



**CASE STATEMENT**



# MISSION

is to promote the personal development of each player and help them reach their full potential, both on and off the field with a focus on dedication, discipline, and teamwork, while nurturing a passion for the game of soccer. The club strives to attain a national reputation as one of the premier soccer clubs in the country.

# VISION

is to provide a first class experience to our coaches, athletes, and families, while providing more opportunity to in-need athletes to help them realize their dreams, and minimize the operational and financial liabilities of the club.

# PLAN

is to establish a scholarship fund to help needs-based youth achieve personal success through the game of soccer. Providing them with a positive experience as they train and compete at the highest level of the sport. The program helps offset the registration fees, gear, and travel expenses associated with playing soccer at the elite level.



The Ohio Premier (OP) Soccer Club provides Central Ohio's leading players, both male and female, a comprehensive environment that encourages reaching the highest levels of play. OP programs provide an unparalleled experience for players of all abilities and skill levels from the ages of 4 to 23.

“OP has been like a family to me and I have felt supported throughout my collegiate, professional, and national team career. Not only did OP develop me into an elite athlete and provide me with the environment and exposure to succeed and get noticed at the next level, but it also gave me some of my favorite soccer memories and best friends.” - Lindsay Agnew (former Pro Player and Canadian Women's National Team)





#### ABOUT US

## IN MEMORY OF FOUNDER

Michael T. Radcliffe

Ohio Premier was founded with a goal of excellence in soccer and in life. Founder, Michael Radcliffe, believed those wins and successes on the field could help carry you and prepare you for success in your future life, outside of soccer. He was a man focused on winning and he understood that if you wanted to be the best, you had to train harder than the rest.

When OP was founded, there were no girls' soccer clubs in the Dublin area. While Mike's son went on from recreational leagues to compete at a higher level, there were no similar opportunities for his daughter, Carrie. He changed that by holding tryouts and creating the Lazars. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he was no stranger to studying hard. So while he himself had not played soccer, he set out to read through every book on soccer he could get his hands on, taking copious notes and implementing the training drills and field formations he learned with the Lazars. It worked. The Lazars went on to win tournaments all over Ohio and were left with very little competition. They often competed an age group up and traveled all over the country and to Canada, piling up a mass of trophies, which he proudly displayed in his office. The Lazars became the first Ohio Premier team, an all-girls soccer club at the time. Mike retired from coaching when the last of his Lazars graduated high school.



# OHIO PREMIER HISTORY

1993

## A club exclusively for girls, who were underrepresented in elite soccer

Club was formed in 1993 by Michael T. Radcliffe (local attorney) as he saw a need to provide high level training to girls players in the area. Club was formed with an initial group of 3 girls teams called the Dublin Lazars.

2002

## Nike Premier Club Status

10 years later the club had over 30+ female teams with a director of coaching (Jon Lipsitz) and assistant director (Kevin Dougherty). In 2002 the club signed a long-term partnership with NIKE as one of only 48 clubs nationally that were deemed NIKE PREMIER clubs.

2008

## Ohio Premier merges with Eagles SC to add boys

In 2009 the club formed a merger with the boys and girls club, Eagles Soccer Club based in Upper Arlington; for the next 3 years the club was known as the OP Eagles Soccer Club and now provided soccer for boys and girls ages 8-19.

2009

## Founding member of Elite Clubs National League (ECNL)

The history of the ECNL is a series of milestones achieved through collaboration between youth soccer leaders across the country seeking to create a better environment. Each step forward helped to create a league that serves clubs more completely, and that helps players more fully. The list of milestones will continue as this generation of player, coach, and leader works to make their mark in Raising the Game.



# OHIO PREMIER HISTORY

Today

## **Brian V Fritts “Bridges” Scholarship And Lindsay Agnew “Rise Above” Scholarship Expands**

After a successful trial period in 2018 of providing full funding for three Somali Bantu refugee players (Ali Jeylani, Mohamed Idow, and Abdulahi Abdulahi) the club has now expanded the outreach to include 9 male players and 5 female players for the 2022-2023 season.

