

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Elissa Breitenstein

Company: Rocky Top Sports World

Email: marketing@rockytopsportsworld.com

Phone: 865.325.0867

High School Cup Signs With Rocky Top Sports World Through 2025

(GATLINBURG, Tenn.) August 31, 2022 – A series of prestigious soccer tournaments, the High School Cup is composed of the Smoky Mountain Cup, the Southern Coast Cup, and the Thoroughbred Cup. Each tournament draws high school soccer teams from across the region and gives teams a chance to face competition that they would not normally play. Rocky Top Sports World has hosted The Smoky Mountain Cup since 2014 when the soccer tournament established.

"We saw the need for a high school soccer tournament in Sevier County and when Rocky Top Sports World opened this beautiful facility in our backyard, it was a perfect match," said Van Harper, Co-Founder of the High School Cup. "It has been a great relationship and we are happy to continue it."

Rocky Top Sports World currently hosts two weekends of boys' tournaments in the spring and two weekends of girls' tournaments in the fall. This year, a third girls' tournament was added and will take place next weekend; a sign of continued growth for the Smoky Mountain Cup.

"Our goal for every tournament is to have competitive games and offer a great tournament experience for everyone," Harper said. "Our first year, Smoky Mountain Cup was a small, 10-team event. This year, we're going to host over 300 high school soccer teams from across the country."

Rocky Top Sports World is also happy to continue hosting the Smoky Mountain Cup.

"This has been a very successful partnership for all parties involved," said Jim Downs, General Manager of Rocky Top Sports World. "The Smoky Mountain Cup brings an economic impact of more than \$7 million to the City of Gatlinburg and Sevier County. We love hosting this event



and are looking forward to continuing the partnership for many more years."

The Smoky Mountain Cup action continues at Rocky Top Sports World September 9-11 with the third weekend of the girls' competition. For more information, visit https://www.highschoolcup.com/smokymountaincup.

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About Rocky Top Sports World: <u>Rocky Top Sports World</u> is an 80-acre sports complex located in the heart of the Great Smoky Mountains offering seven outdoor fields and an 86,000-square-foot indoor venue equipped with six basketball courts. Rocky Top Sports World is part of the <u>SFNetwork</u> and managed by <u>Sports Facilities Companies</u>. For more information on our facility, visit rockytopsportsworld.com or call 865.325.0044.