

FAQ

Who is MNUFC (Minnesota United FC)?

Minnesota United FC is a professional soccer club based in the Twin Cities, and plays in the Western Conference of Major League Soccer. MNUFC began play in MLS in 2017 as the league's 22nd team. Drawing on a legacy of professional soccer stretching back to the founding of the Minnesota Kicks in 1976, MNUFC seeks to tie together the threads of soccer's history in Minnesota and throughout the region at every level. For more information on MNUFC, please visit <https://www.mnufc.com/club/history>.

What is an MNUFC "Alliance Member" and what opportunities does this offer DASC?

As an Alliance Member, DASC will be provided with opportunities to further expand their initiatives for player and coach development. These initiatives include age-appropriate coaching clinics, in-service training for staff and talent development days for players. Additionally, DASC players are eligible for selection to train and play with an MNUFC Development Academy team.

Why was DASC chosen to be an "Alliance Member"?

DASC is the first Alliance Club member to partner with MNUFC. The MNUFC Academy and DASC share a similar philosophy on player and coach development. Additionally, DASC's strong leadership and club culture provided a natural fit for a partnership with MNUFC.

Will it require DASC to change its name?

No. Dakota Alliance Soccer Club will not change its name. The partnership level into which we are entering allows Dakota Alliance to continue to operate independently without changing our name, leadership structure or operating procedures.

What does this mean for uniforms and spirit wear?

Every DASC competitive jersey will now feature a Minnesota United logo on the sleeve. The uniform will not change. DASC staff will oversee the application process for the MNUFC logo. A new line of spirit wear will be available to DASC players, coaches, staff and families that will include the MNUFC logo. Not all DASC spirit-wear will be required to have the MNUFC logo.

Will player fees increase?

Many factors go into the determination of player fees. These include cost of staff, facilities and equipment. However, becoming an MNUFC Alliance Member will not in and of itself cause an increase in player fees.

Is this for Recreational or Competitive programs?

This partnership will include opportunities for players and coaches on both the recreational and competitive sides of DASC.

LEADERSHIP REACTIONS

Frank Gurnick (DASC Director of Coaching) – “We are thrilled with this opportunity to partner with MNUFC! This partnership validates the Mission and Vision of the Dakota Alliance Soccer Club whereby we will provide opportunities for us to be regionally and nationally recognized for our efforts to provide programming and pathways for our members and coaches to reach their fullest potential. This decision by the leadership team of DASC is one that we can all be proud of.”

Ben Gaddis (DASC Competitive Director) – “We are both excited and honored to be named the first affiliate club of Minnesota United FC. We are proud of the fact that Dakota Alliance Soccer Club is being recognized for our commitment to the long-term development of our players. We believe our partnership with Minnesota United FC is an important step towards making Dakota Alliance Soccer Club the premier destination for both players and coaches in our geographic region.”

Matt Dobson (DASC Board President) – “We’re honored to join into this relationship with MNUFC during their inaugural year with the MLS. The alliance expands our ability to serve our communities with new avenues for player and coach development as well as exciting opportunities to share in joint activities to fuel the love of the game.”

Rex Roling (President – SDSSA)

“The South Dakota State Soccer Association (SDSSA) is excited at the announcement of Dakota Alliance Soccer Club's (DASC) partnership with MLS team Minnesota United. This partnership will bring additional opportunities for increased levels of coaching, playing and operations to Dakota Alliance and the South Dakota soccer community. We wish both DASC and Minnesota United success in this partnership.”