

**LEAGUE
CHAMPIONSHIP**

USYS League Championship Pathway 2022-2023 Seasonal Year

USYS League Championship Overview



USYS League Championship Benefits

The USYS League Championship platform provides NCSL member clubs and teams with a direct pathway to the USYS Eastern Regional Championships while maintaining the league's commitment to high-quality, competitively-appropriate games with reasonable travel and cost.

Direct Regional Pathway

The USYS League Championship platform provides NCSL teams the opportunity to **qualify for regional level play through their local league.**

Lower Cost

NCSL continues to offer a **quality league experience at a reasonable cost.** With the League Championship platform, teams can gain still access to the USYS Eastern Regional Championships while spending thousands less in league fees.

Less Travel

Teams competing at the regional level usually spend hours traveling to and from games. With this new platform, teams can gain **access to same regional pathway with less overall travel.**

More Choice

High-school aged teams struggle with balancing high school soccer with a competitive club schedule. We help alleviate this pressure by allowing U16-19 teams choose a limited or full game schedule. We **build a custom schedule** that both satisfies their desire to earn at spot at the regional level while also **helping teams manage their overall player output.**

More Flexibility

For U16-19 teams, we give Super Group teams **early access to schedule games through our online platform that best fits their team needs.**

USYS League Championship (LC) Pathway

NCSL Super Group Division
Spring 2023

U13-19 NCSL Super Group division winners move on to compete at the League Championship Playoff. For the 2022-23 seasonal year, Super Group play will occur during the spring season only.

USYS League Championship (LC) Playoff
~Late May 2023

U13-19 winners from each participating league meet for League Championship (LC) Playoff. The current participating leagues are NCSL, CCL, Long Island Junior Soccer League (LIJSL), and New England Club Soccer League. The winner moves on to Eastern Regional Championships.

USYS Eastern Regional Championships
~Late June 2023

USYS League Championship (LC) playoff winner joins State Cup winners & USYS Conference winners to compete for the USYS Eastern Regional Champion crown.

USYS National Championships
~Late July 2023

The (4) Regional Champions, including the Eastern Region Champion, compete for the USYS National Champion crown.

Super Group Application Timeline

Fall 2022

The top (3) finishers Division 1 qualify for the Spring 2022 Super Group if they apply. To be considered, a team must play in their state's USYS State Cup. See FAQ section for more details.

Winter 2022-2023

Teams submit applications for Spring 2023 Super Group by January BOD meeting. Any team within an NCSL member club may apply, regardless of league.

The NCSL Executive Committee will review applications and notify teams of their Super Group status by late January/early February.

Spring 2023

Accepted Super Group teams compete to determine Spring 2023 Super Group winner. See FAQ section for more details.

Super Group Structure

Winner Advances to League Championship Playoff



Spring 2023 Super Group



Automatic Qualifiers*

Fall 2022
Division 1

Top
3 Finishers



At-Large Bids*

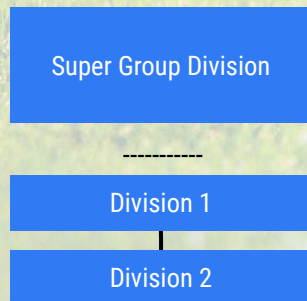
Applications accepted for any team
within NCSL club, regardless of
league (NCSL, GA, ECNL, EDP, CCL,
etc.)

*If teams apply and must participate in USYS State Cup

Super Group Implementation

We will allow teams to choose between a limited schedule (up to 4 games) or a full schedule (6+ games). The league will create either a “division” or “conference” Super Group structure based on division make-up and team feedback.

“Division” Structure



The Super Group “Division” is separate from Division 1. A division will consist of up to 10 teams, depending on age group. If Super Group does not provide a “full” schedule, the league will schedule quality crossover games with teams within the NCSL division structure and/or Elite Soccer Series (ESS) teams.

“Conferences” Structure



The Super Group “Conferences” are separate from Division 1. Each conference will consist of a small set of teams. If Super Group does not provide a “full” schedule, the league will schedule crossover games with younger/older Super Group teams and/or Elite Soccer Series (ESS) teams for interested teams.

FAQs

- Q | What is the Super Group cost?

A | For teams that would like a full schedule of 6+ games, it is the [regular league fee](#) + \$150 Super Group fee. For teams that want to play a limited league schedule of 3-4 games, the fee is \$600 + \$150 Super Group fee.

- Q | What does the \$150 Super Group fee cover?

A | This fee covers the league's basic expense to participate in the League Championship pathway. It also covers the Super Group winner's entry fee to the League Championship playoff and USYS Easter Regional Championships (if they advance).

- Q | How do you choose Super Group teams?

A | Teams are selected based on their league and tournament results.

- Q | Does a team need to play USYS State Cup to be considered?

A | Yes, a team must play in the current year state-sanctioned USYS State Cup to be considered.

- Q | Can any team apply to the Super Group?

A | Any team within an NCSL member club can apply regardless of league.

- Q | What if my team is not accepted into the Super Group?

A | Teams not accepted are strongly encouraged to still play in the league divisional format.

FAQs

- Q | When is the registration deadline to apply to Super Group?

A | The deadline is the by the mid-January BOD meeting.

- Q | Is this pathway for both boys and girls?

A | Yes, this pathway is for both boys and girls teams.

- Q | What are the roster restrictions during NCSL and League Championship playoffs?

A | For NCSL Super Group play, teams will abide by NCSL rules. For NCSL games, teams are allowed unlimited club pass players per game. For League Championship playoff games, Super Group winning teams abide by USYS National Championship rules.

*If you have any additional questions, please contact Ryan Rich, NCSL Executive Director, at execdir@ncsl-soccer.com