



# Chicago Empire FC Club Newsletter



## Chicago Empire FC Launches Groundbreaking Affiliate and Club Partner Programs

During a busy few weeks in April, Chicago Empire FC ownership worked tirelessly to bring two new exciting partnerships into the club family. The Chicago Red Stars are Women's Pro Soccer's winningest and oldest franchise, and have been on the forefront of the powerful women in sports movement over the past decade. Empire FC is the first and only youth club that Chicago Red Stars have a signed affiliate agreement with. The partnership will provide CEFC players with special access to and the ability to represent the Red Stars Brand for Years to come!

Puma King Football Club is a new initiative by the Puma brand to bring 19 high level youth clubs together under the same banner, with professional powerhouse clubs (AC Milan and Chivas in 2019) at the top. This program will allow our players and coaches access to club training curriculums, special events, and even potential overseas trips in the near future. To follow along with how these relationships continue to develop in the coming months, be sure to visit their specific club landing pages:

[Chicago Red Stars Affiliate Club](#)

[Puma King Football Club](#)



CHICAGO EMPIRE  
FC 2019-2020  
SEASON TRYOUTS,  
SIGN UP TODAY:  
[CLICK HERE](#)

SECOND ANNUAL  
CLUB NIGHT!  
HINSDALE  
CENTRAL VS.  
DOWNERS GROVE  
NORTH.

TUESDAY 4/23  
4:45PM  
@HINSDALE  
CENTRAL HIGH  
SCHOOL

CHICAGO EMPIRE  
FC SPRING FLING  
FUNDRAISER:  
FRIDAY MAY 10TH

@WHISKEY HILL  
BREWERY...  
PURCHASE  
TICKETS TODAY!



10 MAY 2019 | 6:00 PM



**\$60 PER TICKET**  
**1 FOOD & 2 DRINK TICKETS**  
**INCLUDED**

**CRAFT BEER & WINE • BBQ**  
**MUSIC • SILENT AUCTION**  
**PARTY GAMES**

[WWW.CHICAGOEMPIREFC.COM/CLUB-EVENTS](http://WWW.CHICAGOEMPIREFC.COM/CLUB-EVENTS)

**Come Celebrate all that it means to be an Empire FC family**  
**at our First Ever Spring Fling Club Fundraiser! \*An Adults Only Event**

Proceeds from event to benefit - Club Scholarship Fund, Field Acquisition Fund, Field Equipment, and  
Coaching Education

### **Chicago Empire FC - Coaching Corner**

***This month's coaching corner comes from our friends at the TOVO Academy in Barcelona. Those of you who read our last newsletter know that their philosophy and style of teaching are actively being adopted by our directors and coaches. Coach Todd Beane gives some further insight into the cognitive process below:***

#### **Principle of Play #1: Perception & Conception "Collect data."**

These are the words my assistant coach details to our players as they scramble through a challenging position play exercise on the shores of the Mediterranean. Sounds so simple. And in reality it is. And yet is not yet a habit to these teenagers in our Train Abroad Program. They come from the US, Canada and New Zealand and many have never trained perception in the way we had hoped.

Perception is more than just "checking your shoulder." What should a player look for, where and when? Perception is a process to scan the environment for opportunities and threats. Open space is a highly valuable opportunity. An opponent and the passing lane he closes is a threat to our ability to exploit space. And we want to find that space in which we can receive, pass, shoot or dribble a ball. In other words we must find that space well before we execute a technical skill at all. Perception is the beginning of our cognitive loop at TOVO and we train it in every exercise in every session all season. It is that valuable of a skill.

Conception is to envision options. Wide options, deep options, back options and internal options. If we collect enough data we will envision several options, ultimately to select the best option available in real time. A decision will be made milliseconds later, but we must first collect data and see the options available in real time. We teach players that there is always a solution, always. Their role is to find it. Their role is to exploit the space that the defenders do not cover. There is always space on the pitch to be found.

I doubt any coach would doubt that the best players have better vision. Xavi, Iniesta, and Modric are shining examples of diminutive players with remarkable vision. In fact, they have thrived because of their ability to find gaps and release teammates into opportunity. To be honest, I think Xavi Hernandez of FC Barcelona was the best in the world in this regard.

*"I look for spaces. All day. I am always looking. All day. All day. Here? No. There? No. People who haven't played don't always realize how hard that is. Space, space, space. I see the space and pass. That's what I do."*

– Xavi Hernandez

So, we train it. We train it. And we train it. We train players to look for space based upon the position and pace of the opponents. After collecting that data, they can confidently see solutions. Every exercise in our portfolio requires perception and conception because the game requires perception and conception.

