



U11 Black Finalist in Scorpion Bowl

March 6th/7th:

Marlborough Mass: The Western Mass Jr. Pioneers U11 Girls “Black” team played through a very difficult group schedule to reach the finals of the Scorpions Bowl Tournament. After posting an early morning tie vs. Elite SA, the Pioneers were able to cap off the day with a win vs. host team Scorpions Elite 1-0. The first and only goal of the game is the century mark for the team as they have now reached 100 goals in the season between league play and tournaments. The team would have to return early Sunday morning however to play the last game of group play vs. FC Sol Explosion; a team in which has had success vs. team Black. With a fierce determination to reach the final, the girls displayed a very high tempo, high pressure and physical match. The game winning goal came late in the 2nd half when through a 50/50 challenge the U11’s were able to net the game winner. The final game was to be played against the Stars of Mass and prove to be why the teams are considered two of the best U11 teams within the state. After a great deal of opportunities that went either just wide and or missed breakaway opportunities for the Pioneers, the girls found themselves pinned in the defensive third...and giving up the 1st goal of the game. Half time 0-1 Stars. The Second half the girls came out ready and proving that they were not done. In fact the Pioneers carried a good deal of the play creating several goal scoring chances. If it was not for the cross bar, and the spectacular saves by the FC Stars goalie the Pioneers could have been up 3-1 by mid way through the 2nd half. Unfortunately, the Stars were able to counter and net a breakaway goal; 2-0. However, the girls did not give up. As again the game went back and forth with missed opportunities. In the last 5 min of the game 2 more goals were scored showing the real determination by both clubs. In the end, each team nets a goal in the last minutes of the game and the Pioneers scoring the last of the two and ended the game 3-1. A score that does not indicate the game itself as it was a great game played and a enjoyable one to watch.