



2020-21 SEASON GENERAL TEAM INFORMATION

WHAT IS THE US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL LEAGUE?

The US Youth Soccer National League is debuting a new structure for the 2020-21 season. The primary competition takes place at the multi-state level within the network of 13 regionally-aligned conferences across the country. The national platform that ties together the Conferences is the National League Showcase Series, which will provide opportunities for more teams to participate in showcases that match up similar teams from varying areas of the country.

The **Frontier Conference** is one of 13 conferences that fall under the scope of the National League and operate at a multi-state level — providing high-level competition on a consistent basis at a targeted local level (Oklahoma, North Texas and South Texas).

The **Frontier Conference's** top Premier I division offers its teams an opportunity to qualify for the 2021 US Youth Soccer Southern Regional Championships, which are held annually each summer. All teams within the **Frontier Conference** also have the opportunity to take part in the National League Showcase Series, which provides teams with a chance to play cross-conference matches in a national setting with increased exposure to college, professional and national team scouts.

NATIONAL LEAGUE PATHWAY



COMMITMENT

Any team looking to participate in the Frontier Conference must understand the level of commitment it takes to participate in a League that stretches across 3 different state associations. All teams understand that this is a multi-state league and that teams may travel hundreds of miles to participate in conference games. Teams understand that they may not play any true “home” games. A limited number of teams are accepted into the Frontier Conference, so it is important that each team makes the commitment to travel BEFORE applying to the conference.

BOYS and GIRLS AGE GROUPS OF COMPETITION

The 2020-21 Frontier Conference will include the following Boys and Girls age groups:

- 13 and Under (13U) – for players born on January 1, 2008 or later
- 14 and Under (14U) – for players born on January 1, 2007 or later
- 15 and Under (15U) – for players born on January 1, 2006 or later
- 16 and Under (16U) – for players born on January 1, 2005 or later
- 17 and Under (17U) – for players born on January 1, 2004 or later
- 18 and Under (18U) – for players born on January 1, 2003 or later
- 19 and Under (19U) – for players born on January 1, 2002 or later

ENTRY FEE

The Team Entry Fee to participate in the Frontier Conference is tiered based on the number of teams in each gender/age group and is non-refundable if a team is accepted into the Conference and later drops out. See the chart below for the fee structure. The Team Entry Fee is payable to your State Association does not include Referee Fees, which will be paid in accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures.

| Division Size | Team Entry Fee |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 9-12 Teams | \$925 |
| 7-8 Teams | \$750 |
| 6 or fewer Teams | \$550 |

State Associations may charge an additional fee and/or bond to cover additional expenses associated with the Conference but specific to their State Association. These additional fees and/or bonds will be handled by a team’s respective State Association and the method/form of collection will be determined by each State Association.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

In completing any application into the Frontier Conference teams are required to submit accurate information to the questions provided. Misrepresentation of team accomplishments may result in the team being disqualified from conference participation. The Frontier Conference will be utilizing the new GotSport platform.

Application Deadline for 14U-19U teams: Friday, July 10, 2020
Application Deadline for 13U teams: Friday, December 11, 2020

Application Link: https://system.gotsport.com/event_regs/1d8cd44871

SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

There is a two-step approval process for accepting teams into the Frontier Conference. First, each team must be confirmed by its respective State Association as properly registered. Second, the Frontier Conference shall review and determine the final selection of all teams. Accepted teams shall be notified via a website posting or an e-mail regarding their acceptance and placement into the Frontier Conference.

Teams in the Boys Premier I and Girls Premier I tier will be accepted based on their qualification from the previous seasonal year. Any TBA “open” slots in Boys Premier I or Girls Premier I will be filled by the Team Selection Committee. The final selection of 14U-19U teams should be completed by late June.

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THE 2019-20 SEASON

The first event date of the 2020-2021 season for the Frontier Conference will be August 29, 2020. All games for the Frontier Conference must be completed by June 1, 2021.

COMPETITION FORMAT

The Frontier Conference follows a round robin competition format. The anticipated division size, match count, and season of play for each gender age group is summarized below.

| Gender | Age | Season | Division Size | Game Count |
|---------------|------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Boys | 13U | Spring 2021 | 12 | 11 |
| Boys | 14U | Fall 2020 | 9 | 8 |
| Boys | 15U | Fall 2020 | 9 | 8 |
| Boys | 16U | Fall 2020 | 8 | 7 |
| Boys | 17U | Fall 2020 | 10 | 9 |
| Boys | 18U | Fall 2020 | 9 | 8 |
| Boys | 19U | Fall 2020 | 10 | 9 |
| Girls | 13U | Spring 2021 | 12 | 11 |
| Girls | 14U | Fall 2020 | 8 | 7 |
| Girls | 15U | Fall 2020 | 7 | 6 |
| Girls | 16U | Fall 2020 | 8 | 7 |
| Girls | 17U | Fall 2020 | 8 | 7 |
| Girls | 18U | Fall 2020 | 7 | 6 |
| Girls | 19U | Fall 2020 | 3 | 2 |

LOCATION OF GAMES--HOSTING

The anticipated dates of play for the 2020-21 season are posted below.

