

Youth Soccer Gives Back



14 member squad of Madison United Soccer Association 01 Girls Select Flyers



Our Cause and Awareness

Today's youth sports are dominated by the drive to train tomorrow's super athletes. Youth sports teams are often judged not by the character on and off the field but by the teams win loss ratio. Young athletes look towards the next practice, game, and how to win. Few players look beyond their own needs and the needs of their team.



MUSA 01G Girls presenting the check for over \$1300 to Representatives from St. Joseph Hospital Cancer Center

One team of young soccer players is not content to fit the normal preteen mold. The Madison United Soccer Association 01 Girls Select Flyers team, Coached by Minyoung Bowling and Mark Nigro, is re-defining the meaning of a well-rounded exceptional player. This fall, the players based out of Madison County looked not only to demonstrate



Both teams join together for the cause

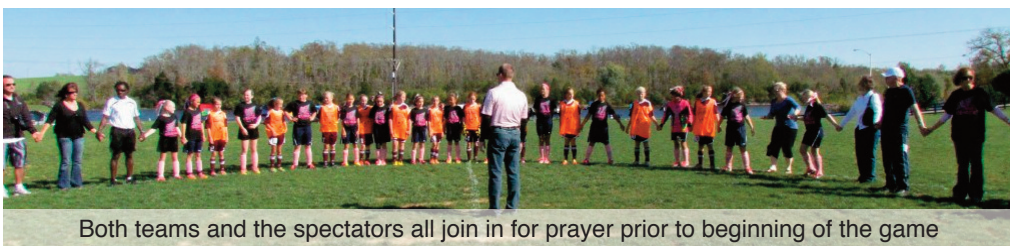
good sportsmanship but to be good citizens as well. The players reached beyond soccer to honor and support Breast Cancer research, education, and the women and men in Madison County whose lives

may have been affected by the deadly disease. With no particular goal in mind, the girls began to raise funds through donations. Over a 3 week period starting the

end of September, the girls raised over \$1,300 for the Saint Joseph Breast Center and the Susan G. Kohmen foundation. Many of the players know or are related to someone who has/had been directly affected by one or more types of cancer. Breast Cancer stood out to the girls and parents as a way to help find a cure but also to create a way to have the conversation about early breast cancer detection. Swapping out their normal team jerseys for black and pink t-shirts, the girls played the first annual Kick for Cancer dedication game on Sunday, October 16th against the Atletico Flames from Elizabethtown. In an extraordinary display of sportsmanship, all parents and players



Standing as cancer ribbon formation



Both teams and the spectators all join in for prayer prior to beginning of the game

from both teams met around center field and intermixed with one another for a few moments of remembrance and thanks for everything that each player and family had in their lives. In the end, the girls give hope not only that a cure will be found but that today's youth have the promise to become better adults and leaders than many expect from a technology driven generation.