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January 1, 2025

To: Schools of USYS NL Regional Showcase Virginia Participants

From: EDP Soccer

Re: Absence from Classes to Attend College Soccer Showcase Tournament

On behalf of the EDP Soccer, we would like to request the release of all affected youth soccer club players from your school, to participate in the <u>USYS National League Regional Showcase Virginia</u> Managed by EDP Soccer, 2025. This Boys & Girls team event is scheduled for Saturday & Sunday, January 31 – February 2, 2025.

The Showcase is traditionally a prominent college recruiting event in the East Region. However, it may require the participating student athlete to miss all or part of a school day in order to travel to and compete in the event. We appreciate the importance of a player's education and strive to accommodate the academic calendar as much as possible when planning out and scheduling our yearly event fixtures.

Players participating in our showcase event are exposed to one of the largest concentrations of college coaches in the nation. The <u>USYS NL Regional Showcase Virginia</u> typically attracts dozens of college coaches from throughout the East Coast to evaluate players on teams drawn exclusively from the high school age groups. In addition, most games are professionally filmed to form a viewing library of game footage for college coaches who cannot attend in person to use for college recruiting. Many players competing in our showcases expand their college options simply by participating.

While we understand the importance of education, we also believe that sport has its place for many of our participants. We hope you will understand and excuse the absence of any student-athletes from your school on this weekend to allow them to participate in this EDP College Showcase Event.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Sincerely,

## **Ashley Wells**

Ashley Wells Executive Director, Tournaments & Events EDP Soccer