



Dear Families:

Welcome to the Northwest Champions League! We are very excited about our inaugural season, and we look forward to a great year of competition among the very best teams in Oregon and Washington.

### **What is the NWCL?**

The Northwest Champions League creates a unique level of competition for U15 through U18 premier teams in Oregon and Washington. The NWCL brings together the top 4 teams from Oregon and the top 4 teams from Washington in a 4-month competition that is patterned after the UEFA Champions League. Teams for the inaugural season have been selected on the basis of results from the 2009 fall season, performance in the Oregon and Washington State Championships and other criteria established by the Soccer Advisory Board.

### **Who governs the League?**

The league is governed by a seven-member Soccer Advisory Board composed of coaching directors from participating clubs. The initial Board members and their contact information are published on our website.

### **What is the format of the NWCL?**

The U15-U18 age groups will have an 8-game competition that runs from November through February. Washington teams will play 6 games against Oregon teams for a better variety of competition. Each age group winner and wildcard will advance to the NWCL Finals to be held in Portland on the weekend of February 19-20, 2011. The location of the finals in Portland will be announced in the fall.

### **Who do we play?**

Age group divisions and brackets will be posted on our website under the “Scores and Standings” tab on July 1st.

### **Is the NWCL our team’s only league?**

No. The NWCL is a supplemental program and patterned after the UEFA Champions League in Europe. It’s more of a tournament than a league. Teams will continue to play in their regular league (i.e., WSYL, OPL or PSPL), tournaments and State Cup competitions.

**How much does it cost?**

The fee for the 2010-2011 season is \$60 per player and may be paid via check or credit card. We have asked your managers to return the completed forms to the league office by July 15<sup>th</sup>. The membership fee includes your participation in the NWCL, 8 regional games, hosting of the NWCL finals, schedules, standings, a fully-hosted league website and league administration.

**How much travel will there be?**

Schedules have been built to minimize travel costs for families. Each participating team will only travel two weekends over the course of the 4-month competition. For example, Washington teams will travel to Oregon on two occasions to play group and crossover games.

**Is there a website?**

Yes. The NWCL's website is located at [www.northwestchampions.com](http://www.northwestchampions.com). We are adding content on a regular basis, so please check the site often for the latest news and information about the league.

We are very excited about the inaugural season of the NWCL, and we look forward to seeing your team compete for the title of Northwest Champion.

Sincerely

Northwest Champions League Office