



INFO GUIDE



WHAT IS THE NATIONAL LEAGUE?

The US Youth Soccer National League is comprised of three core formats of competition...

ELITE 64

The top club-based league format in the National League, offering like-minded elite clubs with a platform to compete in an advanced league setting while focusing on maximizing the experience of the players. League play determines the teams' paths into the Elite 64 Playoffs.

NATIONAL LEAGUE CONFERENCES

Operate team-based and club-based leagues while providing a qualification pathway to the current season's USYS Regional Championships, and the following season's Conference Playoffs.

NATIONAL EVENTS

All national events feature meaningful games, as teams begin at the Playoffs stage. Top performers move on to National League P.R.O., where the best of Elite 64 and the Conferences come together to compete for direct advancement to the annual USYS National Championships.

TOP LEAGUE COMPETITION IN US YOUTH SOCCER



US YOUTH SOCCER
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



NATIONAL LEAGUE P.R.O.

TEAMS PLAY AT 1 OF 2 EVENTS



ELITE 64
PLAYOFFS

TEAMS PLAY AT 1 OF 2 EVENTS

CONFERENCE
PLAYOFFS

ALL TEAMS PLAY AT 1 EVENT

CURRENT SEASON

PREVIOUS SEASON

ELITE 64
LEAGUE PLAY

CONFERENCE
LEAGUE PLAY



NATIONAL LEAGUE CONFERENCES

The [National League Conferences](#) are geographically focused and offer the primary team-based league competition within the program.

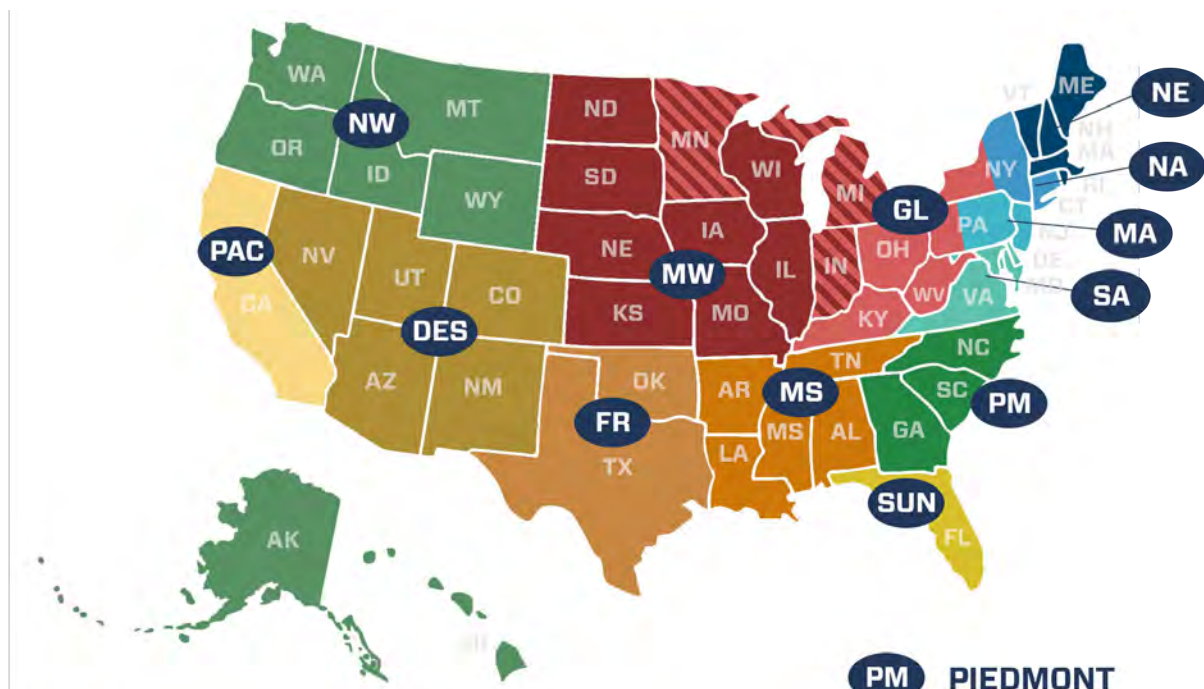
Teams can earn their way into a conference based on success in competitive league and cup competitions within each US Youth Soccer State Association – ensuring the top teams from each state have access to the National League Conferences. For teams that do not qualify directly, an application process is offered in some conferences.

THIRTEEN CONFERENCES

Covering all US Youth Soccer State Associations and providing high-level league competition on a consistent basis at a targeted local level.



