

THUR JULY 24









DATE: JULY 22ND, 2025
VANCOUVER RISE FC SIGN
IAPANESE DEFENDER

APANESE DEFENDER YUKA OKAMOTO

VANCOUVER, BC – Vancouver Rise FC announced on Tuesday that the club has signed Japanese defender Yuka Okamoto.

"We're thrilled to welcome Yuka, she proved herself as a top defender in Japan," said Rise FC President Sinead King. "She is a tactically intelligent player who brings a wealth of experience and stability to our backline."

Okamoto, 27, has made over 100 appearances throughout her career in Japan, establishing herself as a top defender before joining Rise FC.

The defender most recently played for AC Nagano Parceiro Ladies in Japan's Women's Empowerment Professional Football League (WE League), making 80 league appearances and scoring one goal in Japan's top-flight. She was part of the AC Nagano team that became a founding member of the WE League during its transition to a fully professional league in 2020.

"I'm so excited to get started with the team," said Okamoto on her signing.

"I'm just full of energy and ready to start playing!"

Okamoto appeared in nearly every match for AC Nagano, recording a perfect appearance record in three out of their four seasons (2022/23, 2023/24, 2024/25). She scored her first goal for the club on September 21st, 2024 in a league match against JEF Chiba Ladies.

"We are looking very much forward to having Yuka available for games," said Rise FC Head Coach Anja-Heiner Møller. "Yuka is a player with a high technical level and an offensive mindset, which fits very well into our style of play."

Before making her professional debut with AC Nagano, Okamoto played for Nippon Sport Science University FIELDS Yokohama in the WE League's preceding amateur league Nadeshiko Division 1, where she played for four years.

The Tokyo native played her youth soccer for Shutoku Junior and Senior High School in Katsushika Ward, Tokyo, Japan.

BARK AT THE PARK MATCH

Presented By TELUS

THURS JULY 24 | 7:00PM VS AFC TORONTO

PRIDE MATCH

SAT AUG 2 | 4:00PM VS OTTAWA RAPID FC

FAN APPRECIATION MATCH

Presented By



Explore Burnaby

SAT SEPT 20 | 1:00PM VS OTTAWA RAPID FC





WELCOME TO THE NORTHERN SUPER LEAGUE

A new era of Canadian soccer is here. The Northern Super League is Canada's brand-new professional women's league, featuring six fierce clubs representing key markets across the country. Built by players, for players, and backed by passionate supporters of the beautiful game, the NSL is more than a league, it's a movement. With global best practices and a bold commitment to excellence, equity, and inclusion, the NSL is raising the bar for what women's sport can be in Canada.





KIRSTIN TYNAN

POSITION: GOALKEEPER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: MARCH 11, 2002

SHANNON WOELLER

CAPTAIN

POSITION: DEFENDER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: JANUARY 31, 1990





JASMYNE SPENCER

POSITION: DEFENDER NATIONALITY: USA DOB: AUGUST 27, 1990

KAYLA GONCALVES

POSITION: DEFENDER

NATIONALITY: CAN (PORTUGAL)

DOB: APRIL 14, 2000





QUINN

POSITION: MIDFIELDER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: AUGUST 11, 1995



SOFIA HAGMAN

POSITION: MIDFIELDER NATIONALITY: SWEDEN DOB: MARCH 21, 1997

NIKKI STANTON

POSITION: MIDFIELDER NATIONALITY: USA DOB: OCTOBER 26, 1990





SAMANTHA CHANG

POSITION: MIDFIELDER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: JULY 13, 2000



MARIAH LEE POSITION: FORWARD

NATIONALITY: USA DOB: JUNE 30, 1996

LISA PECHERSKY

POSITION: FORWARD NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: JUNE 29, 1998





JESSICA DE FILIPPO

POSITION: FORWARD NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: APRIL 20, 2001



JAYLYN WRIGHT

POSITION: DEFENDER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: AUGUST 1, 2003

MORGAN MCASLAN

POSITION: GOALKEEPER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: FEBRUARY 22, 2000





ARIEL YOUNG

POSITION: DEFENDER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: AUGUST 30, 2001



KENNEDY FAULKNOR

POSITION: DEFENDER NATIONALITY: CANADA DOB: JUNE 30, 1999

SARA LILJA

POSITION: FORWARD NATIONALITY: SWEDEN DOB: SEPTEMBER 12, 2001





YUKA OKAMOTO

POSITION: DEFENDER NATIONALITY: JAPAN DOB: SEPTEMBER 20, 1997



JESSIKA COWART

POSITION: DEFENDER

NATIONALITY: USA (PHILIPPINES)

DOB: OCTOBER 30, 1999





JOSIE LONGHURST

POSITION: MIDFIELDER NATIONALITY: WELSH DOB: FEBRUARY 24, 2002



NEDYA SAWAN

POSITION: FORWARD

NATIONALITY: CANADA (USA, EGYPT)

DOB: APRIL 22, 2002

ANAIS OULARBI

POSITION: MIDFIELDER

NATIONALITY: CANADA (ALGERIAN)

DOB: MARCH 24, 2003





JESSICA WULF

POSITION: GOALKEEPER

NATIONALITY: CANADA (JAPAN)

DOB: MAY 20, 2005

STRONGER BUNATURE

