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Press Release Regarding Ray Heimes Springfield Invitational

The Nebraska State Soccer Association was made aware of issues that occurred during the Ray Heimes Springfield Invitational in Springfield, Nebraska this past weekend. Nebraska State Soccer does not run the tournament, nor is it involved in any of the decisions the tournament makes with regards to rules, players, or teams. Those decisions are made by the tournament director and tournament committee for each event.

Additionally, Nebraska State Soccer would never disqualify a player from participating on a girl's teams based on appearance.

However, it is important to note that the roster submitted to the state by the club identified this player as male, and the competition rules for US Youth Soccer do not allow boys to play on a girls' team.

Nebraska State Soccer promotes the game of soccer to players of all ages, genders, levels, and interest. Furthermore, the NSS Bylaws specifically prohibits conduct that discriminates against any individual on the basis of race, color, ancestry, national origin, religion, age, marital status, sex, and/or sexual orientation.

While we are disappointed that a player was denied the opportunity to play, that decision was made by entities other than the Nebraska State Soccer Association.

Thanks

Casey Mann

Executive Director

Nebraska State Soccer