



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Wednesday, May 27, 2020

**KC Athletics and SDB Academy Announce Merger**

*The unified club will operate as KC Athletics.*

**Overland Park, Kan.** – KC Athletics and SDB Academy announce that the two Kansas City youth soccer clubs have signed an agreement to merge, effective immediately. The merger is a product of the collaboration and mutual respect the clubs have shared for many years. Both clubs stress that the merger is designed to provide even more developmental opportunities for their members. Uniting two of the leading clubs in the Kansas City metro area creates multiple new avenues for youth players on both sides of the Kansas/Missouri State Line.

KC Athletics is the only Kansas City youth club to have female teams playing at both the National and Regional levels of the prestigious Elite Clubs National League (ECNL). We believe that this merger will specifically provide similar opportunities for the boys' teams within the two clubs.

"We are very proud of our club's developments over the past two years," said KC Athletics Executive Director, Huw Williams. "I think we have developed a nationally recognized brand on the girls' side with our ECNL presence. We believe this merger will now allow us to provide the same opportunities for our boys."

Both clubs are operated by like-minded leaders who share similar missions and core values, and the merger now combines the resources of both entities to create an environment which caters to the needs of players of all abilities.

"We're excited to bring together two of Kansas City's premier soccer clubs," said SDB Academy Managing Director, Anne Post. "SDB has spent four years developing a unique culture that we believe will transition well into KC Athletics, and it's the right time to advance the development opportunities available to our boys."

Both clubs will conduct unified tryouts beginning June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020. Full tryout details can be found [here](#).

***The following is an outline of the general merger details:***

- The merged club will operate as KC Athletics.
- The club will offer all levels of competition.
- Huw Williams will continue as the club's Executive Director.
- Goran Karadzov will assume the role of Girls' Director of Coaching & ECNL Director.
- Goran Hunjak will assume the role of Boys' Director of Coaching.
- Keith Nelson will assume the role of Director of Juniors' Kansas.
- Brad Childers will assume the role of Director of Juniors' Missouri.
- Anne Post will assume a Board position.
- All SDB Coaches will join the existing coaching [staff](#).
- SDB teams will fit into the tiered KC Athletics system.

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**About KC Athletics**

KC Athletics Soccer Club is a child-centered organization that focuses on developing each individual player by providing expert coaching, administrative support and role modeling to foster a well-rounded athlete who thrives on and off the soccer field. Visit us at [www.AthleticsKC.com](http://www.AthleticsKC.com)