

#### **Media Contacts:**

<u>Kate Holcomb</u>, Daytona Beach Area CVB, (386) 255-0415, ext. 125 <u>Allison Ryan</u>, Daytona State College, (386) 506-4588

# **FOR RELEASE**

# **Central Florida Gets Psyched Up for Soccer!**

Daytona State College Hosts National Junior College Athletic Association Men's Soccer Championship, Nov. 12-17, 2018 Ormond Beach Sports Complex Hosts Florida Winter Cup December 1-2, 2018



**DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (October 31, 2018)** – Just one year after opening its new soccer complex, Daytona State College will host a 15-game tournament for the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Men's Soccer Championship November 12-17, 2018. The tournament will bring participants, their families and fans to Daytona Beach for a week of play leading up to the championship game on November 17.

The Daytona State College (DSC) soccer stadium is an hour east of Orlando and spectators can watch four games a day Monday through Wednesday, November 12-14; two semi-final games on Friday, November 16 and the final championship Saturday, November 17. Tournament passes are \$40/person and day passes are \$10/person. Parking is free and there are concessions and merchandise will be on sale. The semi-final games and championship game will be broadcast live on WDSC-15 (DSC's Public Broadcasting Television Station).

"This is exactly the type of national event we were hoping to bring to the community when we began planning our new soccer stadium," said Dr. Thomas LoBasso, president of Daytona State College. "The impact of an event like this will go far beyond our campus and ultimately benefit local retailers, restaurants and hotels. It's a fantastic opportunity for tourism in the Daytona Beach area and a special moment for our institution to step into the spotlight and shine. DSC is a top choice for higher education in our community, and our elite athletic programs enhance the student experience."

The 800-seat soccer stadium is home to the DSC's women's and men's soccer teams, the latter of which is ranked 8<sup>th</sup> by NJCAA and United Soccer Coaches. The stadium also serves as a venue for local soccer clubs, school groups and other community partners. It's a hub for soccer clinics, prep and club sports and movie nights.

#### Florida Winter Cup (December 1-2 and 8-9) Grows from 75 Teams to 130+

The **Florida Winter Cup** soccer tournament returns to Daytona Beach for the second year in a row. The event, which has grown from 75 teams a few short years ago to over 130 teams this year, will be split over two



weekends. The first weekend, December 1-2, will be held at the Ormond Beach Sports Complex where 90 teams aged nine to 19 from multiple states including Virginia, Colorado, Georgia, New Jersey and Florida will compete. The second weekend of the tournament will be in Palm Coast. The tournaments are free to attend. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.floridawintercup.com">www.floridawintercup.com</a>.

#### About the Daytona Beach Area

Discover the new Daytona Beach and its surrounding area, a resurging destination along Florida's East Coast comprising eight distinct communities. Recognized worldwide for its annual events including Bike Week, Biketoberfest\*, the Rolex 24 At DAYTONA and the DAYTONA 500, Daytona Beach's famed heritage also claims the headquarters of LPGA and NASCAR -- and is home to Daytona International Speedway, the 'World Center of Racing.' With more than 12,000 beds, the destination boasts accommodations for all lifestyles and budgets from 4-star resorts, to hotels, B&Bs and everything in between. Ranked #1 in Travel Channel's 2017 "Top 10 Attractions in Florida, and one of TripAdvisor's 2016 "10 Most Affordable Beach Vacations on Florida's East Coast" and "25 Most Popular Summer Vacation Rental Spots in the US." Visitors can enjoy experiences beyond the beach by choosing from a surprising list of outdoor adventures, family-friendly attractions, cultural venues and a colorful culinary scene. With 23 miles of world-famous beaches ideal for swimming and surfing, it is no surprise Daytona Beach was chosen as a Best Florida Attraction and Best Spring Family Beach Break Destination in the Top 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contests sponsored by USA TODAY. To order a complimentary comprehensive Official Visitors Guide or book a stay, visit DaytonaBeach.com. For real-time updates, visit Facebook.com/DaytonaBeach or Twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun.

#### About Daytona State College

Offering more than 100 certificate, associate and bachelor's degree programs, Daytona State College has responded to the education and workforce training needs of Volusia and Flagler counties and beyond for more than 60 years. The college enrolls nearly 28,000 students a year at its seven instructional sites, with graduates serving in critical fields including health care, emergency services, business, education, hospitality, engineering, technology and more. Daytona State has been recognized as a leader in higher education numerous times, consistently by U.S. News & World Report, which ranks the college among the Top Tier Best Online Bachelor's Programs in the nation for six years running. The U.S. Department of Education's College Affordability and Transparency Center has ranked DSC among the top 50 most affordable public four-year institutions in the country, with less than half the tuition of the national average. Community College Week, a leading publication in higher education, annually continues to feature the college in its list of Top 100 Associate Degree Producers. And for three years in a row, U.S. News & World Report has ranked DSC among its Top Online Bachelor's Programs for Veterans. Daytona State currently boasts 180 student-athletes in 10 varsity sports including men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, women's golf, fast-pitch softball, baseball and volleyball. DSC offers an all-around sports complex, including the L. Gale Lemerand Health, Wellness and Community Education Center, an indoor pool, three top-notch playing fields and a field house. For more information about the athletics programs visit DSCFalcons.com.

## About the National Junior College Athletic Association

Since 1938, the NJCAA has served as the nation's premier governing body for two-year collegiate athletics, providing athletic and academic opportunities for college students across the globe. The NJCAA is the second-largest national intercollegiate athletic organization in the United States with over 500 member schools in 42 states. Each year, nearly 60,000 student-athletes compete in one of 28 different sports as the organization



sponsors 48 national championship events and eight football bowl games. NJCAA Headquarters has been located in Colorado Springs, Colo., since 1985. For more information please visit <u>njcaa.org</u> or follow on Twitter at @NJCAA.

## **About Florida Winter Cup**

Established in 2015, the Florida Winter Cup has grown to over 125 teams in just three short years with a goal to provide great customer service, good fields, appropriate competition in a fun tournament atmosphere. The tournament attracts teams from Florida, Georgia, Illinois, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and from the Bahamas and Virgin Islands. In 2018, the tournament will occur over two weekends: the first weekend will be in Ormond Beach, Florida, December 1-2, and the second in Palm Coast, Florida, December 7-9. For more information, please visit http://www.floridawintercup.com/.

###