



**Indy Premier - Michiana Echo Joint Announcement  
May 28, 2019**

Indy Premier and Michiana Echo are pleased to announce the formation of a formal strategic alliance between the two clubs effective immediately. Indy Premier and Echo share similar cultures grounded in a player development focus within a positive and family-friendly environment. The common cultures among the clubs provide a great foundation for mutual cooperation organizationally that will result in an enhanced experience for all players as well as playing and training opportunities for players with both clubs.

Under the alliance, Indy Premier and Echo will work closely together, sharing a joint player pool for U15 and up, coaching curriculum, programming, best practices, facilities, and other resources. In the Fall of 2020, Echo will incorporate the Premier name into its brand and uniforms, reflecting the important mutual commitment of the clubs.

All players will attend tryouts with their respective home clubs. For tryout information, visit the Join Indy Premier or Join Echo pages of the clubs' respective websites. For more information about the alliance, please visit [michianaecho.com/alliance](http://michianaecho.com/alliance). Indy Premier and Echo are excited about the opportunities that will be created by this alliance and look forward to working closely together for the benefit of our coaches, players, and families.

**About Indy Premier.** Indy Premier, located in Fishers, Indiana, is a full service 501(c)(3) not for profit soccer organization that offers programming for almost 3,000 athletes of all ages and ability levels year-round, ranging from 2-5 year-old child development programs, Rec Plus soccer, competitive Travel soccer, a semi professional women's team, and TOPSoccer for athletes with intellectual and physical challenges.

**About Michiana Echo.** Michiana Echo, located in Granger, Indiana, is a full service 501(c)(3) not for profit soccer organization that offers programming for several hundred athletes ranging from ages 5 to 18, including First Skills Rec Plus, travel soccer, TOPSoccer, and futsal.

**Statement from Michiana Echo President Ryan Milligan.** "We are thrilled to align our club with Indy Premier and welcome all of their leadership, staff, coaches, players, and parents to the Echo family. Indy Premier is a club we have always admired for its organizational excellence, player development focus, and great culture. As we have worked with Indy Premier over the past several months, it has become apparent that our clubs share much in common and can be stronger by working together. We look forward to a long and productive alliance with Indy Premier."

**Statement from Michiana Echo Director of Coaching Omar Gallo.** “I'm very excited about the partnership we are forming with Indy Premier. Over the last year we've had the opportunity to host some Indy Premier players and also send a few players to attend some of their showcases and training sessions. These players had nothing but positive things to say about their experience. Having the opportunity to work alongside a staff that shares a similar culture is what excites me the most. Indy Premier is a well known organization in the state who focus on developing the entire individual and not just the soccer player and that's what attracts me the most.

Through this partnership we will be able to allow our players to train locally while providing them with a additional opportunities, especially those who want to play at the next level. An example may be the player who wants to stay local, get quality training through one of our experienced coaches, but then have an opportunity to attend a showcase, league match, or a training session with Indy Premier. This alone will provide multiple opportunities to get scouted for those looking to play collegiate soccer. This is a tremendous opportunity for the kids in the Michiana area and I want to personally thank Kenrick and his staff for making this a smooth transition and we look forward to growing the soccer community in a positive way.”

**Statement from Indy Premier Girls Director of Coaching Kenrick Ramirez.** “Michiana Echo is an organization that shares the same core values as Indy Premier. We strongly believe in organizations working together, sharing resources for the betterment of all players across the state. This partnership puts both parties' ideals into motion. Echo is a savvy and thoughtful organization, and in conversations about this partnership have made Indy Premier better. Personally I have been working with Omar for several years and I can't wait to be working with him daily.”