This document outlines the scheduling information needed for the coming US Youth Soccer National League Midwest Conference fall season. Be sure to read through this document so that you are familiar with all aspects of the scheduling process.

Scheduling for all Premier I (PI) and Premier II (PII) teams will be done by the respective teams within your assigned division on Thursday, July 19 at the Midwest Conference mandatory scheduling meeting (information follows below) based on the availability and hosting information provided by the teams. If a team does not provide availability information, then the team will be presumed to be available for all weekends. All First Division scheduling shall take place through Division Scheduling Coordinators (DSC) after completion of the mandatory scheduling meeting for PI and PII teams. DSC for PI and PII divisions will be assigned by the League Manager at the start of the scheduling meeting.

Fall Season play may begin on August 3, 2028. All games must be scheduled to be played on or before November 25, 2018. Fall Season Midwest Conference teams must be available to play on the following weekends (September 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 and November 9-11). Teams are excused from Midwest Conference play during these weekends only for State Cup play. All games are to be played on or before November 25, 2018.

FALL SEASON MANDATORY PI AND PII EVENT FOR GIRLS 15U-19U
There will be a mandatory Midwest Conference College Showcase Event held at Creve Coeur in St Louis, MO on November 9-11. We have secured multiple synthetic turf fields for the event. This showcase event is open only to PI and PII teams in the Girls 15U-19U age groups and participation by teams in these tiers is required. Teams will be required to play one Midwest Conference match on Saturday and one Midwest Conference match on Sunday. Scheduling two matches in a day will not be permitted and playing a third Midwest Conference match on Friday is optional. More information will be available to teams during the scheduling process. An additional per team fee of $200 per team (two matches) will be charged to cover costs associated with this Showcase event which will be payable by teams after the PI and PII tiers in each age group are finalized (additional Friday game will be extra at $75 per team).

To follow:
Page 2  Scheduling Meeting General Information
Page 3  Midwest Conference Event Weekend Sites Available
Pages 4-5  Scheduling Meeting Ground Rules and Procedures
Page 6-7  Fall Scheduling Policy
MANDATORY SCHEDULING MEETING - Thursday, July 19, 2018

LOCATION
Hilton Garden Inn
1501 S. Neil Street, Champaign IL 61820

MEETING SCHEDULE
One age group will be assigned to a time slot. Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the start of your assigned time in order to sign in and to receive updated information for the scheduling process. Note...we have found that in the past, team representatives arrive early for these meetings...teams will start working on schedules before the actual starting time listed below...thus we encourage team reps to arrive early for check in (note...we have had instances where teams are scheduling one hour prior to the official start time).

Girls 19U  9:00am to 10:30am
Girls 18U  10:30am to noon
Girls 17U  noon to 1:30pm
Girls 16U  1:30pm to 3:00pm
Girls 15U  3:00pm to 4:30pm
Girls & Boys 14U  4:30pm to 6:00pm

INTRODUCTION
The mandatory Scheduling Meeting for all PI and PII 2018 Fall Season Boys and Girls 14U as well as Girls 15U through 19U teams will take place on July 19. Teams will have the opportunity to develop and finalize their schedules, face-to-face, with other teams within their division. If you do not have a representative at this meeting, then it will be considered that your team is available to play on all weekends throughout the Fall Season (excluding state cup weekends). There will be no consideration for unavailability if a representative is not present at the meeting. We expect to come out of this meeting with game schedules completed. The schedule for the day can be seen above.

GENERAL SCHEDULING INFORMATION
Conference schedules will be overseen by the League Manager, who will have sole discretion in the manner by which game schedules are developed. Teams participating in the Midwest Conference must be available to play on the published conference dates. By submitting your team application, your team is committing to play on the published dates for the conference.

