



# ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

*The Governing Body of Soccer in Alberta*

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## **U12 Boys Generation Adidas Cup Atlanta, Georgia November 29 – December 1, 2019**

### **Day 1**

The Whitecaps Academy Centre team composing of 9 players from the Alberta Whitecaps Academy Centre network and 1 player from the Saskatchewan Academy Centre network arrived in Georgia, Atlanta to compete at the U12 MLS Generation Adidas Cup competition. The team were placed in the MLS Affiliate division in a group consisting of Minnesota United, Houston Dynamo and DC United.

The boys opened up their tournament with games against Minnesota United and Houston Dynamo. Both teams proved to be excellent opposition for the boys but they held their own and scored a couple of goals through Osagie Aihobaku and Milan Patik. Osagie scored an excellent individual goal while Milan Patik finished off a clever team move. The games were played at a tempo and intensity that challenged the boys in all pillars of the game.

### **Day 2**

The boys had an early start for the first of three games. They played against DC United and got their reward for some excellent work out of possession through a goal from Dominic Joseph. DC United came back though in the second half and deservedly scored a couple of goals. Whitecaps then played against Boise Timbers in the play offs and despite not playing particularly well in this game, the boys managed to grind out a win on penalty kicks after a tie. Osagie scoring another skillful goal in this game.

The team then saved their best performance for the semi-final against New York Red Bulls. Matching their skillful opponents, the game swung to and fro with chances at either end. The boys impressed with their individual technical ability in possession and the growing team chemistry was evident with some clever combination play. John Paul Okafor scored with a calm finish into the bottom corner with minutes remaining in the game.

### **Day 3**

The boys went into the Shield Final against fellow Canadian MLS Club Toronto FC and playing their strongest opponents of the tournament. Fatigued from their previous games, the boys found it tough going and Toronto deservedly came away with the win.

Alberta Head Coach Ewan Fisher had this to say about the performances, "This was an extremely rewarding and positive experience for the players against high quality opposition. The entire coaching staff are proud of their efforts and engagement throughout



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the weekend. I know they will be feeling happy with themselves and this type of event will only inspire them to keep improving and enjoy playing the sport. We are excited what the future will bring for this group."

**\*END\***

Alberta Players in Attendance:

<b>Player</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Club team</b>
Beckham Loyer-Beswick	Midfielder	SD Serbia
Dominic Joseph	Midfielder	Calgary Foothills
Simon Donovan	Forward	Calgary Foothills
John Paul Okafor	Forward	Calgary Foothills
Tony Fisher	Forward	SD Serbia
Goddey Aihobaku	Midfielder	Calgary South West United
Anderson Nuell	Defender	Calgary Rangers
Milan Patik	Midfielder	Calgary Foothills
Soyuz Vargas Torres	Defender	Calgary Foothills