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The Lamorinda Soccer Club was chosen as a Development Academy. Photo provided

U.S. Soccer chose the Lamorinda Soccer Club as one of the first 25 Girls Development Academies in the nation.

Lamorinda is one of only three clubs in Northern California to achieve this elite status. In selecting the small Lamorinda club for this honor, U.S. Soccer looked at the quality and license levels of the coaching staff, the number of players the club sent to high level college teams, the U.S. Women's National Teams and professional leagues, as well as other factors.

The program will focus on positively impacting everyday club environments to maximize elite female youth player development. Increasing the training to game ratio, playing fewer but more meaningful games and providing assistance for coaching education and development are just some of the standards and best practices the program will promote.

Since 2007, the U.S. Soccer Development Academy has served as the elite male youth player development model for the country and has significantly improved the everyday environment for players, coaches, referees and clubs. The Girls' Development Academy will be structured with many of the same principles and will begin play in the fall of 2017.

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