CONFERENCES



PAC PACIFIC

NW NORTHWEST

DES DESERT

FR FRONTIER

MW MIDWEST

MS MID SOUTH

GL GREAT LAKES

SUN SUNSHINE

PM PIEDMONT

SA SOUTH ATLANTIC

MA MID ATLANTIC

NA NORTH ATLANTIC

NE NEW ENGLAND

13 CONFERENCES **3,600** TEAMS **80,000** PLAYERS



**NATIONAL
LEAGUE**

ELITE 64

[Elite 64](#) provides the top nationwide club-centric competition in the USYS National League, with year-round play in six age groups (13U, 14U, 15U, 16U, 17U and 18/19U) for the top 64 boys clubs and top 64 girls clubs in the country.

The annual competition calendar allows teams from each Elite 64 club to participate in regular season league games and the Elite 64 Playoffs. Teams that advance out of the Elite 64 Playoffs move on to compete at National League P.R.O., for a chance to secure direct advancement to the annual USYS National Championships. Select divisions of Elite 64 may be provided additional pathways into the USYS National Championship Series.



Performance across all Elite 64 competitions leads to one boys club and one girls club being crowned as the overall Elite 64 Club Champion each year.

Thanks to world class data provided by our partners, every game and training session provides players with an opportunity to add data to their “resumé” – making every game a recruitable moment.

PLAYER BENEFITS

- Meaningful regular season games in a safe, high-level environment that impact placement at the Elite 64 National Finals and the ultimate race for the title of Elite 64 Club Champion.
- Highly-competitive Elite 64 Playoff matches against competition from around the country, with a pathway to the USYS National Championships.
- State-of-the-art performance analysis from National League partners that can make every league game, training session or other soccer activities a recruitable moment.

CLUB BENEFITS

- Access to qualitative analysis, quantitative analysis, performance plans, professional webinars, and more from various partners who are industry leaders in their respective fields.
- Access to the Elite 64 Playoffs, which puts every team from every Elite 64 club on a pathway that can potentially lead all the way to the USYS National Championships.
- National registration and administrative support from the USYS National League staff.
- League management support and oversight from USYS National League staff.



PERFORMANCE PARTNERS

ProScore

Through a unique categorization and scoring process, ProScore identifies the most important actions from players across all aspects of the game, including on-the-ball and off-the-ball actions. In addition to the game breakdowns, ProScore provides custom video highlights to its bank of 2,000 college coaches through proscore.soccer.

STATSports

STATSports is the world's leading provider of athlete tracking GPS technology, partnering with 600+ elite sports teams across the globe. Athletes have a choice of 16 metrics to track, including speed and distance, and can compare their performances across leagues and leaderboards.

NCSA College Recruiting

NCSA College Recruiting provides Elite 64 players with recruiting profiles that have an unprecedented ability to give college coaches and scouts a full view of what they bring to the next level of their soccer careers. The NCSA Coach Packet 3 app helps put the key information in front of college coaches ahead of league games and major events.

Soccer Profile

Soccer Profile is a series of age-specific assessments consisting of multiple levels of difficulty, which combined with the power of the internet, provides players and coaches of all ages, genders, and ability an affordable opportunity to measure and support the long-term development of a player's technical and physical ability.

Evolve1


Featuring skills and exercises similar to those used by top professionals, Evolve1 is a two-month program that takes players through a series of engaging video-based lessons with topics including self-image, courage, integrity, discipline, authenticity, and resilience. After completing the video, users will write goals and measure progress from there.

Veo

Veo has developed an intelligent sports camera platform that enables sports teams of all levels to record and stream matches automatically in high definition, alongside an analytics platform that allows users to analyze their games and share the best highlights.



EVERY GAME IS A RECRUITABLE MOMENT



Every USYS National League Elite 64 league game provides every player with a ‘recruitable moment.’ Elite 64 has partnered with world leaders in individual player data and team analysis. Our partners at STATSports, ProScore and NCSA have come together to revolutionize recruiting. Elite 64 provides the players with a greater opportunity to present their soccer bio to college and professional scouts by sharing real-time game stats, highlights and achievement from every game — league, showcases and National Finals. Each piece of recruitable data can be seen by every college scout in an instant while saving the players, teams, clubs and recruiters time and money.

Once the final whistle is blown on each game and the player’s data is recorded, the performance information can be added to their individual NCSA player profiles and shared with every college coach, enhancing the player’s ability to find the right school that meets their needs both athletically and academically.

USYS
NATIONAL LEAGUE
ELITE64

NATIONAL EVENTS

ALL THE BEST NATIONAL LEAGUE TEAMS ON A

UNIFIED PATHWAY

TO THE **NATIONAL**

CHAMPIONSHIPS

PLAYOFFS



NATIONAL LEAGUE P.R.O.



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS



ELITE 64 PLAYOFFS

Elite 64 teams compete in one of two Elite 64 Playoff events. Placement into pools at the Elite 64 Playoffs is based on each team's performance in league play during the previous seasonal year. Results at the Elite 64 Playoffs determine advancement and seeding for the second national event of the season: National League P.R.O.



