

WIS News 10 - Columbia, South Carolina | Midlands mom starts sports league for home school students

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Midlands mom starts sports league for home school students

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By Jillian Capobianco - [bio](#) | [email](#)

COLUMBIA, SC (WIS) - It's September and that means high school sports are well under way.

But in South Carolina, a group of high school aged students aren't allowed to compete.

That's why a Midlands mother put together a home school athletic club so kids can play competitively.

Fourteen-year-old Matthew Aurednik has played soccer his whole life, but once he became a freshman, his shot at playing competitive sports was blocked

"Home school students are not allowed to play high school athletics," said Matthew's mom Jennifer. "That's just what it is, they're not allowed to play."

Jennifer didn't want her son to have to sit on the sidelines because of a South Carolina law.

So once the kids reach high school age, this is their only chance to play competitively.

"There was no opportunity for him and so I wanted to create an opportunity to play high school athletics," said Jennifer.

What she created was the Providence Athletic Club just a few months ago.

So far, about 70 kids are participating in JV and Varsity level cross country, basketball and Soccer.

So what is Jennifer's son looking forward to the most?

"Beating my friends mostly," said Matthew.

Matthew's team, the Panthers, may not be able to compete for state titles, but Coach Vince Williams says the high school teams better watch out come spring.

"We got some quality athletes and if the high school coaches knew what they were missing they'd be crying," said Vince.

High schools have to agree to play the Panthers.

For the soccer team, they already have several games scheduled against both private and public schools.

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Come play the Covenant Cougars in Sumter....homeschool soccer team that ROCKS!! They are set up similarly to the Panthers, I guess. My best friend's daughter received a USC Soccer scholarship last year and another player received one from Lander! Yeah, I agree, the high school coaches don't know what they are missing!

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★ HSsoccercdad

The Cougars were our inspiration. We look forward to a match in the near future.

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