Michigan State Youth Soccer Association **Press Release**

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MSYSA Director's Academy Clubs Announced for the 2018-19 Season!

Plymouth, Michigan (May 4, 2018) – The Michigan State Youth Soccer Association is pleased to announce that 28 clubs have been selected to participate in the 2018-19 season of the MSYSA Director's Academy Program! The selection process included a club-wide evaluation in six categories that includes: club structure, player programming, club history of participation in MSYSA events & programs, player development, parent education and coaching development. Based on the applications received, the clubs listed below will participate in the 2018-2019 seasonal year of the MSYSA Director's Academy Program.

Canton Soccer Club	Cap City Athletic	Chill SBC	Eastside FC	Kingdom SC	LaForza SC	Legends MAFC
Liverpool FC	Michigan Burn	Michigan Fire Juniors	Michigan Jaguars FC	Michigan Lightning	Michigan Revolution FC	Michigan Rush
Michigan Tigers	Michigan	Midland Fusion	Midwest United	Nationals	PASS FC	Plymouth Reign
FC	Wolves/Hawks	SC	FC			SC*
Royal Oak FC	S.C.O.R.	TBAYS North	Troy SC	United FC	Vardar SC	WAZA FC
		Storm				

^{*}Indicates an MSYSA Director's Academy 'Growth Club': A Growth Club is defined as a new Club accepted into MSYSA's Director's Academy. Growth Clubs have limited or no history in State Cup, MRL or National League. However, MSYSA has determined that the accepted Growth Clubs have demonstrated a commitment to developing their players, parents, teams and coaches to meet the MSYSA Director's Academy application standards.

Changes with the MSYSA Director's Academy Program for the 2018-19 Seasonal Year Include:

- The Director Academy's Coaching Education requirements is changing to mirror the current landscape of coaching education with US Soccer's Grassroot Coaching Initiatives. All under 11 and under 12 head coaches will need, at minimum, a US Soccer Federation D License and all assistant coaches will need to complete the US Soccer Grassroots 9v9 and 11v11 courses (either online or in person).
- Must Play Weekends: The under 11 and under 12 teams will no longer participate in a 'must play' weekend as they will be participating in the 2019 MSYSA Jr. State Cup.

MSYSA Director's Academy Club Reviews: All Clubs in the Director's Academy are subject to a review, which includes an analysis of their Player Development Structure, Coach Development Program, their Training & Game Environment, Club Administration, the Facilities they utilize & the Soccer Respect campaign.

About MSYSA Director's Academy

The MSYSA Director's Academy is a statewide program for 11 year-old & 12 year-old teams who aspire to play at the highest levels of US Youth Soccer in the future. The MSYSA Director's Academy focuses on player development through coaching education. By participating in the program, Clubs commit to a higher standard of coaching education by attending coaching education events & submitting training sessions and training blocks for review.

About Michigan State Youth Soccer Association

The Michigan State Youth Soccer Association, Inc. (MSYSA) is a nonprofit organization that represents over 90,000+ youth soccer players, 10,000+ coaches, and 4,000+ referees throughout Michigan. MSYSA consists of a vast number of leagues that register players (boys and girls) from ages 4-19 throughout the state. MSYSA is a member of the United States Youth Soccer Association & the United States Soccer Federation. For more information on MSYSA, visit www.michiganyouthsoccer.org.