Kind Regards

Beane & the TOVO Team

## CHICAGO EMPIRE FC 2019-20 SEASON TRYOUTS

Birth Year	Age Group	Date	Time	Location	Birth Year	Age Group	Date	Time	Location
2012	U-8 Boys	Monday May 13th	4:30-5:45pm	Puma	2012	U-8 Girls	Monday May 20th	4:30-5:45pm	Puma
2011	U-9 Boys	Monday May 13th	4:30-5:45pm	Puma	2011	U-9 Girls	Monday May 20th	4:30-5:45pm	Puma
2010	U-10 Boys	Monday May 13th	5:45-7:00pm	Puma	2010	U-10 Girls	Monday May 20th	5:45-7:00pm	Puma
2009	U-11 Boys	Tuesday May 14th	5:00-6:30pm	Oak Brook PD	2009	U-11 Girls	Tuesday May 21st	5:00-6:30pm	Oak Brook PD
2008	U-12 Boys	Tuesday May 14th	5:00-6:30pm	Oak Brook PD	2008	U-12 Girls	Tuesday May 21st	5:00-6:30pm	Oak Brook PD
2007	U-13 Boys	Tuesday May 14th	6:30-8:00pm	Oak Brook PD	2007	U-13 Girls	Tuesday May 21st	6:30-8:00pm	Oak Brook PD
2006	U-14 Boys	Tuesday May 14th	6:30-8:00pm	Oak Brook PD	2006	U-14 Girls	Tuesday May 21st	6:30-8:00pm	Oak Brook PD
2012	U-8 Boys	Thursday May 16th	4:30-5:45pm	Oak Brook PD	2012	U-8 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	4:30-5:45pm	Oak Brook PD
2011	U-9 Boys	Thursday May 16th	4:30-5:45pm	Oak Brook PD	2011	U-9 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	4:30-5:45pm	Oak Brook PD
2010	U-10 Boys	Thursday May 16th	4:30-5:45pm	Oak Brook PD	2010	U-10 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	4:30-5:45pm	Oak Brook PD
2009	U-11 Boys	Thursday May 16th	5:45-7:00pm	Oak Brook PD	2009	U-11 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	5:45-7:00pm	Oak Brook PD
2008	U-12 Boys	Thursday May 16th	5:45-7:00pm	Oak Brook PD	2008	U-12 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	5:45-7:00pm	Oak Brook PD
2007	U-13 Boys	Thursday May 16th	7:00-8:15pm	Oak Brook PD	2007	U-13 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	7:00-8:15pm	Oak Brook PD
2006	U-14 Boys	Thursday May 16th	7:00-8:15pm	Oak Brook PD	2006	U-14 Girls	Thursday May 23rd	7:00-8:15pm	Oak Brook PD
Supplemental	ALL-Boys	Wednesday May 22nd	5:45-7:00pm	Puma	Supplemental	ALL-Girls	Wednesday May 29th	5:45-7:00pm	Puma
2005-2001	HS Girls	Monday May 6th	8:00-9:30pm	Hinsdale Central					
2005-2001	HS Girls	Wednesday May 8th	8:00-9:30pm	Hinsdale South					
2005-2001	HS Boys	Monday June 3rd	8:00-9:30pm	Hinsdale South					
2005-2001	HS Boys	Wednesday June 5th	8:00-9:30pm	Hinsdale Central					

**2019-2020  
Tryout  
registration is  
now live!**

**\*ALL current  
Empire FC  
Players MUST  
tryout each  
season.**

**CLICK HERE TO  
REGISTER**



## CHICAGO EMPIRE FC PLAYERS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to our Empire FC Players of the month for April 2019!

**Chicago Red Stars Female POTM** - Siena Ricciardi U15 Gold Girls

**Puma King Male POTM** - Federico Alessi U13 Gold Boys



Siena has continued to lead by example with her U15 Gold Girls team. At the Disney Presidents Day Cup in Florida, she lead her team with 3 goals over the course of the weekend. With a hat trick in week one of the spring season, Siena is continuing her fine form from the winter. A consummate team player, she is always willing to make an extra run, battle for the 50/50 ball, or do anything else it takes to help secure the win!

Federico embodies what it means to be an elite athlete. Over the past few months he has driven his team forward with an unmatched attitude, and excellent technique, resulting in a great goal last weekend. He consistently pushes others to be better by example and works tirelessly on his game at home so he can be at his best for the team, day in and day out!



