



Indiana Fire Juniors Soccer Club Announces Affiliation with South Central Soccer Academy

Date: May 28, 2021

SCSA to become SCSA Fire Juniors

Westfield, IN (May 28, 2021) - The Indiana Fire Juniors Soccer Club announced Friday an affiliation agreement with South Central Soccer Academy to bring numerous programs, services and supplemental playing opportunities to SCSA and its players.

As a result, SCSA will rebrand its boys' and girls' groups to SCSA Fire Juniors - Affiliate to Indiana Fire Juniors and will become part of the greater Chicago Fire Family.

"We are excited to welcome a top tier program like SCSA to the Fire family," said Mark Webber, Indiana Fire Juniors Executive Director. "We look forward to working together to grow the game throughout Indiana and enhance the overall soccer experience for the community's youth and family."

Through the partnership, the SCSA Fire Juniors will serve the current membership of approximately 450 travel players with continued high-level soccer programming, enhanced by the resources and programs brought by Indiana Fire Juniors and Chicago Fire FC. The SCSA Fire Juniors join existing affiliate IFJ South of Evansville in collaboration on core and supplemental programs for players. These offerings will provide an ideal environment for player development as well as the ability to compete and play together in additional local, regional, and national events.

"We are thrilled to become part of the Fire and look forward to collaborating with their soccer leaders and fellow affiliates to help take our program to the next level," said SCSA DOC Matt Wilhoit. "This affiliation will help us thrive as a competitive, community-based organization, leveraging the resources of a much larger entity and yet one with a similar mission and values."

"SCSA has always believed in total player development by creating pathways for players from u8-u19," said IFJ Technical Director Phil Presser. "The Alliance collaboration for high school age players with Columbus, IN and Bloomington, IN teams heightened the platform for their elite players. This has proven successful by the many collegiate players they are producing. Now through the affiliation with Indiana Fire Juniors, the pathway extends beyond the Alliance program and the high school ages into professional opportunities. Each player that steps into the SCSA program has the same opportunities to be seen and to be a part of the most elite structures of player development with the MLS NEXT, ECNL, Indy Eleven and Chicago Fire FC.



About Indiana Fire Juniors:

The Indiana Fire Juniors is one of the largest, most comprehensive soccer clubs in the area. Whether you're a 4-year old who's learning to kick, a 12-year-old who wants to master his skills, a high school junior who wants to play in college or an adult who still loves to play the game, the Indiana Fire Juniors has a place for you.

The Indiana Fire Juniors was formed in May 2014, when Carmel United Soccer Club and Westfield Youth Soccer Club merged into one. Both clubs brought their unique strengths to the new entity. Carmel United Soccer boasted the elite Developmental Academy for boys and the Elite Clubs National League for Girls. Westfield Youth Soccer was focused on the community, reaching out to soccer players in Westfield and the surrounding areas.

Our 2014 merger coincided with the opening of the **Grand Park Sports Campus**, perhaps the most impressive athletic complex in the Midwest. With seven outdoor turf fields, 24 full-sized tournament outdoor grass fields and three full-sized indoor fields, Grand Park is the sports destination for soccer players.

We also benefit from our partnership with Major League Soccer's **Chicago Fire FC**, whose leadership has been instrumental in the growth of the Indiana Fire Juniors by providing strategic direction and coaching enrichment.

The Indiana Fire Juniors is committed to offering a soccer experience for every player, regardless of age, ability or future aspirations:

About the South Central Soccer Academy:

South Central Soccer Academy is a competitive, community-based travel soccer organization based in Bargersville, IN, serving approximately 450 youth soccer players from ages 5-19 on over 35 teams. With over 40 years in business as a non-profit soccer club, the organization has both travel and recreation programs developing players in the South Central Indiana region.