

[SOCCER: Cy Creek girls reloaded, Cy-Fair boys rebuilding](#)

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One of the teams at the top of the 17-5A girls soccer mountain is Cypress Creek. Coach Kathy Fling is making sure her Cougars do everything they can to defend that spot, too.

The 2012 soccer season started last week with an abundance of tournaments and games. The Cy Creek girls were in what could be the toughest tournament - The Woodlands Kilt Cup.

It was there where the Cougars opened the season against state championship-hopeful The Woodlands. It's the perfect scenario for Fling, though. Tough competition in the non-district portion of the schedule only helps.

That's one of the keys for figuring out Cy Creek's strengths and weaknesses in what is expected to be another strong year for a strong program. Cy Creek is going for its 20th consecutive playoff berth.

Fling said the other key is experimenting with a roster that is a mixture of new talent and experienced players.

"Right now, we're just now getting back into shape," she said. "It's going to take us a few games to get our team back together and get everything situated and everybody healthy. I think we'll do OK. We'll be competitive. Cy-Fair's going to be good, Cy Ranch, Cy Woods, Jersey Village, they're all going to be good again."

Last year, not many teams were as good as Cy Creek. The Cougars shared the district championship with equally-potent Cy-Fair.

There are a handful of players coming back from that team. Forwards Amanda Frederick and Stephania Vazquez are two key players and sophomore Alisa Trejo has impressed so far this season.

Goalkeeper Katie Lehman returns and midfielder Rachal Leal is expected to contribute as well.

The defense is what's new. There are three brand new defenders. Also, some early-season injuries are preventing the Cougars from putting a set lineup on the pitch.

"We try to pull it together by the time district starts," Fling said. "With me scheduling such a tough schedule, I think it really helps us to see what we need to improve on. Even if we go to district and win district, all these other teams are getting better also. We have to see what we need to improve on. They're in the same position we are. We're all in the same position."

Cy-Fair boys looking for answers

Last year was a memorable one for the Cy-Fair boys soccer team. The Bobcats ran through District 17-5A for the title and got to the area round of the playoffs.

Problem is, that was with a veteran squad - 12 seniors to be exact.

Cy-Fair coach Glen Waddell said it'll take some time before his team comes together this year. There are a lot of new faces on this team and only three returning starters from last year's successful squad.

There are just five seniors on this squad right now, Tyler Anselmi, Luis Gonzalez, Sergio Gudino, Blake Halverson and Gabriel Martinez.

Besides inexperience, Waddell said grades are an issue, to, so a lot of the preseason will be dedicated to figuring out which players fit together and getting back to full strength.

It's nothing new to Waddell, though. The experienced head coach knows how to make his team competitive.

"We've been through it," he said. "I've been coaching for 29 years, so I've been through basically anything you can think of. When they opened Cy Falls, we went through this. When they opened Cy Woods, we went through all this. We didn't think it was going to be quite like this because we weren't anticipating all the changes that we had to overcome."

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