2018

## **Third National Championship Courtesy of U19 Boys**

In the inaugural year of the Boys ENCL the 1999 boys (U19) won the clubs 3rd national Championship in June of 2018. The Ohio Premier Boys ECNL U18/U19 team finished an undefeated season as they went 26-0-7 in Boys ECNL and tournament play throughout the year.

2015

## **OP Joins Inaugural Ohio Champions League**

2015 OP was one of three clubs in Columbus to start a new player development focused league for u8,u9,u10 players - carding with US Club Soccer to provide more rostering flexibility. The Ohio Champions League / Central Ohio Premier League has since expanded and grown to include OP's u11-u14 teams.

2013

## **U18 Girls Bring Home Second National Title**

In 2013 the u18 girls reached the pinnacle of success by winning the prestigious ECNL u18 National Championship. What makes this even more impressive is that it was done with a core of players from Columbus that had played together since they began with OP at 8-10 years old.

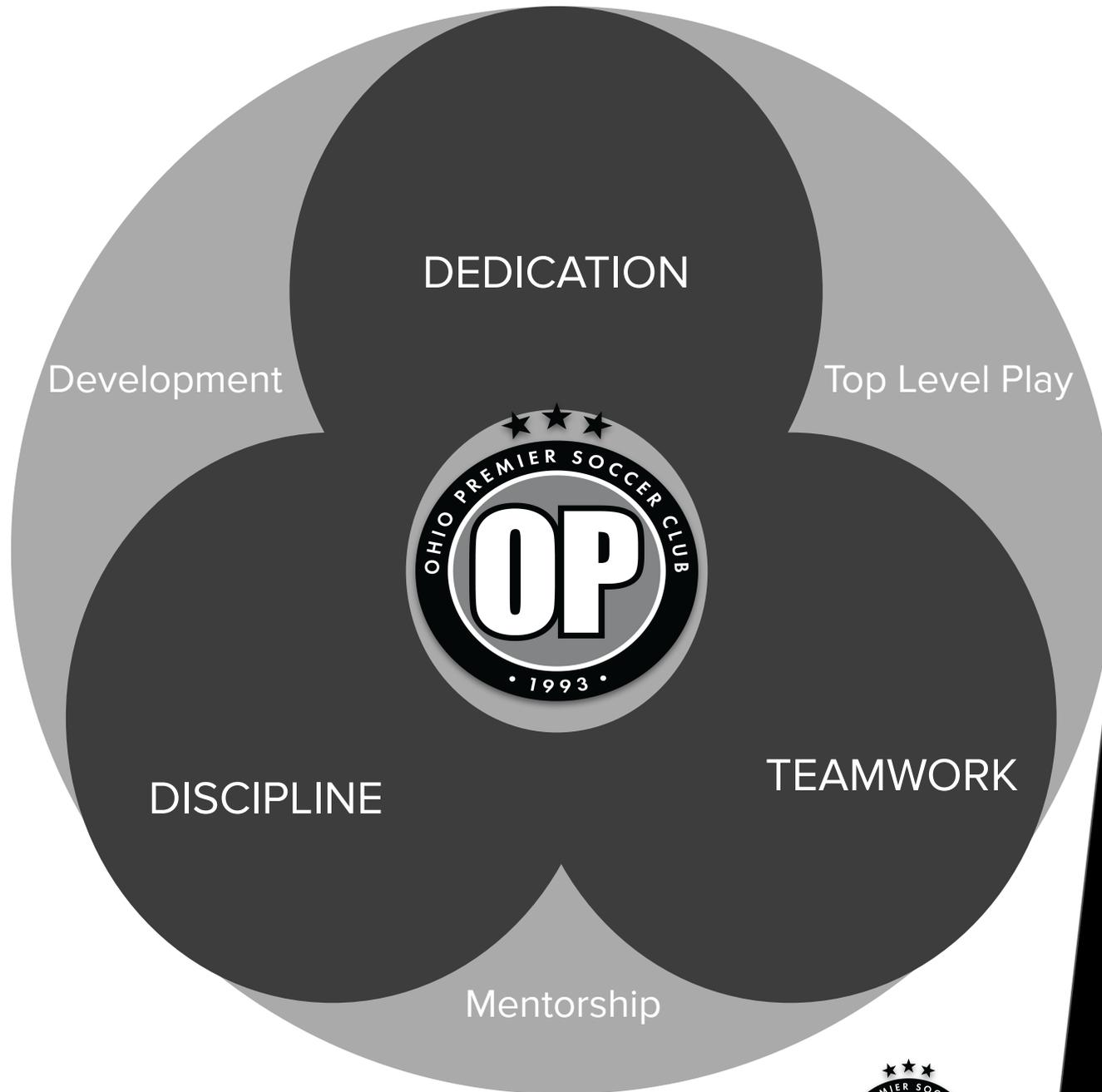


# OHIO PREMIER TEAM STRUCTURING

Different from many traditionally structured soccer clubs, Ohio Premier prides itself on the ability to provide top level soccer environment across each league and play level, focusing on the holistic development of each player to meet their individual goals. OP attempts to break the barriers of 1st team, 2nd team and 3rd team hierarchy; instead focusing on top training, coaching, and play no matter the league an OP member plays on.



# OHIO PREMIER TEAMS



The commonality throughout the club is the goal to aid each player's holistic growth and development.



Programming at Ohio Premier

# SOCCER FOR ALL

<b>JUNIOR</b>	<b>YOUTH</b>	<b>YOUTH</b>	<b>PRE-ECNL</b>	<b>NPL</b>	<b>ECNL</b>	<b>OVPL</b>
						
<b>PLAYERS</b>	<b>ACADEMY</b>	<b>TEAMS</b>	<b>TEAMS</b>	<b>TEAMS</b>	<b>TEAMS</b>	<b>TEAMS</b>





