



PRESS RELEASE

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Top Teams Ready for Florida-USA HS Soccer Challenge *Prime Matchups Set for Tournament*

[PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla.] December 30, 2022 – Arnold High School and Publix Sports Park (PCB) will host the fourth annual Florida-USA High School Soccer Challenge in Panama City Beach, FL, January 5-7, 2023.

The tournament features eight highly ranked high school soccer teams. This event is a three-day tournament at Publix Sports Park. Four of the eight teams are ranked in the top 20 in their respective states (Arnold HS (#5 FL), Niceville HS (#15 FL), Ocean Springs HS (#8 MS), and Biloxi HS (#16 MS)).

"We are thrilled to partner with Arnold High School to host this tournament and these excellent teams," said Mike Higgins, General Manager of Publix Sports Park. #5 Arnold HS will face off against #8 Ocean Springs Thursday, January 5th at 5:00pm. This is a highly anticipated matchup as these two talented teams go head-to-head in their pursuit of the championship title.

The Arnold Marlins who host this event are currently undefeated and ranked 11th in the nation. They are hoping to make a third consecutive trip to the state championship this season. Most of these players are currently playing with Florida Roots Futbol Club here in Panama City Beach. Come out and support these local soccer players at Publix Sports Park January 5-7. "We're excited to host the fourth annual Florida-USA Soccer Challenge at the Publix Sports Park. This tournament has grown each and every year, and we are excited to welcome teams from Mississippi this year. We are looking forward to another great event," said Arnold High School Head Coach, Jonathan Hammond.

The eight participating teams in the Florida-USA High School Soccer Challenge are Arnold High School (FL), Biloxi High School (MS), Florida High School (FL), Leon High School (FL), Niceville High School (FL), Ocean Springs High School (MS), South Walton High School (FL), and Wakulla High School (FL).

<u>Thursday – January 5</u>	<u>Friday Morning – January 6</u>	<u>Friday Afternoon – January 6</u>	<u>Saturday – January 7</u>
Kickoff 5:00 Field #1 1) Arnold 2) Ocean Springs	Kickoff 9:00 Field #1 1) Biloxi 2) Arnold	Kickoff 3:00 Field #1 1) Ocean Springs 2) South Walton	Championship Game Kickoff 11:00 Field #1 Winner A vs Winner B
Kickoff 5:00 Field #2 3) South Walton 4) Wakulla	Kickoff 9:00 Field #2 3) Florida High 4) Ocean Springs	Kickoff 3:00 Field #2 3) Biloxi 4) Florida High	
Kickoff 7:00 Field #1 1) Leon 2) Biloxi	Kickoff 11:00 Field #1 1) Wakulla 2) Niceville	Kickoff 5:00 Field #1 1) Arnold 2) Wakulla	
Kickoff 7:00 Field #2 3) Niceville 4) Florida High	Kickoff 11:00 Field #2 3) Leon 4) South Walton	Kickoff 5:00 Field #2 3) Leon 4) Niceville	

About Publix Sports Park

The Publix Sports Complex is the premier destination for travel sports tourism in the Florida panhandle. The facility features 13 rectangular fields including 9 with artificial surfaces and two championship fields with seating for up to 1,500 spectators. The flexible design allows for soccer, lacrosse, rugby, football, and flag football, as well as baseball and softball to be played. The Publix Sports Complex is a member of the [SF Network](#), the Nation's largest and fastest growing network of sports facilities and is operated by the industry-leader in outsourced operations, [The Sports Facilities Companies](#) (SFC). For more information, visit: www.playpanamacitybeach.com.

About Visit Panama City Beach

Visit Panama City Beach is the official destination marketing organization for Panama City Beach, Florida. The award-winning organization has earned industry accreditation (DMAP) from Destinations International, the world's leading authority in destination marketing, and exists to drive economic opportunity, job creation, community sustainability and quality of life for its residents through marketing, promotion, and stewardship of the destination's REAL.FUN.BEACH. brand and attributes, tourism development, special event production, and managing beach re-nourishment and maintenance programs.

About Sports Facilities Companies

The Sports Facilities Companies (SFC) are the nation's leading resources for managing and developing sports, recreation, wellness, and events facilities. As a turn-key solution for community leaders and developers alike, SFC services span the gamut of sports and recreation needs from sports tourism & recreation master planning, program planning, and feasibility through professional facility management services. Our 30+ managed venues and 1500+ team members, represented by the SF Network, welcome more than 25 million guest visits and produce over \$250 million in economic impact each year. To learn more, please visit SportsFacilities.com and theSFNetwork.com.