



NEWS

PALM BEACH COUNTY SPORTS COMMISSION

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Olympic Gold Medal Winning U.S. National Team Will Play China in Final Match of Victory Tour at the New FAU Stadium

The Olympic spirit is coming to Palm Beach County and Boca Raton! The Palm Beach County Sports Commission is partnering with Florida Atlantic University (FAU) to host the 2012 Olympic gold medal-winning U.S. Women's National Team at the new FAU Stadium in Boca Raton. The U.S. Women's National Team will play China on December 15th. This marquee international game represents the 10th and final match of the U.S. Soccer Federation's Fan Tribute Tour, presented by Panasonic. The game start time and ticket information will be released shortly.

After winning the gold medal for the United States in Wembley, England, the U.S. Soccer Federation announced that a 10 game victory tour would take place at venues throughout the United States. The Palm Beach County Sports Commission and Florida Atlantic University won the bid to host the only Fan Tribute Tour stop located in the southeast region of the United States. The USA has played China once so far in 2012, a 4-1 victory on May 27 in front of a sell-out crowd at PPL Park in Chester, Pa. The Dec. 15 match in Florida will be the 49th between the USA and China.



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The USA has averaged more than 18,000 fans per game during the first five (5) games of the Fan Tribute Tour. The USA's record during the tour is 3-0-2, defeating Costa Rica 8-0, beating Australia by 2-1 and 6-2 scores, and drawing Germany twice, 1-1 and 2-2. The USA returns to

action for matches against Ireland on Nov. 28 at JELD-WEN Field in Portland, Oregon, and Dec. 1 at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona. Leading up to the match at FAU, the USA will play matches at Ford Field in Detroit on Dec. 8 and BBVA Compass Stadium in Houston on Dec. 12.

The U.S. Women's National Team made history this year by winning its third straight gold medal (and fourth gold medal overall) at the 2012 London Olympics. The USA went undefeated at 6-0-0 for the first time at an Olympic tournament, which included a thrilling come-from-behind overtime victory in the semifinal against Canada on Aug. 6 and Carli Lloyd's two-goal performance to lead the U.S. to a 2-1 win against 2011 FIFA Women's World Cup champion, Japan, in the gold medal match on Aug. 9.

The bid to host the U.S. Women's National Team is a special occasion. The Fan Tribute Tour will represent the first appearance for the U.S. Women's National Team in Palm Beach County and the first in South Florida in nearly 13 years. The Tour will also represent the first international soccer game to take place at FAU Stadium. The newly built stadium, with a seating capacity of 30,000, is a \$70 million investment that opened in October 2011. FAU Stadium is home to varsity college football and was selected as the site for the Major League Lacrosse All Star Game in June 2012. FAU is home to the only stadium in the United States that offers a picturesque view of the Atlantic Ocean.

In addition to world class soccer, Palm Beach County will receive significant economic benefits from hosting the United States and China. The game will attract soccer enthusiasts from across the state and region. The Palm Beach County Sports Commission estimates the Fan Tribute Tour could generate between \$1 million and \$1.5 million in economic impact and will showcase Palm Beach County on a national and global stage.

For more information on the U.S. Soccer Federation or the USA Women's National Team, visit www.ussoccer.com.