PARTICIPATING IN CONFERENCE PLAY

• 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 US Youth Soccer Conferences competition.

• If teams do qualify through performance in State Association competitions, teams can apply for consideration based on their existing resume.

• STATE LEVEL  ➔ REGIONAL TIER  ➔ NATIONAL TIER

• Local League ➔ Conferences ➔ National League

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ADVANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- The image to the right provides a visual guide to the pathway and opportunities available for league teams at the state, regional, and national levels.

  - Opportunities to advance to the US Youth Soccer National Championships
  - Opportunities to requalify for the National League for the following season
  - Opportunities for Premier I Division teams to advance to the US Youth Soccer Regional Championships
  - Opportunities for Premier I Division teams to qualify for the next season’s National League
  - Success at this level can lead to an opportunity to compete in a team’s respective Conference competition

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• **STATE CUPS**
  Teams must compete in their respective State Cup (NCS) to remain eligible for the National League and the National Championships.

• **REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**
  State Cup Champions, State Cup Wild Cards, top finishers in the National Conferences (13u – 19u), and the winner of the League Championships earn qualification into the Regional Championships.

• **NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**
  The regional champion along with each of the four National League Division winners (14u – 19u) automatically qualify for the National Championship.
Creating additional pathways while strengthening relationships and maintaining existing structural integrity
Mission, Vision and Priorities

• **Mission**
  • Make soccer the best (preeminent) youth sport in the United States

• **Vision**
  • Continue being the recognized leader in youth soccer and serve as the game for all kids.

• **Priorities**
  • Membership, Players, Marketing and Programs
Quick Overview

• The League Championship (LC):
  • Create an additional pathway for teams
  • Strengthen relationships with member leagues of USYS
  • Preserve the structure and status of National League and the NL Conferences
  • Maintain the integrity of State Cup competitions
  • Retain current members of USYS
  • Attract leagues and clubs back to USYS
  • Exemplify the new and improved USYS (progressive, innovative)
  • Produce a net income contribution for USYS
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East Region Continued

- Top division from each of these four leagues participate
- Top finishing team within each applicable age/gender group:
  - Play off against the other three participating leagues
  - Single elimination
- Winning team of play off earns placement into Eastern Regional Championships
Pathways: Regional Championships

USYS Regional Championships

National League Conferences
State Cup
League Championship (LC)