About Us  
**RAISE THE GAME**



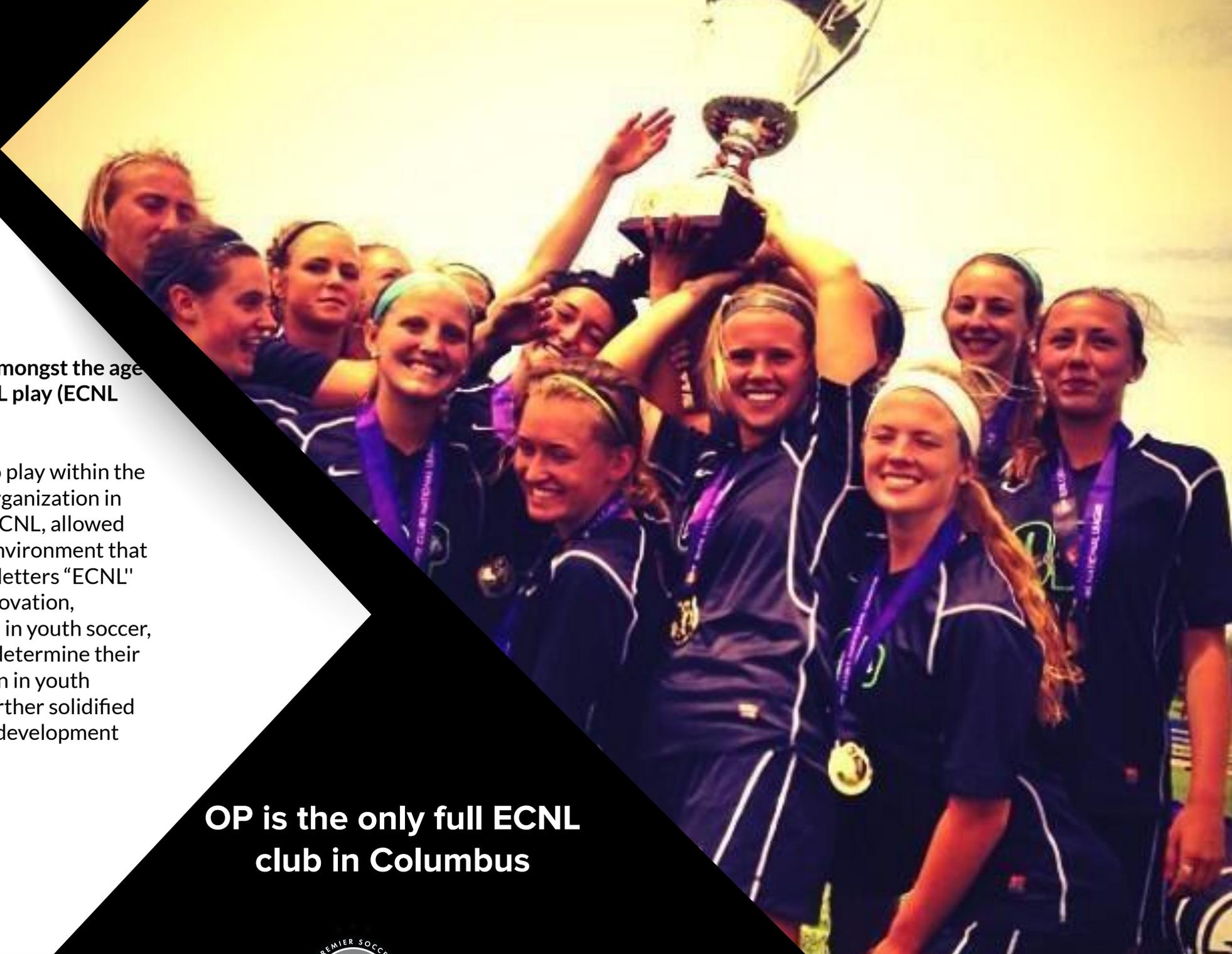
**AGES 11-19**

From inception, the ECNL consistently developed in alignment with the needs of its member clubs, always seeking opportunities to lead and provide more, no matter the challenge or adversity. The four letters “ECNL” have become the embodiment of collaborative innovation, opportunity, respect, development, and excellence in youth soccer, as the once-radical idea of clubs having a voice to determine their future proved to produce results never before seen in youth soccer.

Today, the ECNL represents the epitome of excellence in youth soccer, for boys and girls, as the league and its clubs, players, coaches, and everyone involved seeks to constantly “Raise the Game” for the future.

**In 2009 OP was a founding member of the Elite Clubs National League - a league created to be the “best youth women's league in the world”.**





OP's offerings consist of top level competition; amongst the age groups two of four teams are organized into ECNL play (ECNL and ECNL- RL).

At U13 and above, players have the opportunity to play within the regional or national league. OP joined the ECNL organization in 2009. As a club founded for girls play, joining the ECNL, allowed OP players an opportunity at top level play in an environment that matched with the OP mission and vision. The four letters "ECNL" have become the embodiment of collaborative innovation, opportunity, respect, development, and excellence in youth soccer, as the once-radical idea of clubs having a voice to determine their future proved to produce results never before seen in youth soccer. The ECNL's expansion into male leagues further solidified the organization as fully aligned under one player development platform.

**OP is the only full ECNL club in Columbus**





About Us  
**RAISE THE GAME**



**AGES 11-19**

Each ECNL Boys and Girls Regional League is structured slightly different, reflecting the unique needs and desires of the participating clubs, geography, and more.

ECNL Boys and Girls Regional Leagues are operated and managed so as to ensure a consistent environment and level of professionalism across all leagues, facilitating more club connectivity between levels of play and providing a path for more players within each Member Club to reach their fullest potential. Each league allows for coordination and collaboration between the teams of different levels within ECNL clubs, or opportunity for teams and players in other clubs to develop through regular high-level competition.

