



US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL LEAGUE NEW ENGLAND EDP CONFERENCE 2018-19 SEASON TEAM v TEAM INFORMATION DOCUMENT

INTRODUCTION

The US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference's mission is to provide the highest standard of competitive play for youth teams that are members of US Youth Soccer State Associations of Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Connecticut. The US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference offers quality league competition for teams inside and teams outside of their state association.

Teams playing in the 2018-19 US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference Premier I tier compete for the chance to earn spots into the East Regionals as part of the US Youth Soccer National Championship Series. Additionally, teams participating in the 13U-18U age groups have the opportunity to qualify for the US Youth Soccer National League for the following seasonal year.

The information in this document is for a **traditional team v team competition**. The Conference expects to operate a Premier I and Premier II tier of play (in ERL play these tiers were known as Elite and Premier) subject to the quality of teams that apply. There will be promotion and relegation between the tiers on a season-to-season basis.

COMMITMENT

Any team looking to participate in the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference must understand the level of commitment it takes to participate in a League that stretches across New England. All teams understand that this is a multi-state league and that teams may travel to participate in conference games. A limited number of teams are accepted into the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference, so it is important that each team makes the commitment to travel BEFORE applying.

BOYS and GIRLS AGE GROUPS OF COMPETITION

The 2018-19 US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference will include the following age groups:

- 13 and Under (13U) – for players born on January 1, 2006 or later (Fall and Spring Seasons)
- 14 and Under (14U) – for players born on January 1, 2005 or later (Fall and Spring Seasons)
- 15 and Under (15U) – for players born on January 1, 2004 or later (Spring Season)
- 16 and Under (16U) – for players born on January 1, 2003 or later (Spring Season)
- 17 and Under (17U) – for players born on January 1, 2002 or later (Spring Season)
- 18 and Under (18U) – for players born on January 1, 2001 or later (Spring Season)
- 19 and Under (19U) – for players born on January 1, 2000 or later (Spring Season)

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Team Application deadline is **MONDAY JULY 2, 2018 for 13U and 14U teams and MONDAY OCTOBER 1, 2018 for the 15U through 19U teams**. Go to www.edpsoccer.com to apply. Teams must register directly through EDP registration system to participate in the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference. NOTE: Payment for league fee will not be processed until the team is accepted.

THE 2018-19 SEASON

Fall Season matches are to take place from September 1, 2018 through November 18, 2018.

Spring Season matches are to take place from March 1, 2019 through June 7, 2019. Dates are subject to change

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ENTRY FEE

We expect two tiers of the play with the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference. Tier structure is based on the quality of team applications.

The Team Entry Fee to participate in the Premier I Division (Tier) is \$2,300 per team, which is non-refundable if a team is accepted into the Premier I tier and later drops out. The fee is paid directly to the league through the registration process.

NOTE: Payment for league fee will not be processed until the team is accepted into its tier.

The Team Fee for 13U and 14U teams includes: League Play (Fall and Spring), EDP Conference Cup competition, and the EDP Cup Tournament held in May in New Jersey.

The Team Fee for 15U through 19U teams includes: League Play (Spring), EDP Conference Cup competition, and a Regional Showcase held in April in New Jersey.

The Team Entry Fee to participate in the Premier II Division (Tier) is \$850 per team, which is non-refundable if a team is accepted into the Premier II tier and later drops out. The fee is paid directly to the league through the registration process.

NOTE: Payment for league fee will not be processed until the team is accepted into its tier.

The Team Fee includes league play and in the 13U and 14U age groups includes Fall and Spring play.

The cost does not include Referee Fees, which will be paid in accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures (information also found later in this document). Each team is responsible for its own costs incurred in connection with participation including but not limited to travel, housing, meals, and uniforms.

COMMUNICATION FROM/WITH THE CONFERENCE

E-mail is the primary means of communication within the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that accurate contact information is on file with the Conference. The US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference compile team contact information based on each team's application into the Conference.

SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

The US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference shall review, determine the final selection of all teams and placement into tiers and divisions, if applicable. Some of the criteria used for acceptance and placement include the team's performance in 2017-2018 Eastern Regional League (ERL) play, 2017-18 US Youth Soccer National Championship Series play (State Cup, Regionals and Nationals), 2017-18 National League, 2017-18 EDP League, and other regional/national competitions within the United State soccer environment. Accepted teams shall be notified via a website posting or an e-mail regarding their acceptance and placement.

For the Fall Season: The list of teams accepted along with tier and division placement for the Fall Season is expected to take place on or around July 15, 2018.

For the Spring Season: The list of teams accepted along with tier and division placement for the Spring Season is expected to take place on or around October 15, 2018.

A limited number of teams will be accepted into the Premier I and Premier II tiers of the Conferences.

COMPETITION FORMAT

All competitions in every age group and tier shall be round robin. There will be no end of season playoffs. Based on the number of teams placed into divisions, teams may play up to a total of 9 US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference games during the course of the season. **Please be aware of the number of games that teams will be required to play.** US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference **teams are required to fulfill their commitment by playing out their entire conference schedule of games.**

GENERAL SCHEDULING INFORMATION

Conference schedules will be developed by the League Manager, who will have sole discretion of game schedules. Any reschedules will be done in accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures.

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REFEREES

US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference games will use a 3-man referee system. Each team is responsible for one-half of the total referee fees per game and payment is to be made in cash prior to each game as follows:

13U and 14U:	\$62.50 per game per team; a total of \$135
15U and 16U:	\$72.50 per game per team; a total of \$145
17U through 19U	\$75.00 per game per team; a total of \$150

TEAM ROSTERS

Teams may utilize 30 players during the course of a season in accordance with League Rules and Policies. 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 US Youth Soccer website:

<https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/national-leagues/>

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 US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference play.

ADVANCEMENT TO REGIONALS and QUALIFICATION INTO 2019-20 NATIONAL LEAGUE

From the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference Premier I champion may to the 2019 US Youth Soccer East Regionals and the 2019-20 US Youth Soccer National League tier of competition. Based on the number of and quality of participants (including those from all East Region EDP Conferences), teams from each of the appropriate gender age groups will participate in an end of season playoff to determine such slots. Playoffs to take place in the Spring of 2019. Any team desiring to advance to Regionals or into the 2019-20 National League are required to participate in their state association's State Cup.

CONTACT

For more information on the US Youth Soccer National League New England EDP Conference please contact EDP's League Manager, Jen Marcella at jen@edpsoccer.com

Information is subject to change—as of June 20, 2018