



# DANUBE SWABIAN ASSOCIATION OF THE U.S.A., INC.

*Verband der Donauschwaben un den U.S.A., e. U*

## **2022 U.S. National Donauschwaben Soccer Tournament**

CLEVELAND, OH—The 2022 U.S. National Donauschwaben Soccer Tournament was held May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> and hosted by The Donauschwaben German American Cultural Center in Olmsted Township, Ohio. The events were kicked off on Friday evening with a “Bier and Brats Nights” with live music from the Deutscher Musik Verein.

Teams attending this year were Majors teams from Akron GFS, Cleveland Concordia, Detroit Carpathia, and Mansfield Liederkrantz. These clubs also entered 35 and Over teams. Returning to the tournament this year were the Chicago Green & White Majors team and the St Louis Green & White 35 and Over team. It was great to have these two clubs back at the tournament.

Except for a short heavy rain late Friday afternoon that made us worry about the condition of the fields, it was a perfect weather weekend for soccer. The fields looked great but were a little soft from the rain, thankfully they held up really well considering all the games played on them this weekend.

The games in both divisions were very competitive, of the ten games played on Saturday between the two divisions eight of them were decided by one goal.

As the games were winding down on Saturday many players and fans retreated to the bar to watch the Champions League Finals on TV then went straight to the Saturday night dinner banquet. After the dinner Cleveland Concordia recognized a few fourth-generation members in honor of the club’s 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Sunday started with more close games. Then there was a break from tournament games for the first 50 and Over Legends Game. Twenty players participated in a small, sided game that included representatives from most of the clubs attending the tournament. All involved had a great time.

The 35 and Over Division came down to Cleveland Concordia needing at least a tie in its last game to secure the championship, they had to come from behind to get a 1-1 tie to edge Akron GFS by one point for the championship.

Cleveland Concordia and Detroit Carpathia played each other for the Majors Division Championship before a large crowd. Detroit held off a relentless offensive attack the last five minutes by Cleveland to hold on and win the championship 2-1.

After a good meal and the awards ceremony many teams and players stayed and celebrated the weekend with each other until late into the night. This celebration of sport, culture and comradery amongst players and clubs that have spent the weekend competing with each other is part of what makes this tournament so special.

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