



Kanawha County Commission  
**Media Release**  
**For Immediate Release**

Date: May 3rd, 2019  
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**Shawnee Sports Complex to Co-Host the 2020 U.S. Youth Soccer  
Eastern Regional Championship**

*This 300 team youth tournament will generate an estimated \$20 million dollar economic impact to the Kanawha Valley*

The Kanawha County Commission is happy to announce that the 2020 U.S. Youth Soccer Eastern Regional Championship has been awarded to the Shawnee Sports Complex and the Barboursville Soccer Complex! The Eastern Regional Championship, a part of the U.S. Youth Soccer National Championship Series, will feature Boys and Girls teams in the 12U through 19U age groups. With this announcement, the Shawnee Sports Complex and the Barboursville Soccer Complex are teaming up to host FOUR U.S. Youth Soccer tournaments in 2019 and 2020!

“The 2019 and 2020 Eastern President’s Cup, and the 2019 and 2020 Eastern Regional Championships, will bring thousands of youth athletes, coaches and families to our area. Moreover, these tournaments will provide a combined \$56 million-dollar economic impact for the Kanawha Valley. The Shawnee Sports Complex was designed as a premier facility that would attract the very best events in youth sports, and I want to sincerely thank U.S. Youth Soccer for selecting it to host the four regional events,” stated Commissioner Ben Salango.

U.S. Senator Joe Manchin remarked, “I am proud that our very own Kanawha Valley will be hosting both the U.S. Youth Soccer’s Eastern Regional President’s Cup and Eastern Regional Championship tournaments, not just this year but in 2020 as well. I have always been a huge supporter of bringing sporting events like this to West Virginia because it brings so much joy to young athletes and their families and allows so many

people from all over to see the beauty of our state,” said Senator Manchin. These four tournaments will bring over 300 teams and tens of millions of dollars to the Kanawha Valley’s economy over the next two years. I will continue to advocate to bring opportunities like this to our state and applaud U.S Youth Soccer on their decision to bring these tournaments to West Virginia. I also thank the Kanawha County Commission, who continually finds ways to build our economy, and who directly made this happen.”

Commissioner Salango added, “I also want to recognize U.S. Senator Joe Manchin who has repeatedly supported our efforts to attract large tournaments to the Shawnee Sports Complex. These tournaments would not be happening in Kanawha and Cabell County but for his leadership.”

Commission President Kent Carper noted, “In less than a year the Shawnee Sports Complex has exceeded everyone’s expectations, it is a remarkable facility and truly a resounding success. What a great addition to our County!

Commissioner Hoppy Shores stated, “I am so very happy that thousands of kids will be playing ball on the new turf at Shawnee!”

The 2019 and 2020 U.S. Youth Soccer Eastern President’s Cup, and the 2019 and now 2020 U.S. Youth Soccer Eastern Regional Championships, are set to make a huge economic impact on Kanawha County and the State. Each tournament takes place over a span of five days.

The U.S. Youth Soccer Eastern Regional Championships alone will have an economic impact of approximately \$20 million each, officials estimate, as the families that travel with teams stay, dine, and shop in the Kanawha Valley. Each iteration of the President’s Cup will feature 125 teams with an estimated economic impact of \$8 million. Overall, these four tournaments will result in a \$56 million-dollar boost to the local economy!

The first round of the Tournaments will begin with President’s Cup from June 14th to June 18th, 2019. Then the first Regional Championship event will follow beginning on June 28th and lasting through July 4th, 2019. So far, this year’s 2019 Regional Championship has 296 teams registered, more than the originally expected 250 teams.

For more information please visit [www.shawneesports.com](http://www.shawneesports.com)!

