



Nov 4 2022 | Ed Morrone, OPC '04

## Girls Soccer

The Quakers faced one of their toughest challenges of the season on Oct. 28, hosting an Episcopal team that has a 14-2-1 overall record and 9-1-1 league mark. In fact, EA handed PC its most lopsided loss of the season back on Oct. 4, a 5-0 rain-soaked defeat that the Quakers were eager to avenge.

This one would not be a blowout. Thanks to a first half goal off a free kick by freshman Cassidy McCusker, Penn Charter and Episcopal were deadlocked at 1 at halftime. Unfortunately, EA was able to push one across in the second half, narrowly escaping with a 2-1 victory.



The Quakers carried that competitive spirit into their Nov. 1 game at Agnes Irwin, another opportunity to avenge an earlier season defeat after the team fell to the Owls 1-0 at home on Oct. 7. This time, head coach Ashley Maher's squad got back into the win column with a 2-0 road triumph. The victory was highlighted by goals from freshman Lucy Sokoloff (1-0) and junior Haley Lewinski (2-0), improving the Quakers to 7-8-1 overall and 4-7 in Inter-Ac competition.

"We had six players out due to injury, but the girls who stepped in had great games," Maher said. "Our second goalie, (junior) Maia Kafer, has been a godsend keeping us in these games. It was an all-around team effort where everyone stepped up and did their jobs. Things clicked."

Despite all of the injuries they have sustained, Maher said the team has stayed constantly upbeat. In addition to Kafer, Maher shouted out both Haley Lewinski and her younger sister, freshman Carly Lewinski, as well as fellow freshman Cailyn O'Brien, for stepping into larger roles when their teammates went down.

PC won't have to wait very long to play the Owls again, as the two teams will face off in the PAISAA quarterfinals at third-seeded Agnes Irwin on Nov. 8 at 2:30 p.m. PC earned the sixth seed (out of 10 teams) in the tournament, and a win would allow the Quakers another shot at second-seeded Episcopal in the semifinals on Nov. 10.

"We've had our minds geared toward this tournament for about a month," Maher said. "It's where our focus has been, because we knew we'd have this opportunity at a fresh start. We've never given up, and so many of our games we've lost by one or two goals. We're right there. After the last game, it feels like the momentum is swinging back toward us. The girls feel it. There's just a different vibe where everyone seems to be connecting."