The Winning Goal

By Jayden C.

Beep! The ref blew the final whistle for the championship game. Since the score was tied, we went off to penalties to settle who wins. I started to get nervous, it was morning and the sun was rising. It was the Wave Cup tournament and we traveled so far. “We can’t lose now!” I thought to myself.

Bang! Crash! One shot after another. Sometimes we would score, sometimes they would score. I began to worry as the penalties were close. We were on field 8 and it was still morning. “We need to win, we need to win, come on!” I shouted.

“Bang!” They took the second to last shot. It was my turn, the score was tied. If I score we win, if I miss we would tie. I made my way up to the penalty box. Now all the parents were chanting my name, my teammates were cheering me on, my coach was cheering me on and I was worrying I was going to miss the shot. I was inside the penalty box ready to take the shot, waiting for the whistle. “You got this, you can score,” I told myself.

BEEP! The whistle blew, and a drop of sweat fell from my head. I took a deep breath, I slowly ran up to the ball, faster, then faster. Bang! I took the shot but…Oh no! It was a bad shot. It was going too slow and too low. Everyone watched as the ball went to the goal, but then the goalie took a bad dive. I was praying that I would score when the ball went past him! I was so scared I was going to miss and everyone was going to get mad at me, but so much relief hit me when I scored. All of my teammates came running up to me and even my coach came running, too. All of our parents were cheering super loud. My coach, all of my teammates and I huddled up, cheering together, hugging each other. Then someone threw water over us!

“We did it!” I yelled

“Nice shot Jayden!” my coach cheered.

“I could have taken a better one,” I said.

“What matters is that you scored,” my coach replied.

“Now I know that I should not be afraid to take the shot,” I told him. “Whether we win or lose, always stay proud because what matters is that we tried our best.”