Premier I Divisions and Premier II Divisions. After the placement of teams into tiers and subdivisions, teams will be provided with information on the Midwest Conference scheduling process, including details of the mandatory scheduling meeting, through a group email sent to each Team’s Coach and Club Director of Coaching of teams. The Midwest Conference provides the opportunity for teams to schedule all games in a division in accordance with Midwest Conference procedures. All teams in a subdivision must agree to the entire schedule. Availability of fields at Midwest Conference hosted sites is limited and will be provided to teams on a first completely approved scheduled, first served basis at the mandatory scheduling meeting. At the start of the mandatory scheduling meeting, a Division Scheduling Coordinator (DSC) will be assigned to each division.
**First Divisions in all Age Groups.** After the placement of teams into tiers and subdivisions, teams will be provided with information on the Midwest Conference scheduling process through a group email sent to each Team’s Coach and Club Director of Coaching of teams. The Midwest Conference provides the opportunity for teams to schedule all games in a division in accordance with Midwest Conference procedures. All teams in a subdivision must agree to the entire schedule. Availability of fields at Midwest Conference hosted sites is limited and will be provided to teams on a first completely approved scheduled, first served basis, after completion of the mandatory scheduling meeting for PI and PII teams. A Division Scheduling Coordinator (DSC) who will be appointed by the Midwest Conference from within each division to assist in the process. **Our hope is that only Club Directors of Coaching, the Head Coach of a participating team within the division, or a Full-time Club Administrator will be selected as the DSC.** Generally, this person will be someone who has scheduled Midwest Conference games in the past and understands the nuances in scheduling on a regional basis. Teams should understand that due to the nature of scheduling of games for teams from across multiple states that scheduling games for the benefit of a single coach who coaches multiple teams should not be expected. Time conflicts will occur for those coaches that coach multiple teams on Midwest Conference weekends and the Midwest Conference, as well as the other teams within a division, are under no obligation to assist these coaches with their conflicts. Once schedules are developed, schedule changes are permitted in accordance with US Youth Soccer National League Midwest Conference Scheduling Policy.

**LOCATION OF GAMES – HOSTING**

There are three categories for hosting Midwest Conference games:

**Midwest Conference Hosting.** The Midwest Conference hosts games at a multiple field location. There may be additional costs to the teams for playing matches at Midwest Conference hosted weekend sites, if higher rental fees, parking or spectator fees are charged.

**One-Off Hosting.** A team hosts a one off game between itself and another team from within its division. Host bears all costs for hosting or if teams agree, the teams may share costs (usually for games played at a neutral location).

**Group Hosting.** A team hosts a number of teams over a weekend amongst teams from within its division. Host team bears all costs for hosting.

**EVENT WEEKEND SITES AVAILABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MIDWEST CONFERENCE - FALL 2018</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Play Dates</td>
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<tr>
<td>*September 8-9</td>
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<td>*September 15-16</td>
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<td>*September 15-16</td>
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<td>*September 22-23</td>
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<td>October 6-7</td>
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<td>October 13-14</td>
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<td>October 13-14</td>
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<td>*November 9-11</td>
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*Denotes Must Be Available to Play Weekends

With the addition of these new event sites, teams that choose to attend these weekends will be subject to a $100-$150 fee to be paid to US Youth Soccer. The exact costs of each specific event site will be made available at the mandatory scheduling meeting. These event weekends have been added to enhance the showcase opportunities for the teams in our conference and to enhance their overall experience. This fee will go towards the additional rental costs, medical coverage, onsite staff and equipment needed to run these events safely and effectively.

GROUND RULES and PROCEDURES

Fall Season play may begin on August 3, 2018. All games must be scheduled to be played on or before November 25, 2018. Fall Season Midwest Conference teams must be available to play on the following weekends (September 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 and November 9-11). Teams are excused from Midwest Conference play during these weekends only for State Cup play.

GROUND RULES

• The Goal is to come out of this process with your Midwest Conference schedule for the 2018 Fall Season. Each game should be assigned a site and a host organization designated for such site. The Midwest Conference is cognizant that teams, primarily with opponents from within their own state association, may opt to play One-Offs (or Self Schedule Games--i.e. teams set their own date, time and location). There is no limit on the listing of One-Offs (Self Schedule Games). However, the designation of which games are One-Offs (Self Scheduled Games) must be firmed up. Once it is agreed that certain games shall be One Offs/Self Schedule Games, then those games must be confirmed (site, date, time) by no later than August 2, 2018. (See Scheduling Policy for sanctions if games are not confirmed by August 2, 2018).

• TRAVEL. All teams understand that this is a Regional League and that teams may travel hundreds of miles to participate in Midwest Conference games. The determination of game sites is based in part due to home locations of teams within a division and field availability. Teams understand that they may not play any home games.

• COACHES. Teams should understand that due to the nature of scheduling of games for teams from across the region that scheduling games for the benefit of a single coach who coaches multiple teams should not be expected. Time conflicts will occur for those coaches that coach multiple teams on Midwest Conference weekends and the Midwest Conference, as well as the other teams within a division, are under no obligation to assist these coaches with their conflicts.

