



Press Release

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ROCKFORD RAPTORS WOMEN'S U23 TEAM WINS ILLINOIS STATE CUP TITLE

NORTHBROOK, IL – The Rockford Raptors FC (www.rockfordraptors.org) U23 Women's team captured the Illinois State Cup Title on Saturday in Northbrook, IL, also known as the 2021 Women's Open Flo Dyson Cup, named after the long-time Illinois Youth Soccer director.

The victory was earned in penalty kicks (4-2) after a 1-1 draw with Chicago City FC. With the title, the college U23 team now will advance to regional competition in Iowa, July 31st and August 1st.

In the hard-fought match, Chicago City took a 1-0 lead with 20 minutes remaining in the second half. The Raptors countered in the 88th minute with the tying goal by Reegan Kingpavong, sending the match into extra time. As the match moved into the PK session, Raptors goalkeeper Kendal Edwards came up with 2 key stops on two Chicago City kickers. The Raptors converted their 4 kicks (to Chicago City's two) to capture the title and bring the Cup to Rockford.

Reegan Kingpavong and goalkeeper Kendall Edwards were players of the match.

"I'm extremely proud of the girls for the amount of work and effort they put in this summer to be ready for the upcoming season for their college teams," said U23 coach Michael Rizzo. "They left everything on the field, I know that might sound cliché but I watched a group fight and claw their way back into a game going down 1-0 to tie it up. There's a reason these kids are playing at the next level, in some great college programs."

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