FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Women And Girls in Soccer Announces
WAGS Tournament is turning 50 Years Gold!

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[Northern Virginia, Feb 24, 2025] – WAGS Tournament Celebrates 50 Years of Empowering Women and Girls in Soccer!

For half a century, WAGS Tournament has been a trailblazer in advancing opportunities for women and girls in soccer. What began in October 1975 as a groundbreaking 25-team, all-female competition has grown into a premier national event, hosting over 600 elite female teams annually. Now, in 2025, we proudly celebrate our 50th anniversary—a milestone that reflects our enduring commitment to fostering confidence, strength, character, and leadership in young women and girls through the beautiful game.

"It is incredible to think that 50 years have passed since the first WAGS Tournament," said Adele Dolansky, past WAGS President. "What started as a shared dream between Rael Vodicka, Mavis Derflinger, and me has evolved into a movement that continues to open doors and create life-changing opportunities for girls in soccer."

The WAGS Tournament isn't just a competition—it's the heart and soul of **WAGS, Women and Girls in Soccer**, a nonprofit organization dedicated to breaking barriers and championing female players, coaches, and referees. As the primary funding source for WAGS, this tournament fuels five dynamic programs that provide scholarships, international outreach, coaching education, and referee development, ensuring a bright future for women and girls in the sport and beyond.

“WAGS Tournament has been a driving force in empowering women and girls,” said WAGS Chairwoman Lula Bauer. “For 50 years, we have shattered barriers, invested in female leaders, and created a legacy of strength and inspiration. This tournament isn’t just about playing soccer—it’s about shaping the future for generations of women and girls to dream bigger than ever before.”

To commemorate this golden anniversary, WAGS is rolling out a yearlong celebration leading up to the **2025 WAGS Tournament, taking place October 11-13 in Northern Virginia.** Expect an exciting lineup of special events, community outreach initiatives, recognition campaigns, and fundraising efforts to mark this historic occasion.

We invite our supporters, alumni, and the entire female soccer community to join us in celebrating this incredible milestone. Be part of the legacy—visit **WAGS and WAGS Tournament** online, follow us on social media, and help us continue our mission of empowering women and girls in soccer for the next 50 years!

WAGS (Women and Girls in Soccer) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering girls and women through soccer. Its mission is to create opportunities for sponsorship, development, and educational programs that build character and confidence. WAGS supports six unique initiatives designed specifically for girls and women, fostering strength, leadership, and personal growth. These programs include awards, coaching and referee certification, college scholarships, and global outreach. You can learn more about WAGS at www.womenandgirlsinsoccer.org and about the WAGS Tournament at www.wagstournament.com

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