• For purposes of hosting, the Midwest Conference has divided the Hosting of games into four types of categories:
  o ONE-OFF HOSTING (SINGLE GAME). One field - one game
  o GROUP HOSTING (MID-SIZE, MULTIPLE TEAMS, MULTIPLE GAMES). One to three fields - multiple games
  o GROUP HOSTING (LARGE-SIZE, MULTIPLE TEAMS, MULTIPLE GAMES). Four or more fields - multiple games
  o MIDWEST CONFERENCE HOSTED EVENTS (MULTIPLE TEAMS, MULTIPLE GAMES). Games hosted by the Midwest Conference at neutral sites.
• The Midwest Conference does not prohibit teams from scheduling more than one game per day if the teams so agree.

• If scheduling two games in one day, Midwest Conference Rules stipulate that efforts be made so that a minimum of three hours’ rest occur between games (from the end of the first game to the start of the second).

• Also, in situations where teams agree to play three games in a weekend, teams understand that their opponents may not play a similar schedule of games for that particular weekend. Teams should understand that if they agree to play three games in a weekend, that their opponents and other teams participating that weekend may not play an equal number of games and have equal rest between games. For example, in situations where opponents have different amount of rest in the same day between games, (in order) the host team or local team(s) should be the team(s) scheduled with the least amount of rest.

• Team(s) may agree to play four games in a weekend due to exceptional circumstances as agreed to with the League Manager.

  In the event that there is a conflict where teams are unable to agree to a mutually agreeable date for their game, teams should apply the concept that State Cup Games are the ONLY games that take precedence over availability for Midwest Conference games.

• All games that are to be played between teams from the same club must be played during the first one third of each team’s season or the game will be considered a No-Contest. No consideration will be made for games that are postponed. These games must be played within the first third of a team’s schedule. For example, in a 9 game season, this game must be 1st, 2nd or 3rd game of each team’s season. For 6, 7 or 8 game season, this game must be the 1st or 2nd game of each team’s season.

• The Midwest Conference hosted sites are listed on the availability sheets for each division. These are not required dates and sites and are merely offered to teams as an option in scheduling games. However, we strongly encourage teams to take up these event weekend options.

• Fall Season play may begin on August 3, 2018. All games are to be played on or before November 25, 2018. Waivers to these dates may be permitted only if all teams in a division agree in writing to extend the season and with the approval of the League Manager; or by special approval by the League Manager.

• Fall Season Midwest Conference teams must be available to play on the following weekends (September 8-9, 15-16, 22-23, 29-30 and November 9-11). Teams are excused from Midwest Conference play during these weekends only for State Cup play. The Midwest Conference avoids Labor Day and Columbus Day weekends for games. All games are to be played on or before November 25, 2018.

• There is risk involved in scheduling matches on grass fields. Do not expect hosts to guarantee that games will be played as field and weather conditions may deem fields unplayable and/or closed.

• Once the schedule is finalized teams are released from the Must be Available weekends requirement.
PROCEDURES

• Once the Designated Scheduling Coordinator (DSC) is appointed by the Midwest Conference League Manager, the DSC is to collect and confirm the availability of each team during the season’s weekends.

• DSC to confirm the host site information as provided by teams within the division. Teams should reconfirm that a host team has the number of fields available necessary in order to play games at the same time and provide for equal rest time in situations where teams agreed to play two games in one day. Teams should also reconfirm the playing surface of each field. Teams should confirm if games are scheduled on grass or turf (synthetic), as well as fields with any floodlights. Hosts are not obligated to secure back up turf fields as delays or postponements due to weather or field conditions cannot be controlled. All teams understand that there is a risk of postponement. **Host pays for all costs associated with hosting. In situations where the host team has to move games from grass fields to turf fields, the host team is responsible for costs associated with such hosting. Visiting teams are under no obligation whatsoever to pay for such costs.**

• Utilizing the scheduling match-up template provided to the DSC, place sites and dates agreed to by teams next to game match-ups. **Game times for all games except those to take place at Midwest Conference hosted sites and any one-offs should be determined before the schedule is finalized.** It is expected that game start times and rest time between games played on the same day shall be equal (unless otherwise noted). **If field changes require game time changes and un-equal rest time between games, the hosting team (followed by other local teams) shall be required to accept a schedule with the least rest time between games (unless agreed upon by the other participating teams). In other words, hosting team shall have no scheduling advantage in regards to rest.** If game times are not determined, the host team has the right to schedule matches as they deem appropriate, pending Midwest Conference approval.

• Teams may designate games to be One-Offs (Self Scheduled)—date/time/site of these games to be scheduled by August 2, 2018 or the game may be considered a No Contest Game.