14U-19U Boys/Girls Premier I Hosting Dates (Fall 2020)

August 29 – 30: Hosted in North Texas (Moneygram Soccer Park)

September 19 – 20: Hosted in North Texas (Harold Patterson Soccer Complex)

October 10 – 11: Hosted in South Texas (TBA)

October 17 – 18: Hosted in South Texas (Round Rock Multipurpose Complex)

October 31/November 1: RAIN DATE

November 14 – 15: Hosted in North Texas (Rolling Hills Soccer Complex)

November 21 – 22: RAIN DATE

December 12 – 13: RAIN DATE

13U Boys/Girls Premier I Hosting Dates (Spring 2021)

January 16 – 17: OK in NTX (Gateway Park – Fort Worth, TX)

February 6 – 7: STX in NTX (Gateway Park – Fort Worth, TX)

February 20 – 21: RAIN DATE

February 27 – 28: NTX in STX (Gosling Sports Fields – The Woodlands, TX)

March 13 – 14: OK in STX (Round Rock Multipurpose Complex – Round Rock, TX)

March 27 – 28: STX in OK (TBD)

April 10 – 11: NTX in OK (TBD)

April 17 – 18: RAIN DATE

April 24 – 25: RAIN DATE

GENERAL SCHEDULING INFORMATION

Conference schedules will be developed by the League Manager, who will have sole discretion of game schedules. The anticipated release of schedules will be in Mid-Late July for the 14U-19U age groups, and late-December for the 13U age group.

A coach of multiple teams within the Frontier Conference will be given scheduling considerations so he/she can be present for their team's games, however coach conflict resolution IS NOT guaranteed. Clubs are strongly encouraged to have a 2nd coach that can step in should a conflict exists. Any reschedules will be done in

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accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures. Schedule requests for individual teams will NOT be considered.

Teams participating in the Frontier Conference must be available to play on the published conference dates, which includes rain dates. By submitting your team application, your team is committing to play on the published dates for the conference.

REFEREES

Frontier Conference games will use a 3-man referee system. The amount and form of payment to referees in the Frontier Conference will be in accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures.

TEAM ROSTERS

Teams may utilize 30 players during the course of a season in accordance with the National League Rules. A maximum 22-player Team Roster with additional use of a Club Pass Roster shall be utilized in all age groups. Club Pass players may only come from within a team's club, provided that the player is a US Youth Soccer member.

RULES AND INFORMATION

Rules and additional information may be found on the Frontier Conference website:
<https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/frontier-conference/>

COACHING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Coaches of teams within the Frontier Conference must have obtained a US Soccer National D License or the United Soccer Coaches equivalent (National Diploma) level of coaching education.

PERMISSION TO TRAVEL

Teams are not required to complete Permission to Travel permits/forms for games played outside of their State Association as permission is automatically granted by State Association approval of the team for Frontier Conference play.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The Frontier Conference has partnered with Traveling Teams, Inc. for the 2020/21 seasonal year to provide hotel accommodation support for teams at Frontier Conference scheduled events. Through this partnership, teams can reserve and manage their hotel needs for these events. Additionally, this partnership protects teams when it comes to hotel refunds should a Frontier Conference event be postponed or cancelled (due to weather or other). Use of Traveling Teams is required for all teams participating in Frontier Conference events.

A hotel list will be published [HERE](#) once Traveling Teams confirms hotels.

QUALIFICATION TO REGIONALS

The top team in the Premier I tier of each 13U-19U gender age group in the Frontier Conference will qualify for the 2021 Southern Regional Championships that same seasonal year as the Frontier Conference representative. To be eligible for advancement to the 2021 Southern Regional Championships, the qualified Frontier Conference team must have participated in their state association's State Cup competition.

2020-21 NATIONAL LEAGUE SHOWCASE SERIES

Beginning with the 2020-21 seasonal year, all Frontier Conference teams will have access to the new National League Showcase Series. The National League Showcase Series provides more opportunities for Frontier Conference teams to compete within a national platform against other similarly performing teams from other Conferences. These Showcases are designed to maximize identification opportunities for Frontier Conference players and to create efficient recruiting opportunities for the scouting community. More information about the National League Showcase Series can be found on the Showcase webpage [HERE](#). Questions regarding the Showcase Series can be directed to nationalleague@usyouthsoccer.org.

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Teams understand that all 14U-18U teams competing in a top tier within the USYS National League Frontier Conference during the 2020-21 season must attend a minimum of one (1) USYS National Showcase Series event to retain their position in the top tier of the 2021-22 USYS National League Frontier Conference or any other USYS National League Conference.

STAY CONNECTED!

Clubs, Coaches, Parents, and Players are encouraged to stay connected with the USYS National League by following us on social media! Any questions Frontier Conference social media can be directed to Scott Belton.



facebook.com/nationalleaguesoccer



twitter.com/nationalleague



instagram.com/nationalleaguesoccer



youtube.com/user/usyouth

If teams have any social media related questions concerning the Frontier Conference, please contact Scott Belton, Assistant League Manager, sbelton@usyouthsoccer.org. Scott may reach out to your team contacts throughout the seasonal year for team information, pictures, goal scorers, etc. in order to promote the Conference competition on the National League's social media platforms.

COMMUNICATION FROM/WITH THE CONFERENCE

E-mail is the primary means of communication within the Frontier Conference. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that accurate contact information is on file with the conference. The Frontier Conference compiles team contact information based on each team's application into the conference.

CONTACT

For more information on the Frontier Conference please contact:

Mike Leland, League Manager, mleland@usyouthsoccer.org

Scott Belton, Assistant League Manager, sbelton@usyouthsoccer.org

Subject to change—as of November 11, 2020