under the leadership of their Head Coach, Tommy Tanner. The team was honored to have been selected to participate in this year's competition, and they showed great performance and growth throughout their journey.

Coach Tanner expressed his pride in the team's achievements, stating "It was an honor for the girls to be selected to participate in this year's Champions Cup. The performance and growth of these young women over the past year has been incredible. The opportunity to play for a National Championship and then do so well the first half of the GA season to be selected to participate in the Champions Cup was an incredible opportunity."

While the Girls GA team did not ultimately come away with the championship, they left the tournament with heads held high, proud of their accomplishments and the hard work they put in to get to the Champions League Cup Finals.

Overall, the Girls GA team's participation in the Champions League Cup Finals was a testament to their talent, dedication, and commitment to excellence. Congratulations to the Girls GA team on a successful season and an impressive showing at the Champions League Cup Finals.

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# COACHES SPOTLIGHT

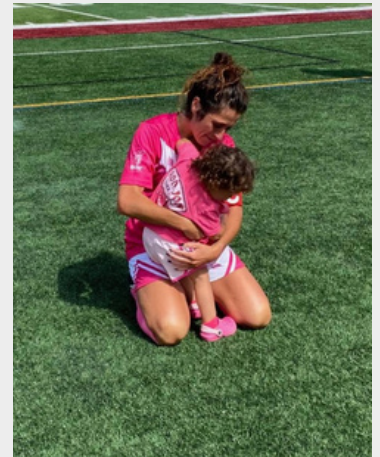
## *Brooke Barbuto*

Brooke Barbuto, head coach of the Utica College Women's Soccer team, has had an incredible coaching career so far. Barbuto, who also coaches the SDA 2012 Boys and 2013/2014 Girls, has been an instrumental figure in shaping the future of soccer in New York state.

Since joining Utica College Women's Soccer team, Barbuto has led the team to its first-ever NCAA appearance, conference title, and three conference championship games in just four years. Barbuto's incredible success has not gone unnoticed, with her being part of the Rochester Lancers 2022 Co-Champions and the United Elite Krajisnik FC 2022 Northeast Champions.

As she prepares her 2012 SDA Boys for the PDA Tournament in April and the MAC tournament in June, Barbuto is also focusing on her 2013/2014 SDA Girls' team and their preparations for the MAC tournament in June. With her passion, dedication, and experience, Barbuto is sure to lead her teams to great success this season.

In addition to her coaching success, Brooke Barbuto is also a proud mother to her daughter, Bella. Her achievements both on and off the field serve as an inspiration to her players and colleagues alike.





# PLAYER SPOTLIGHT

## *Catherine Apker*

Catherine Apker, a talented soccer player from Homer High School, has committed to Lafayette College for her college soccer career.

Catherine has been an integral part of the SDA 04/05 GA team and has impressed her Goal Keeper Coach and SDA Director of GK, Bill Stanbro, with her focus and work ethic, saying; "Catherine is one of the most focused hard working athletes I've had the pleasure of coaching. She is never satisfied and always striving to be better."

Catherine's achievements include being a part of the Olympic Development Program (ODP) and playing with some of the best soccer players across the US. She has also worked with outstanding college coaches from different regions, including Olympic Gold medalist and World Cup champion Brandi Chastain, saying "The high-level training, games, and evaluations associated with ODP National Team and the East Region Team camps have really motivated my growth as a soccer player."





Catherine has represented the US at international events in Iceland and England and has greatly benefited from all the various opportunities and trainings.

"I'm looking forward to a great spring season with my SDA 04/05 GA team before heading off to Lafayette College this summer to begin my college career," says Catherine. "I would like to thank SDA for all that it has done to help make my soccer experiences over the years so memorable. And I would like my amazing SDA teammates and coaches to know how much I appreciate them and how blessed I feel to have spent this time with them. They really are the absolute best!"

Catherine's commitment to Lafayette College is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and passion for soccer. Her achievements with the ODP and SDA 04/05 GA team have been remarkable, and we wish her all the best as she embarks on her college soccer career.





# TEAM SPOTLIGHT

## SDA Boys Team Emerges Victorious in 2009 Jefferson Cup Tournament

The 2009 SDA Boys soccer team clinched the championship title in the highly-competitive Jefferson Cup Tournament. The team, comprised of talented and dedicated young athletes, fought their way through the rounds and emerged on top in a thrilling final match. Assistant Coach Eric Bonnier describes the intense final match commenting; "We were leading 1-0 in the finals and our opponent scored with five minutes left to send the game into overtime. We won by scoring in the second overtime with only 90 seconds remaining." Coach Bonnier is proud of his team saying; "even though we were missing four of our players due to injury, the boys stepped up to win in the finals."

The Jefferson Cup is widely regarded as one of the most highly competitive youth soccer tournaments, with teams from all over the country competing against each other. The SDA Boys team displayed exceptional teamwork, skill, and determination throughout the tournament.





# TEAM SPOTLIGHT

The 2009 SDA Boys Head Coach; Bo Jelovac is pleased with the development of his team saying; "This is my fifth year coaching the 2009 group and I am proud to say that with the help of my assistant Eric Bonnier, we developed a great group of players." The 2009 Boys Team is made up of a current roster of State Champions, and Elijah Doell, who has been training with New England Revolution Academy. Coach Jelovac adds; "This is a great group of players as well as parents, who have been extremely supportive throughout this journey. I can't wait to see what the future holds for these boys."

The SDA family is proud of the team's success and the young athlete's dedication and hard work put towards the club. Syracuse Development Academy is continuing to earn recognition as one of the most promising youth soccer clubs in the region.







# *Player ID Sessions Coming Soon...*



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