



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rocky Run YMCA & Philadelphia Union Partner on the Pitch For Local Youth

Media, PA — The Rocky Run YMCA is excited to team up with the Philadelphia Union, one of Major League Soccer's premier teams, to bring recreational play to Media.

Union Rec is a recreational program that provides girls and boys with a fun, affordable, neighborhood soccer experience backed by professional design. Over the course of an eight-week season, players will learn the basics of the game, get open-air exercise, and have a ton of fun — all while playing alongside their friends, right in their own community.

Philadelphia Union Rec consists of 45-minute sessions once a week for eight weeks. The Rocky Run YMCA will offer two weekly sessions on Wednesdays and Saturdays, starting Wednesday, September 10, and Saturday, September 13, respectively.

Registration is now open through the Rocky Run YMCA for \$120 for the full eight-week program. Membership is not required, and financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

"Philadelphia Union Youth is proud to partner with Rocky Run YMCA in bringing Union Rec Soccer to its members. We're honored to be aligned with an organization that shares our commitment to community-driven programming and positive youth development. Together, our goal is to create an environment of inclusive teamwork and connection through the sport of soccer," says Patrick Kelleher, Manager, Youth Programming, Philadelphia Union.

"We are very excited to partner with the Philadelphia Union to bring soccer instruction to more kids," says Shaun Elliott, President and CEO of the Greater Philadelphia YMCA. "Soccer is the great unifier. It has a low cost of entry, which makes it playable anywhere kids have space. It's an excellent way to develop cardiovascular health, coordination, and, most importantly, teamwork. And its global presence brings cultures together like few things can. It is a sport that sits at the very core of our mission to connect people to healthier lives. So we can't wait to see what our two organizations can accomplish together."

About the Greater Philadelphia YMCA

The Y is one of the nation's leading nonprofits, strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Throughout the Delaware Valley, the Greater Philadelphia YMCA serves more than 150,000 individuals each year – regardless of age, income or background – across 15 branches located in Berks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Pike, Burlington and Camden counties. Coupled with dozens of childcare sites, and one overnight camp in the Poconos, the Y has extraordinary reach in connecting people to healthier lives. For more information, please call 215-963- 3700 or visit philaymca.org.

About Philadelphia Union Youth Soccer

Philadelphia Union Youth Soccer offers a comprehensive range of programs designed to introduce, develop, and challenge young players of all ages and ability levels across the region.

At the grassroots level, MLS GO and Union Rec provide recreational players aged 4–12 with the opportunity to enjoy the game in a fun and engaging environment.

Seasonal camps provide additional training opportunities that focus on skill development, creativity, and enjoyment of the game. These programs are open to all players and serve as the foundation for lifelong participation in soccer.

For more advanced players, the Summer Select program provides a competitive environment for travel-level players to continue playing summer soccer while representing the Philadelphia Union in EDP tournaments.

The Player Development Program (PDP) and Union Development Program (UDP) offer players both 1-on-1 and small-group training with an emphasis on technical development to take young athletes' game to the next level.

The flagship program within Union Youth is the Player Pathway Program (PPP), which offers an invitation-only, club-neutral training environment for players typically between U8–U14. This program is designed to accelerate technical, tactical, and physical development while introducing players to the Philadelphia Union's coaching methodology. It provides a structured, progressive training model for those showing high potential and a commitment to their growth in the game.

Together, these programs represent the Union's commitment to growing the game from the ground up, supporting every player's development in a positive, challenging, and professional environment.

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