• **In situations where games are scheduled for Midwest Conference hosted sites, the Midwest Conference shall have the sole authority to determine game times (as multiple divisions will be playing on-site for these weekends).** If a group of teams are scheduled to play two games in one day, game times should be designated as AM-for the series of games to be played first in the day; and PM-for the series of games to be played later in the day. This does not necessarily mean that AM games will be played in the morning. Games may start as early as 7:15 am. Game times listed as PM could stretch from anywhere from Noon to 9 pm. These games times will not be posted until early August. The Midwest Conference is not required to fulfill any special time requests for games scheduled at Midwest Conference hosted sites.

• Matches are scheduled on grass fields with no turf back-ups at Midwest Conference hosted sites in Rockford and Muscatine. There are field costs to the teams for playing matches at Midwest Conference hosted weekend sites. With the addition of these new event sites, teams that choose to attend these weekends will be subject to a $100-$150 fee to be paid to US Youth Soccer. The exact costs of each specific event site will be made available at the mandatory scheduling meeting. These event weekends have been added to enhance the showcase opportunities for the teams in our conference and to enhance their overall experience. This fee will go towards the additional rental costs, medical coverage, onsite staff and equipment needed to run these events safely and effectively.
• The Midwest Conference retains the right to move any matches scheduled by two local teams, as defined solely by the Midwest Conference, off of the Midwest Conference hosted sites at any time.

• At Midwest Conference sites, please know that field sizes vary from 105 to 120 yards in length and 60 yards to 75 yards in width. Fields at Midwest Conference hosted sites are available on a first finalized, first to secure basis as fields are limited. The Midwest Conference is not required to fulfill any special time requests for games at Midwest Conference hosted sites.

• Midwest Conference games may be scheduled during other US Youth Soccer sanctioned competitions during Fall Season weekends. Games must be played under Midwest Conference rules and are subject to approval by the Midwest Conference. Teams and host organization will be held responsible for Midwest Conference rules compliance in these situations. Teams should know that scheduling matches at such events essentially strips Midwest Conference teams of all scheduling rights including but not limited to re-scheduling. Extra fees may also be charged.

• All games that are to be played between teams from the same club must be played during the first one third of each team’s season or the game will be considered a No-Contest. No consideration will be made for games that are postponed. These games must be played within the first third of a team’s schedule. For example, in a 9 game season, this game must be 1st, 2nd or 3rd game of each team’s season. For 6, 7 or 8 game season, this game must be the 1st or 2nd game of each team’s season.

• Once a schedule is submitted to the Midwest Conference, the League Manager will distribute a note to all teams confirming that the schedule has been received and that teams have agreed to the schedule.

• After the deadline date, the Midwest Conference has the authority to accept a schedule without approval of the schedule by all teams in a division if a team(s) fails to actively participate in the scheduling process or a team(s) fails to comply with availability on must be available to play weekends (as determined solely by the League Manager).

2018 FALL SEASON SCHEDULING POLICY

SCHEDULE
Once a division schedule is posted on the Midwest Conference website it shall be considered official. Changes are permitted at the discretion of the League Manager due to transcription errors, inaccurate information provided to the Midwest Conference or other cause as determined by the League Manager. Other than One-Offs (self-schedule games - see below) the dates and sites are final. If game times are posted then they are confirmed (final), otherwise game times listed as TBA or AM/PM are still being confirmed. As confirmations occur on game times, they will be posted. Midwest Conference games must be played under Midwest Conference Rules.

ONE-OFFS (SELF SCHEDULE GAMES) — DEADLINE TO SCHEDULE IS AUGUST 2, 2018
Games listed as TBA for the site, date and time are considered One-Offs (Self Schedule Games). The two teams are to mutually agree upon a date, site and time for the game and communicate the agreed upon date, time and site for the game to the Midwest Conference for posting. The designated host team is to secure referees. The deadline to establish game dates for One-Offs (Self Schedule Games) is August 2, 2018. The League
Manager is to be notified in writing of the game date, time and site as agreed to by the teams. If the game is not finalized by this date the game may be considered a NO CONTEST GAME and the game will be recorded as played but with no score and thus each team earning zero (0) points for the contest. Failure to schedule One-Offs by August 2, 2018 may result in fines assessed against teams.

GAMES BETWEEN TEAMS FROM SAME CLUB
All games that are to be played between teams from the same club must be played during the first one-third of each team’s season or the game will be considered a No-Contest. No consideration will be made for games that are postponed. These games must be played within the first third of a team’s schedule. For example, in a 9 game season, this game must be 1st, 2nd or 3rd game of each team’s season. For 6, 7 or 8 game season, this game must be the 1st or 2nd game of each team’s season.

