

2009 CCCAA Soccer State Championships Preview

The Remaining Four for the California Community College Women's Soccer State Championships held at Cosumnes River College have been set.

The south will be represented by #1 Santiago Canyon College and #2 Ventura College while #5 Cosumnes River College and #6 American River College both advanced from the north.

As the top-remaining seed from the north, Cosumnes River College will play Ventura College in one semifinal matchup while Santiago Canyon College will take on American River College in the other.

Both semifinal matches will be played at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 4 at Cosumnes River College with the winner of each match meeting in the State Championship game on Sunday, December 6 at 10:00 a.m.

Host Cosumnes River advanced to the Final Four with wins over #12 Butte College and #4 Santa Rosa College before upsetting top-seeded Solano College in the third round.

Their opponent, Ventura College, opened with a win over #15 Antelope Valley College before its win over #7 Santa Monica College. Ventura wrapped up the Southern California Regionals with a win over #3 San Bernardino Valley College.

Santiago Canyon's road to the finals started with a win over #16 Santa Ana College before defeating defending State and National Champions #8 Cerritos College in the second round. Santiago Canyon cemented its spot in the Final Four with a win over #4 Moorpark College.

Their opponent, American River advanced on the strength of wins over #11 Feather River College in the opening round followed by an upset over #3 Skyline College before defeating #2 Fresno City College in the third round.

Neither semifinal match boasts a regular season rematch but the finals could provide a rematch if one region dominates the other. Santiago Canyon defeated Ventura College 1-0 in the preseason while Cosumnes River defeated American River twice during Big 8 Conference competition. Either combination of a north/south final would be the first meeting of the two teams.

The Remaining Four for the California Community College Men's Soccer State Championships held at Cosumnes River College have been set.

The south will be represented by #2 Mt. San Antonio College and #4 Santa Ana College while top-seeded Taft College and #2 Fresno City College both advanced from the north.

As the top-seed from the north, Taft College will play Santa Ana College in one semifinal matchup while Mt. SAC will take on Fresno City College in the other.

Both semifinal matches will be played at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 4 at Cosumnes River College with the winner of each match meeting in the State Championship game on Sunday, December 6 at 2:00 p.m.

Taft College returns to the State Championship for the third time in four years while having won the State Title in 2007. Taft opened the playoffs with a first round bye before defeating #9 West Hills College in the second round. The Cougars punched their ticket to the championship with a win over #5 Santa Rosa Junior College in the third round.

Their opponent, Santa Ana College, is no stranger to the State Championship as the Dons are making their sixth trip in this decade. Santa Ana defeated two Orange Empire Conference opponents in #13 Cypress College and #5 Golden West College to open the playoffs before defeating #8 College of the Canyons in the third round to advance. Fresno started its run to the State Championship with a first round bye before defeating #10 Cañada College in the second round and #6 City College of San Francisco in the third round.

Fresno's opponent, Mt. San Antonio College also received a first round bye before defeating #10 Moorpark College in the second round. The second-ranked Mounties then defeated defending State Champions #3 Cerritos College to advance to the championship. Both semifinal matchups feature a rematch from earlier in the season with Taft defeating Santa Ana 4-3 at Santa Ana while Mt. SAC defeated Fresno 3-0 in Fresno. Out of all possible finals, the only teams to have not met are Santa Ana and Fresno. Mt. SAC opened the season with a 1-1 tie with Taft followed by a 6-1 win over Santa Ana in the Mt. SAC Tournament finals. Taft and Fresno have met twice in Central Valley Conference competition with the home team winning each match by virtue of a shutout; Taft won at home 1-0 while Fresno picked up a 2-0 win on its home field.