The ECNL consists of two youth soccer leagues (male and female), each a non-profit, member-based 501(c)(3) organization, with independent governance and leadership structures. The ECNL Board of Directors and staff govern all programs and platforms. The ECNL is sanctioned by US Club Soccer.





## ECNL REGIONAL LEAGUE EVENT SERIES

ECNL RL Boys - Virginia | Richmond, VA | November 18-20, 2022 | U17-U18/U19 |

ECNL RL Girls - South Carolina | Columbia, SC | December 9-11, 2022 | U15-U18/U19 |

ECNL RL Girls - Missouri | St. Louis, MO | December 9-11, 2022 | U15-U18/U19 |

ECNL RL Girls - Florida | Sanford, FL | January 6-8, 2023 | U16-U18/U19 |

ECNL RL Boys - Florida | Kissimmee, FL | January 20-22, 2023 | U17-U18/U19 | [TEAM LIST](#)

ECNL RL Girls - California | Davis, CA | March 10-12, 2023 | U15-U18/U19 |





**AGES 11-19**

The National Premier Leagues (NPL) is a national competition platform created to elevate and change the competitive youth soccer landscape by:

Extending developmental principles espoused by U.S. Soccer into more age groups and clubs

- Linking competition with player development and identification platforms
- Providing meaningful weekly competition culminating in a national postseason



**NPLS ARE LEAGUES UNIFIED UNDER ONE NATIONAL COMPETITION PLATFORM AND BASED ON A COMMON TECHNICAL FRAMEWORK.**





## AGES 6-15

The Ohio Champions League (OCL), started in 2009, is designed for youth soccer teams above the recreational level between the ages of U-07 and U-19. In the Fall of 2018, the program expanded up to include the Central Ohio Premier League (COPL). The COPL will include the top teams from the top clubs in the Central Ohio area. Nearly all of these teams are professionally-coached teams.

The COPL continues to offer one to three Elite Divisions for upper mid level teams and Premier Divisions for mid level teams. The Ohio Champions League will continue to offer the Blue Division for the upper level teams, the Red Division for mid-level teams and the White Division for lower level teams. In the Spring 2021 season, OPS began offering a full program up through U-19.



**THE OHIO CHAMPIONS LEAGUE (OCL) AND CENTRAL OHIO PREMIER LEAGUE (COPL) PROVIDE OP WITH THE BEST PLAYER DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE IN CENTRAL OHIO. THE ROSTER FLEXIBILITY AND SCHEDULING ALLOW FOR THE CLUB TO PROVIDE AGE APPROPRIATE CHALLENGES FOR EACH AGE GROUP WITH LIMITED TRAVEL.**





About Us  
**RAISE THE GAME**



**U23**

**The GLA\_OVPL is Ohio Valley's (IN, KY, OH, PA, WV) premier U23 adult amateur competition for men's and women's club teams.**

**Player development is a central focus of the League, as the League strives to promote the region at a national level.**

- Grow the game of soccer in the region!**
- Lower costs and limited travel!**
- Keep players playing locally so there is community support!**





**THE OHIO VALLEY PREMIER LEAGUE (OVPL) ALLOWS ALL OP COLLEGE PLAYERS (YOUTH ALUMNI) TO RETURN FROM COLLEGE IN THE SUMMER AND CONTINUE THEIR DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF OP STAFF COACHES AND PLAY HIGH LEVEL GAMES THAT PREPARE THEM FOR THE UPCOMING COLLEGE SEASON.**



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### **Brian V. Fritts "Bridges" Scholarship**

The Brian V. Fritts "Bridges" Scholarship program was created in 2018 after the sudden death of coach Brian Fritts, long-time staff coach. Brian spent 20 years coaching soccer in the Dublin community, touching the lives of many young people and their families. This scholarship program was started by OP in partnership with the Fritts family to preserve his proud legacy in the game of soccer.

Scholarships are awarded to members of underserved and underrepresented communities in central Ohio. OP is proud to continue to expand access to the sport Brian so loved and grow the game as Brian worked to do within the central Ohio soccer community.