CONFERENCE PLAYOFFS

Teams advance to the National League Conference Playoffs based on their performance in league play during the previous seasonal year. The Playoffs serve as the first national event of the season, and results at the Conference Playoffs determine advancement and seeding for the second national event of the season: National League P.R.O.



NATIONAL LEAGUE P.R.O.

Teams advance to National League P.R.O. via their performance in their respective Playoffs. Each advancing team plays in one of two National League P.R.O. events, where the best of Elite 64 and the Conferences come together to compete for berths to the USYS National Championships.

The example below represents one National League P.R.O. event.



- Elite 64 teams and Conference teams come together to compete in National League P.R.O.
- Each pool sees teams begin at the quarterfinal round of a knockout-style bracket.
- Teams that have exhibited sustained success to make the Champions Pool are rewarded with the best odds to advance to the National Championships.
- A qualifying spot to Nationals for the Silver Pool and Wildcard Pool ensure every team begins National League P.R.O. with an opportunity to advance.
- All teams play at least three games at their National League P.R.O. event.

US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The oldest and most prestigious youth sports championships in the country, the annual US Youth Soccer National Championships crown champions in the 13U through 19U Boys and Girls age groups each summer.

National League teams have a history of standout performances at the National Championships. Those that advance to Nationals through the National League pathway do so after a yearlong journey filled with meaningful games that allow the players to decide their fate on the field.

For both boys and girls, the National League qualifies 12 total teams per age group (six from each of the two National League P.R.O. events) into the National Championships.



National League teams captured **100 of 128** possible

**US Youth Soccer
National
Championships**

(2008-2022)



US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

The US Youth Soccer National Championship Series (NCS) is the country's most prestigious national youth soccer tournament, providing approximately 185,000 players on over 10,000 teams from the 54 US Youth Soccer State Associations the opportunity to showcase their soccer skills against the best competition in the nation while emphasizing teamwork, discipline and fair play.

While the National League pathway offers teams a chance to qualify into the regional and national stages of the National Championship Series, teams have a great opportunity to advance through the traditional route that begins with their State Cup.



NATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERSHIP

NATIONAL LEAGUE MANAGEMENT GROUP

The National League (NL) Management Group has authority for the administration of the National League. The NL Management Group consists of the USYS Director of Competitions and Event Operations and three (3) NL Managers, appointed by the USYS CEO. The National League Commissioner serves as the Chairperson of the NL Management Group.

In accordance with the USYS Leagues Policy, the NL Management Group is vested with all necessary power and authority to manage, regulate, supervise, administer and conduct the National League. The NL Management Group is authorized to establish various technical, advisory, and other specialized groups, and designate persons on either a permanent or ad hoc basis to assist and advise the NL Management Group in the operation of the National League.

NATIONAL LEAGUE STAFF

A full professional staff manages the day-to-day administration of all competitions within the National League. The staff specializes in various roles, including but not limited to:

League Management

Event Management

Event Operations

Scheduling

Referee Assigning

Registration

Marketing & Communications

The National League staff is supported by all additional departments of the US Youth Soccer national office staff.



NATIONAL LEAGUE ADVISORY GROUPS

NATIONAL LEAGUE ADVISORY GROUP

The National League Advisory Group is comprised of individuals who complement each other and bring expertise from various perspectives within youth soccer, including technical leadership, executive leadership, referee administration, strategic planning, talent identification (US Youth Soccer ODP), and more.

Jonathan Berzins

Executive Director, Arizona Soccer Association

Shari Levesque

Executive Director, Soccer Maine

Joe Burger

Executive Director, Kansas Youth Soccer Association

Warren Mersereau

Business Strategy, EDP Soccer

Bill Glaze

Chief Technical Officer, Ohio Soccer Association

Jim Mills

Youth Commissioner, North Texas Soccer

COLLEGE RECRUITMENT GROUP

A collection of club leaders focused on enhancing college recruitment opportunities for players and maximizing the experience for college coaches and scouts at all National League events.

GIRLS

Bill D'Addio

Team Boca

Jason Carter

South Valley Surf

Patrick Baker

Team Boca

Tony Wright

Madison 56ers

Bryan Waltenburg

United FA

Joe Hammes

North Shore United

Ray Johnson

Valor Soccer

Claire Ward

Fort Wayne United

Olly Frick

Idaho Rush

Thomas Ovenden

Pittsburgh Hotspurs

BOYS

Ben Jones

Liverpool IA - Michigan

Bryan Waltenburg

United FA

Ray Johnson

Valor Soccer

Joe Tedesco

East County Surf

Brian Grazier

PDA

Jason Aldous

East County Surf

Scott Bower

Cincinnati United

Brian Waltrip

Los Angeles SC

Kieran Patrick

Cedar Stars

Srgjan Smileski

Libertyville FC



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