



EHS Boys Soccer Advances in NJSIAA State Tournament

No. 9 Elizabeth to Face North Brunswick in Central, East F, Group 4 MX/UN Semifinal

The Elizabeth Minutemen, ranked No. 9 in the NJ.com Top 20, defeated seventh-seeded Union 1-0 in the quarterfinal round of the Central, East F, Group 4 Middlesex/Union sectional tournament on Tuesday in Elizabeth.

Juan Montoya scored in the second half while goalkeeper Dylan Valencia continued his steady play in the team's seventh shutout of the season. Jordy Zuniga provided the assist for the lone goal of the game.

Second-seeded Elizabeth looks to continue its success from recent seasons as it advances in the state tournament in a revised alignment. This year, the tournament was seeded by a committee instead of solely power points and it factored in a number of criteria, including wins, winning percentage, power points and strength of schedule. The past two years has seen the Minutemen claim the North 2, Group 4 state sectional championship with victories over rival Scotch Plains-Fanwood, including a 2-1 win in 2018 and a 1-0 final in 2019.

The tournament bracket could potentially set up for a third straight Elizabeth – Scotch Plains-Fanwood match to determine a state sectional champion. With a victory yesterday in the quarterfinals, Scotch Plains-Fanwood also advanced to the semifinals and will travel to top-seeded Monroe on Thursday.

Elizabeth opened the tournament with a 7-1 victory over 15th-seeded South Brunswick. Jordan Duran, Andrew Gamero, Mathew Giraldo, Kelvin Gyamfi, Cristian Hernandez, Kevin Lopez, and Steven Zuniga all scored while Giraldo, Gyamfi, and Zuniga each added an assist in the win.

Elizabeth will take on third-seed North Brunswick in the semifinal round of the Central, East F, Group 4 tournament Thursday at Williams Field in Elizabeth.

All attendees of the Elizabeth- North Brunswick match on Thursday must wear a mask and adhere to social distancing protocols.