In 2018, through a generous donation, from an anonymous donor, OP was able to offer three Somali Bantu refugees access to the club. All three players, Abdulahi Abdulahi (2nd from left), Mohaded Idow (middle), and Ali Jeylani (2nd from right) have all graduated from High School and are now coaching the “next generation” of inner city players.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### Lindsay Agnew “Rise Above” Scholarship

The Lindsay Agnew "Rise Above" Scholarship program was created in 2019 to commemorate the success of Lindsay Agnew after her time as a member of #OPNation. She played soccer for Ohio Premier for 5 years and helped lead the u18 ECNL team to a National Championship in 2013. Lindsay continued her playing career at The Ohio State University and then played professionally in the NWSL, Australian W League, and Swedish Damallsvenkan. She also was named a member of the Canadian Women's National Team and was part of the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup Roster.

Scholarships are awarded to girls' soccer players who need support in their pursuit of their love of soccer. By expanding access to the game we hope to continue to expand the women's game and provide opportunities for more players to reach the highest level of player like Lindsay Agnew.





In 2019, Lindsay Agnew, as a member of the Canadian Women’s National Team, participated in the Women’s World Cup hosted in France. Following the event F.I.F.A, soccer worlds governing body, distributed profits from the event back to the youth clubs that developed the players in the tournament. In consultation with Lindsay the club agreed to use this contribution as seed money for girls soccer scholarships. In 2022, Lindsay hosted a clinic at our facility to help raise more funds – over \$8,000 was raised through sponsorship and donations.

# Rise Above

CAMP & SCHOLARSHIP



The 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup Solidarity Fund, awards payments to clubs across the world as a reward for helping develop players who represented their respective nations on the global stage. Ohio Premier received this award due to Lindsay Agnew's participation in the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup with Team Canada. OP and Lindsay mutually decided to use this money to create a fund allocated to OP families who need assistance paying for club fees and soccer related travel expenses to help reduce the financial barriers of elite soccer. This year will be the first Rise Above Camp and all of the proceeds and donations will directly support the Rise Above Scholarship Fund.



## ALUMNI



- \$50,000** Brian V. Fritts “Bridges” Scholarship
- \$50,000** Lindsay Agnew “Rise Above” Scholarship
- \$50,000** Coaching Education
- \$25,000** College Recruiting Platform
- \$25,000** Video Technology Upgrades
- \$50,000** Soccer specific Strength and Conditioning coach

# PROGRAMS FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

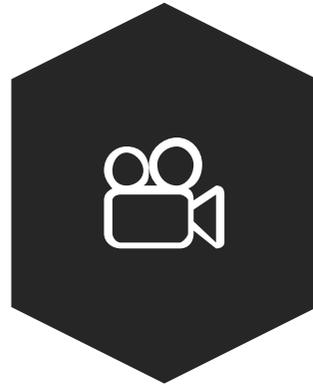


# PROGRAMMATIC OPPORTUNITIES 2023-2026 \$750,000



Brian V. Fritts  
"Bridges"  
Scholarship

**\$150,000**



Video Technology  
Upgrades

**\$75,000**



Lindsay  
Agnew "Rise  
Above"  
Scholarship

**\$150,000**



College Recruiting  
Platform

**\$75,000**



Coaching  
Education\*

**\$150,000**



Soccer specific  
Strength and  
Conditioning  
coach

**\$150,000**



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Chris Baer**  
President

**Jason Pohl**  
Vice President

**Aly Johnston**  
Secretary

**Dr. Obi Monome**  
Medical Director

**Jon Campolo**  
Treasurer

**Kevin Dougherty**  
Girls Director

**Sveti Matejic**  
Boys Director



# PARTNERS + SPONSORS



# CONTACT US

## Phone Number

614-783-2237

## Website



<https://www.opsoccer.com/>

## Email



[president@opsoccer.com](mailto:president@opsoccer.com)



Find Us **On Socials!**

