



Reading United A.C.
3103 Paper Mill Rd.
Wyomissing, PA 19610
www.readingunitedac.com

Press Release

Contact: Ryan Lineaweaver, Director of Communications and Marketing
ryan@readingunitedac.com
610-914-6971

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Reading United fall 2-1 home opener *NOVA FC scored two second-half goals to rally past Reading*

READING, PA (May 21, 2021) – Reading United AC returned to the friendly confines of Exeter high school's Don Thomas Stadium. For its home opener against the visiting NOVA FC. Despite Ryan Becher's early goal, NOVA FC rallied with two goals in the second half to earn a 2-1 road victory against the hosts. It was Reading's third straight loss to open the 2021 USL League 2 regular season.

United started the match brightly, scoring in the game's opening 10 minutes. Berks County native son Seth Kuhn took a corner kick from the far sideline. His looping strike found the head of Reading midfielder Ryan Becher who headed the ball into the back of the NOVA goal to give Reading a 1-0 lead delighting the home fans.

The visitors roared back in the game in the second half. In the 59th minute, NOVA's Ahmed Sheta collected a rebounded save off of Reading goalkeeper Carson Williams and volleyed the ball into the back of the net to tie the game at 1-1.

NOVA FC doubled their advantage 14 minutes later. Midfielder Brandon Bartel worked the ball down the right flank and fired a hard cross into the box. Ryan Levay got on the end of the cross and tapped home to give the visitors a 2-1 lead in the 73rd minute.

Reading United tried to mount a late comeback but were unable to find a way around NOVA's bunkered-in defense. The 2-1 loss marked the first time Reading has ever suffered defeat to its division rivals NOVA FC.

Reading United will try to get into the win column when it returns home on Friday May 28th when it faces division newbies Philadelphia Lone Star at Don Thomas Stadium. Kickoff is 7:00 pm. It will be 610 Night where Reading United will salute all things Berks County. Tickets are available at www.readingunitecac.com/tickets.

ABOUT READING UNITED AC

Reading United A.C. is the Greater Reading area's premier minor league soccer team. Led by the ownership group of Berks Professional Sports, Inc. the club was founded in 1995 as the Reading Rage. As the club entered its 15th season a name, logo, and color change was made to better feature the ties to the local and state community as well as the soccer goals of the team and its partners. Now in its 25th season, Reading United's commitment to professional player development has produced over fifty players currently on the rosters of professional clubs throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America. Reading United is the official USL League Two affiliate of Major League Soccer's Philadelphia Union. For more information about Reading United A.C., visit www.readingunitedac.com.