

Lawton takes part in USCS National Cup

Press Release

Four days after turning the tender age of 15, Draffenville resident and three-year veteran of the Futskilz Elite Academy, Maile Lawton has achieved the highly-coveted title of national champion.

Lawton, competing with the Chicago Magic Soccer Club's U15 girls team, helped her squad advance through the U.S. Club Soccer National Cup tournament, held this

year in Virginia Beach. The annual tournament matches the highest ranked club soccer teams from around the country and serves as a premier college showcase for players between ages 12 and 17.

Lawton has taken a very deliberate path to achieve this success. At age 11, she began training with professional soccer trainer Heidi Mueller, director of Futskilz Soccer. Mueller selected a then-timid Lawton to

join her Elite Academy where she began to blossom. Membership to Mueller's Elite Academy is by invitation only and is attended by many of the region's top players. Lawton, and all Elite participants, train with Mueller year round and

gain valuable access to her international network of coaches, trainers and directors.

After her first year of Elite training, Lawton and Mueller began to select opportunities for

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Lawton earns USCS title from C3

her to compete at increasingly tougher levels of the sport. Lawton first earned a guest playing opportunity with the Cleveland Futbol Club, a perennial national powerhouse for whom Mueller previously trained. Lawton continued her success by earning a spot on the state Olympic Development Team. During this same time period, Lawton also played for the Marshall County High School junior varsity team in her 7th and 8th grade years.

This summer, Mueller presented Lawton with her toughest challenge to date: an invitation to try out for the Chicago Magic Soccer Club, a top five club in the nation. Lawton's performance earned her a full-time roster position and the opportunity to play for a national championship. On Aug. 3, Lawton and the Magic defeated Freestate Fury, from Maryland, 2-1 in overtime to capture the national title.

"This is a tremendous achievement for Maile and her teammates," Mueller said. "I am so proud of the incredible

amount of hard work that she has invested to reach this level of play and am thrilled that she has had the opportunity to compete in an event of this magnitude. The title of national champion is one that she will carry with her forever: Maile Lawton, national champion!"

More information about the Futskilz Soccer Elite Academy, and all other Futskilz programs, can be found at www.futskilz.com.



Lawton