

# SPORTS

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Eamonn Maher photos/Metroland

Angelina Kristic (left) and Alexia Ntakos of the Norval Croatia under-12 girls' team.

## Pair of Georgetown residents to play in Danone Nations Cup

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Teammates on their Norval Croatia under-12 girls' soccer team, Angelina Kristic and Alexia Ntakos will wear a jersey of a different colour later this summer at a high-profile international tournament in the New York area.

Georgetown residents Kristic and Ntakos were among six Ontarians who teamed up with six Quebec players to form Team Red, which defeated another

girls' squad of Ontario-Quebec players 2-1 earlier this month in Boucherville, Que. in the Canadian qualifier for the world event.

The win sent Team Red through to the six-country Danone Nations Cup event to be held Sept. 22-24 at Red Bull Arena.

"Alexia led by example," said the team's assistant coach, Patrick Leduc, a former member of Major League Soccer's Montreal Impact. "She's more of a midfielder, but I had her playing centre-back and it

took a lot of maturity for a young player to accept that and lead the team. We were down a goal and she pushed up into midfield without me telling her and took a quick free kick that gave us a breakaway that tied the game in the late stages."

Kristic, a tall, left-footed striker, gave Team White fits throughout the match and like her Norval teammate Ntakos, scored for Team Red in the penalty shootout.

"Angelina is very crafty up front and was dangerous

whenever she got the ball, especially in the first half. Sometimes, in matches like that, you can get intimidated at the start but she provided a spark and linked up well with her teammates," Leduc added. "It was really an advantage for us that they play together at the club level. I thought the other team was really talented but didn't play as well as a team as we did. I'm really looking forward to working with these girls again when we go to New York City for the international final."

## New youth slo-pitch division gets off ground

The trial season of the Georgetown Slo-Pitch League's Youth Co-Ed Division has reached the halfway point and with 65 youths age 11-16 signed up, organizers are hoping to load the bases next season.

Division co-ordinator Scott Stubberfield said the feedback from parents has been overwhelmingly positive and the Sunday night time slot at the Gellert

Recreation Centre's Diamond No. 1 seems to be popular as well.

The division has been split up into two groups - 11-13 years and 14-16 - with a 30-minute skills-development session for the younger age group before a fun pickup style game.

"This year it's really informal with no official teams, no registration fee, just shirts and whoever shows up we pick teams 10 against

10," said Stubberfield.

"The idea next year is that we want to actually have kids register for a full league and have teams, with parents volunteering with coaching. The goal of this division was to provide kids with an alternative that is fun and rewarding to them and to teach them to play a game that they can play for forty-plus years."

The GSL, one of Ontario's larg-

est adult slo-pitch associations with more than 1,200 players, has provided financial and organizational support to the new youth division, while AMJ Van Lines has also stepped up to the plate as a sponsor. The youth division's season runs until the end of August and new players are welcome. Anyone interested is asked first to register at [www.georgetown-slo-pitch.com/youth](http://www.georgetown-slo-pitch.com/youth)



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