

# Crossfire Premier Newsletter

February 2021



Happy New Year! It's been 11 months, but we're finally back playing games! We have lots of individual achievements in this review plus an interview with a XF alum who just got drafted to the MLS!

## Games Are Back!

### Return to Play

Around 350 days ago games were halted due to Covid-19, but after the Puget Sound region moved to Phase 2 in Washington's Roadmap to Recovery, soccer games were given the green light to restart! We are so excited and relieved to be back playing the game we love. Good luck to everyone this season!



### Game Day Policy

Please check in with your Team Manager to make sure you're following the rules and regulations. Be aware that different regions and fields have varying guidelines. We have waited so long for this, so let's keep it safe by following the rules!

## New XF Futures Program



With an eye turned towards the identification and development of future Crossfire Premier players, the club has completely redesigned and revamped its free program for Under-7 and Under-8 boys and girls.

The new program, XF Futures, will bring an exciting and challenging blend of introductory skills training with weekly small-sided games, playing everything from 1v1 to 4v4 in each training session to ensure players have ample opportunity to explore a range of skills.

Check out more details about our new XF Futures Program [here](#).

## XF Donates

XF Foundation has recently had the opportunity to donate thousands of dollars of brand-new soccer equipment, including shoes, soccer balls, shin guards and more, to the King County Play Equity Coalition.

The coalition aims to increase rates of king county youth

meeting the CDC's physical activity guidelines, so all youth have access to social, emotional, academic, and physical benefits of movement through sports, ply, and outdoor recreation. You can find them online at <https://kcplayequity.org>.



## Individual Achievements

### Three U-17 USA Call Ups

Three G05 ECNL players—Elizabet Velkova, Samantha Weiss and Sophie Zhang—were selected for U.S. Soccer's U-17 Women's National Team Virtual Camp. The camp consists of a series of calls taking place between now and the end of March in preparation for the new U-17 World Cup cycle.



### Dotson Selected Again



Former Crossfire Academy standout and current midfielder for Minnesota United, Hassani Dotson has again been called up to the U.S. Under-23 Men's National Team by head coach Jason Kreis. The U.S. U-23s will head to Bradenton, FL, this month and train alongside the senior USMNT through January 24, at which point several players will be added to the USMNT roster for a match at the end of the month.

### Bartlow & Turnbow Drafted

Ethan Bartlow was drafted #6 overall by the Houston Dynamo. Earlier in the week, Bartlow had signed a Generation Adidas contract, which are awarded to the most outstanding underclassmen in college soccer each year.

Bartlow is just the fifth player in Washington youth soccer history to earn a Generation Adidas contract and is the fourth Crossfire Premier player to be drafted in the past three years.



Kelsey Turnbow was selected 18th overall in draft by the Chicago Red Stars. Turnbow scored 35 goals and notched 22 assists in 67 appearances at Santa Clara.

Turnbow has also been part of the U14, U15, U17, U18, U19, and U20 US Women's National Teams

## XF Alum Q&A



**Name:** Ethan Bartlow

**XF Graduation Year:** 2018

**Years at XF:** 4

**Position:** Center back

**Favorite Team:** Barcelona

**Favorite Player:** Messi

**Greatest XF Memory:** Playing a tournament in Holland during my senior year

**Best part about XF:** Being a part of the family and sharing a bond with my teammates

**Future plans:** Build a successful career in Houston and hopefully win an MLS Cup and get called up to the national team

**Number one advice to young XF players:** Work hard every day on the field and in school to give yourself the greatest chance to be your best self as a player and person

## Upcoming XF Events

### Tournaments

It's never too early to get excited for our summer tournaments! Get prepared by marking your calendar for next year's games at the amazing 60 Acres soccer complex: **Proliance Summer Kickoff**,

**Crossfire Challenge, Magic Toyota Cup and XF Labor Day Cup.**

### **Camps**

Check out our website for upcoming camps such as: **Spring Break** and **Summer Day Camps**, and **Residential Camp**! Crossfire will continue to provide safe and fun soccer environments for all!

### **Tryouts**

The tryout dates for **boys** and **girls** have been scheduled. We recommend you save the date and attend both days!

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*Keep up to date with Crossfire news as it happens on our Instagram page [@crossfire.premier](#) or Twitter [@crossfireprmr](#).*

*Did we miss something? Which XF alum would you like to hear from next?*

*Email [michael.teiman@crossfiresoccer.org](mailto:michael.teiman@crossfiresoccer.org) with XF news!*

**GO CROSSFIRE!**