NO CONTESTS
Games deemed to be No Contests will be recorded as a game played but with no score and thus each team earning zero (0) points for the contest.

CHANGING CURRENT GAME SITE, DATE AND/OR TIME
Teams are permitted to change current game date, time and/or site provided that such change is made more than 7 days prior to a scheduled game and in accordance to the following procedures:

1. the team seeking to make the change contacts its opponent. Opponent must mutually agree on the game change in order for the change to occur. (NOTE: in a weekend where teams are playing multiple games and teams within a division and are seeking to move a game off of the weekend, provided that the game being changed does not improve the competitive status of teams in a weekend with such determination made solely by the League Manager, then the teams may proceed in requesting a game change). When notifying the Midwest Conference of any game changes, such communication must also be sent to all teams involved.

2. if mutually agreed, contact the League Manager with the request including the gender, age group division, and revised game date, time and site; and then

3. Midwest Conference confirms the change by posting the revised game on its website.

4. Host team contacts local referee assignor with the change(s) at least 7 days prior to original game date. Also, Referee assignors are to be advised a minimum 7 days prior to the date of a rescheduled game or they are not required to fulfill the request for referees.

If your opponent does not agree to a change then the game is scheduled to be played as posted.

ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES ON GAME CHANGES
Any game date, time or site change made within 7 days of a scheduled game shall result in a $100 scheduling fee payable to US Youth Soccer. Full payment of referee fees may also be required for the game on the original game date and time even if game is changed.

Any games that are forfeited within 7 days of a scheduled game date and time shall result in the offending team paying (1) the full referee fees for the forfeited game, (2) an additional $250 forfeiture fee payable to US
Youth Soccer and (3) any field fees that may have been incurred by the host as determined by the League Manager.

Minor changes to fields and time made within 7 days of the original scheduled game date and time are permitted only as follows:

Field change is less than or equal to 10 miles  
Time change is less than or equal to 30 minutes

For all Game Changes, both teams must confirm that they are agreeable to the change and that full details are forwarded to the League Manager for approval.

POSTPONED GAMES (Procedures and Payment of Referee Fees)

Due to Closing of Field, Field Conditions or Inclement Weather (One Off)
If games are postponed the day of the game due to inclement weather, the participating teams will reschedule the game as if it were a One-Off (Self Schedule) game. Teams will have 7 days following the date of postponed game to reschedule the contest. Failure to re-schedule may result in the game considered a NO CONTEST GAME, as described above. The Midwest Conference may allow teams past the 7 day deadline to reschedule if circumstances warrant. If referees are present at the scheduled game date, time and site and no notification of referees has occurred then full referee payment is required.

Due to One Team Attempting to Postpone (or Change Game) Without Opponent’s Approval
In the event that a team arbitrarily postpones a game, without the consent of the opposing team, the game will be treated as a forfeit. Please know that teams that forfeits any game will be relegated one tier for the following season. Team forfeiting a game must also comply with payment or referee fees and forfeiture fee.

Due to One Team Failing to Adhere to Midwest Conference Rules regarding Player Passes
In the event that a team is found to failing to adhere to the Midwest Conference Rules in regards to Player Passes (i.e. failure to bring player passes to game), the team in non-compliance shall forfeit the game. Full referee fee payment is required.

Due to Field Conditions or Inclement Weather (as part of a series of division games during a weekend)
In situations where multiple games are being played at one site within a division, and games are postponed during the first day of competition (i.e. Saturday), the postponed games are to be scheduled to be played the following day (i.e. Sunday) if possible with such determination made solely by the Midwest Conference. A team committing to play games at a site with multiple games commits to play for the entire weekend (Saturday/Sunday). Any game changes should receive Midwest Conference approval. If the postponements occur on Sunday, then the teams will have 7 days following the date of postponed game to reschedule the contest. Failure to re-schedule shall result in the game considered a NO CONTEST GAME, as described previously in this policy. The Midwest Conference may allow teams past the 7-day deadline to reschedule if circumstances warrant.

Due to a Team having to compete in a State Cup Game
In situations where a team must postpone a Midwest Conference game due to participation in its State Cup competition, that team bears the responsibility of having being flexible in rescheduling the Midwest Conference game. Such flexibility includes but is not limited to travelling to play the match. If the postponement occurs within 7 days of the Midwest Conference scheduled game, then the team forcing the postponement shall be responsible for both team’s Scheduling Fees and any applicable referee fees.

Should you have any questions on scheduling please direct them to the League Manager. This Policy may be revised at any time by the Midwest Conference Operations/Technical Committee or the League Manager.