



Women's Soccer | 6/8/2016 2:58:00 PM | Shawn Smith, Sports Information Director

## Golden Eagle Soccer Unveils 2016 Schedule



### 2016 Schedule

**CROOKSTON, Minn.** – The University of Minnesota Crookston soccer team officially released their 2016 schedule Wed., June 8. The Golden Eagles will play an 18-game schedule including 15 conference matches and three non-conference tilts. UMC will play seven games at home during the 2016 season.

"The 2016 schedule is going to be very challenging," said Head Coach [Joe Alianiello](#). "It is the first year of our split weekends with northern opponents in the Northern Sun and we have a tough September on the road. I look forward to taking on this demanding schedule head on with my team when we come into camp in August."

Minnesota Crookston will play host to Minot State University, Concordia University-St. Paul, Minnesota State University-Mankato, Minnesota State University Moorhead, University of Sioux Falls, Southwest Minnesota State University and St. Cloud State University. The 2016 scheduling format for soccer sees a change as the conference slate has been altered. The Golden Eagles will play all "northern" opponents other than their travel partner, Bemidji State University, in a split weekend with one game played at home and the other on the road in a Friday/Sunday format. The opponents from the "southern" part of the league will be played Saturday and Sunday, other than if a school decided to move the series to Friday and Sunday at their own discretion

The Golden Eagles are entering their fifth season under Head Coach [Joe Alianiello](#). Minnesota Crookston is coming off their best season in program history as Minnesota Crookston set program records with seven overall wins and seven conference wins. The Golden Eagles would finish the 2015 season just one game out of the conference playoffs for the second-consecutive season.

In 2016, UMC will be led by Alianiello's first four-year recruiting class of players that he recruited. The Golden Eagles return nine starters from last season's squad including [Ellie Brettschneider](#) (Jr., MF/D, Lakeville, Minn.), who had two goals and two assists as a sophomore. In addition, three-year starter [Lexie Gauger](#) (Sr., GK, Green Bay, Wis.) returns. She had a 1.13 goals against average with 117 saves and four shutouts as a junior. In addition, the Golden Eagles also return seniors [Samantha Deutsch](#) (Sr., D, Lakeville, Minn.), [Molly Buck](#) (Sr., D, Lakeville, Minn.), [Danielle Gau](#) (Sr., D, Monticello, Minn.), [Kallie Gau](#) (Sr., MF/F, Monticello, Minn.) and [Taylor Peterson](#) (Sr., MF, Bismarck, N.D.). All six seniors were part of Alianiello's first recruiting class at UMC.

The 2016 slate will open up Thurs., Sept. 1 as the Golden Eagles will take on former UMC soccer player Christie Chappell's MSU Moorhead Dragons at 4 p.m. The Dragons are coming off a 1-12-4 mark on the 2015 season. The game will be a non-conference contest for Minnesota Crookston.

UMC will then officially open up NSIC play Sat., Sept. 3 as they take on Bemidji State University on the road at 1 p.m. The Beavers went 11-7-1 and placed sixth in the NSIC in 2015.

The Golden Eagles will return to non-conference play the following weekend as they trek to the "Show Me State" of Missouri. Minnesota Crookston will open up the trip by taking on Northwest Missouri State University Fri., Sept. 9 at 5 p.m. in Maryville, Mo. The Bearcats went 4-10-3 on the 2015 season.

UMC's trek to Missouri will continue Sat., Sept. 11 as they take on Missouri Western State University at 12 p.m. in St. Joseph, Mo. The Griffons went 9-8-1 on the 2015 season.

"I am excited that we are able play Northwest Missouri State and Missouri Western in Missouri to conclude our series with them," Alianiello said. "This is our second year in a row playing a complete Division 2 schedule with our non-conference slate which will help us prepare for the rugged competition of the Northern Sun."

The Golden Eagles will return to conference play Fri., Sept. 16 as they head to Fayette, Iowa to take on Upper Iowa University at 3 p.m. The Peacocks went 7-9-2 on the 2015 season. They are under new leadership in 2016 as former Division I assistant James Price has taken over the Upper Iowa women's soccer program.

UMC will then take on Winona State University Sun., Sept. 18 at 1 p.m. The Warriors went 13-6-3 on the 2015 season.

The Golden Eagles will then return home to UMC Soccer Field for the first time of the season Fri., Sept. 23 as they take on Minot State. The Beavers went 16-5-1 with a third-place finish in the NSIC.

UMC will then hit the road to face U-Mary Sun., Sept. 25 at 4 p.m. in Bismarck, N.D. The Marauders went 3-12-2 on the season.

The Golden Eagles will then return home for a three-game stand at UMC Soccer Field. Minnesota Crookston will host Concordia-St. Paul Sat., Oct. 1 at 12 p.m. The Golden Bears went 8-10-1 last season, just earning a spot in the NSIC Tournament. UMC will then take on Minnesota State Sun., Oct. 2 at 12 p.m. The Mavericks won the league with an 18-2-2 mark in 2015. The home stand will end as the Golden Eagles take on the Dragons in a conference tilt this time in the "Battle for the Highway 75 Rivalry Rock" Fri., Oct. 7 at 3 p.m.

UMC will then hit the road again beginning with a match against Northern State University Sun., Oct. 9 at 1 p.m. The Wolves went 8-9-1. The Golden Eagles will then head to Wayne State College (Neb.) Sat., Oct. 15 to face the Wildcats at 1 p.m. The Wildcats went 4-11-3 last season. UMC will wrap up their road excursion Sun., Oct. 16 against Augustana University Sun., Oct. 16 at 1 p.m. in Sioux Falls, S.D. The Vikings went 19-3-1 on the 2015 season.

The Golden Eagles will return home to face Sioux Falls Sat., Oct. 22 at 1 p.m. at home. The Cougars went 2-14-1 in 2015. UMC will then host Southwest Minnesota State Sun., Oct. 23 at 2 p.m. in a home game. The Mustangs were 8-9-2 last season.

UMC will hit the road for their last away game of the season Fri., Oct. 28 at Minnesota Duluth at 6 p.m. The Bulldogs went 4-12-2 last season. The regular-season will culminate with the Golden Eagles taking on St. Cloud State University Sun., Oct. 30 at 2 p.m. The Huskies went 9-6-3 on the 2015 slate.

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### PLAYERS MENTIONED

<b>#15 Ellie Brettschneider</b> MF / 5' 6" / Junior	<b>#2 Molly Buck</b> D / 5' 3" / Senior
<b>#22 Samantha Deutsch</b> D / 5' 4" / Senior	<b>#7 Danielle Gau</b> D / 5' 2" / Senior
<b>#5 Kallie Gau</b> MF / 5' 6" / Senior	<b>#0 Lexie Gauger</b> GK / 5' 9" / Senior
<b>#16 Taylor Peterson</b> MF / 5' 7" / Senior	

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