



US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL LEAGUE SHOWCASE SERIES OPERATING PROCEDURES as of August 24, 2020

SECTION 1. NATIONAL LEAGUE SHOWCASE SERIES – TEAM SELECTION

1.01 Team Eligibility

Any team selected for entry into the National League Showcase Series must meet the eligibility requirements in accordance with the National League Rules.

1.02 Registration System / Application Process

GotSport shall be the official team registration system of the National League Showcase Series. Any eligible team must register the team into the National League Showcase Series using GotSport. No registration will be received or accepted in any other system.

Eligible teams must have a GotSport account in order to register into the National League Showcase Series. Team accounts must have accurate information regarding the coach and manager at the time of submission. In completing any registration into the National League Showcase Series, teams are required to submit accurate information on team accomplishments. Misrepresentation of team accomplishments may result in the team being disqualified from National League Showcase Series participation.

1.03 Registration Deadlines

Deadlines will be published on the National League Showcase Series homepage on the US Youth Soccer website, found here: <https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/national-league-showcase-series/>

1.04 Registration Agreement

Any team registering to play in the National League Showcase Series agrees to accept, abide by, and comply with all policies, rules, and decisions of the National League and further agrees to pay all fees that are due to the National League for participation in the National League Showcase Series by the registration deadlines.

1.05 State Association Registration

To be eligible for participation in the National League Showcase Series, a team must be properly registered with their respective member State Association prior to acceptance into the National League Showcase Series.

1.06 Fees and Other Expenses

The Team Entry Fee to participate in the National League Showcase Series is \$950 per team for 14U and \$1200 per team for 15U and up (paid to US Youth Soccer) and is non-refundable if a team is accepted into the National League Showcase Series and later drops out.

1.07 Communication

E-mail will be the primary means of communication within the Showcase Series. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that accurate contact information is on file.

SECTION 2. NATIONAL LEAGUE SHOWCASE SERIES – STRUCTURE AND QUALIFICATION

2.01 Structure

The 2020-21 US Youth Soccer National League Showcase Series will include the following Boys and Girls age groups:

- 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*

*Due to the impact COVID-19 has had on our 19Us, the Board has approved our request to allow all players aging out to play one additional season. Therefore, USYS will allow the 20Us (born on or after January 1, 2001) to play with 19Us during the 2020-21 season only.

SECTION 3. NATIONAL LEAGUE SHOWCASE SERIES – TEAM ROSTERS

3.01 Team and Player Eligibility

Any team properly registered for the current seasonal soccer year with a USYS State Association may apply for entry to a Showcase. All players on a team must be properly registered with a member State Association.

3.02 National League Showcase Series Requirement

All 14U-18U teams competing in a top tier within their USYS National League Conference during the 2020-2021 seasonal year must attend a minimum of one (1) USYS National League Showcase Series event to retain their position in the top tier of their 2021-2022 USYS National League Conference or any other 2021-2022 USYS National League Conference.

3.03 Maximum Roster Size and Pool of Players

The maximum number of players on a Team Roster shall be 22 although the pool of players eligible to participate for an individual team is 30.

3.04 Player Limitations

A player may play for multiple teams (club pass or guest player) during a Showcase, however a player may play for only one Showcase team during any single day.

SECTION 4. NATIONAL LEAGUE SHOWCASE SERIES – SCHEDULING & MATCH MANAGEMENT

4.01 Number of Games

At a single showcase, each team will be scheduled to play a minimum of three (3) games.

4.02 Hosting/Travel Experience

For the purpose of Showcase Series competition, Permission to Host/Travel Forms are not required.

To ensure the quality of service provided at Showcase events, Anthony Travel has been appointed the Official Housing Provider for the US Youth Soccer National League Showcase Series. Teams located 100+ miles beyond the USYS designated field location of the Showcases are required to book their hotel accommodations through Anthony Travel. USYS National League Showcase Series teams will be required to secure 6 rooms per team per night. Any teams that do not comply with the National League Showcase Series housing requirements are at risk of penalty.

4.03 Responsibility of Teams

The officials of a team at a match are responsible for the behavior, conduct and control of team players, support staff, supporters including but not limited to family and friends, and team management staff. Failure to abide by this rule may result in Disciplinary Action as determined by the Director of Competitions.

4.04 Substitutions

Substitutions are unlimited for Showcase matches and may be made at any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee.

During a match that is part of a Showcase event using neutral Health Care Professionals (HCP) or neutral Athletic Trainer Certified (ATC) to monitor the fields, if a player is suspected of suffering a head injury, such player must be substituted for evaluation. If the player is deemed by the neutral HCP or neutral ATC to not have been diagnosed as having a possible concussion, the player may re-enter the game at any stoppage of play with the approval of the referee.

4.05 Match Length

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Length of Each Half</u>
17U, 18U and 19U	45 minutes
15U and 16U	40 minutes
14U	35 minutes

4.06 Team Uniforms

Each player (except a goalkeeper) shall have a number on the player's jersey. The number shall be affixed to the back of the jersey and be clearly visible. Each player on a team should wear a number different from the number of every other player on the team. Numbered jerseys on goalkeepers are optional.

All teams are required to attend each match with two (2) sets of jerseys and socks for all of its players; one set of light colored jerseys and socks, and a second set of dark colored jerseys and socks. It is expected that the first team listed on the match schedule is to wear light/white color jerseys and socks. When there is a conflict in uniform color, the team listed second on the Showcase schedule should change its jerseys and socks. The Referee shall define what constitutes light and dark color jerseys and socks. The Showcase Manager shall have the option to assign jersey colors to teams for matches, should such procedure be deemed appropriate.

4.07 Uniform Logos and Patches

US Youth Soccer, National League, or other US Youth Soccer related logos/patches are allowed on uniforms, in addition to the team name, team sponsor, or shirt manufacturer. No other patches/logos are permitted without the written approval of the National League Director.

4.08 Coaching from Sidelines

Limited coaching is permitted only from one touch line from the team's respective technical area (if marked) or from the center-line to no more than 5 yards from the end of the team bench closest to the goal line (if no technical area is marked). Team bench persons may not enter the field without permission from the referee.

4.09 Team Bench Area and Supervision

No more than four (4) team bench persons (being only team coaches, team administrators, and team medical staff) shall be permitted at the team bench area during a match. Also, those players listed on the match lineup card are permitted at the team bench area during a match. A suspended team bench person is not permitted at the Team Bench Area.