

Sunday, November 25th

US Youth Soccer wanted to make sure that our players get more than just soccer as part of this trip, so we were treated to free tickets to a Disney theme park here in Orlando. Since we wanted to give the players a reasonable time at the parks the games were scheduled in the morning. This required an early wake up call and once again we were off and running to the beautiful Disney Wide World of Sports Complex.

The 1993's had the earliest game and proved to have the hardest time getting started. They trailed Region I at halftime by the score of 1-0. The second half provided more chances for our team and with constant pressure on their goal James Rogers was able to slide one in late in the game to allow us to salvage a draw. There were many positives but it was clearly not the type of effort that we normally see from our players. The three hour time difference from the West Coast often proves to be hardest on the players in the earlier games.

In a hard fought battle the Region IV 1992 boys beat Region I 1-0 on a goal by Zach Foxhoven (Colorado) in the 68th minute. Once again the boys were very impressive as they enjoyed the better of possession and showed a lot of character by continuing to battle to the final whistle. Region I were not without their chances. Region IV's defense held strong and when Region I were able to get in behind they were confronted by Spencer Richey (Washington) who came up with some brilliant saves! With a game in hand the boys had secured first place and enjoyed a trip to Disney World. A great time was had by all - it was a fantastic way to end an exceptional day!

The 1994's had the latest game in the morning and also took on Region I. The team has improved steadily each day as the boys get more comfortable with each other. Solid play led to a 1-0 halftime lead and our overall depth and strength finally wore them down and the final score was 4-1 in our favor. Goals were scored by Jesus Rochin, Alejandro Guido, Ruben Duran, and Sebastian Velasquez.

With second day results again at 2 wins and 1 tie we stand a chance to walk away with all three age group championships. With players, coaches, and staff all pleased with not only the conduct of the players on the field but also their overall conduct off the field, we were happy to head to the MGM Disney theme park. This park stayed open later than the others and offered more diverse types of rides and attractions that were perfect for all of our players as well as the staff. Everyone had a great time at the park and returned to the hotel to be treated to pizza by the Region IV ODP Administrator. So everyone is off to bed so we can be ready for the games and for all of the travel we will take on tomorrow. The boys have had a great time but are looking forward to getting home.