



## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the Iber Soccer Convention?

The Iber Soccer Convention is an international football leadership event that brings together coaches, academy directors, federation executives, referees, and industry professionals from around the world.

Focused on the development of young players, the Convention promotes the exchange of knowledge, practical methodologies, and professional experience among football leaders from different countries and competitive environments.

The event features:

- 1,000+ participants from around the world
- 30 international speakers
- 4 expert panels
- 5 days of structured learning and networking

Participants take part in a comprehensive program that includes:

- On-field training demonstrations
- Classroom sessions and tactical analysis
- Keynote presentations from leading experts
- Panel discussions on key topics in youth football

Sessions are led by experienced youth coaches, former professional players, academy directors, and senior club executives, offering real insights into elite development environments.

More than an educational event, the Convention serves as a gateway to the IberCup global ecosystem, connecting clubs and organizations to international opportunities,

partnerships, and development programs.

The IberCup Soccer Convention provides direct access to European football methodology, elite international networking, and practical on-field learning — all within one comprehensive experience.

### **Why is US Youth Soccer (USYS) involved?**

The relationship developed through ODP participation in IberCup international tournaments, creating a strong collaboration between the organizations.

Those conversations led to the opportunity for US Youth Soccer to participate in the Iber Soccer Convention and explore how the initiative can benefit State Associations and their members.

While tournaments remain an important component of the relationship, the Convention expands the collaboration into broader areas such as:

- Coaching education
- Leadership development
- International networking
- Knowledge exchange across the global football community

This creates additional opportunities for the entire USYS ecosystem beyond tournament participation. Through the Convention, USYS leaders and State Associations can:

- Exchange knowledge with international football organizations
- Explore development models used by leading academies
- Identify new opportunities for players, coaches, and clubs
- Connect the US soccer landscape to the global game

### **Is participation required for State Associations?**

No.

Participation is completely optional. This is simply an additional opportunity that states and their members may explore if it aligns with their interests and goals. It provides an additional opportunity for State Associations and their members to explore international collaboration, education, and development resources if it aligns with their goals.

US Youth Soccer will cover the registration package for 20 State Technical Leads. Please email [cbentley@usyouthsoccer.org](mailto:cbentley@usyouthsoccer.org) with your statement of interest as soon as possible.

### **Who from a state might benefit from attending?**

The Convention is designed for leaders shaping the future of the game, including:

- State Association executives
- Technical directors and player development leaders
- Club directors and administrators
- Coaches seeking advanced education

Participants gain direct access to international expertise, global perspectives, and valuable professional networks.

### **How does this benefit players and clubs in my state?**

Exposure to international best practices in coaching, player development, and club management can provide valuable insights that strengthen programs within your state.

Through the IberCup ecosystem, clubs gain access to opportunities that few organizations can offer.

These opportunities help clubs deliver greater value to players and families.

What is the IberCup ecosystem?

IberCup is a global football platform connecting clubs, players, coaches, and organizations across multiple continents.

Through this ecosystem, clubs can get:

#### Differentiation

Clubs gain a clear international identity within a globally recognized platform.

#### Retention and Growth

International opportunities help clubs attract and retain ambitious players and families.

### Global Opportunities

Rather than isolated initiatives, IberCup offers a structured international development network.

Together, these initiatives create a continuous pathway for players, coaches, and clubs.

### **Why should a State Association partner with IberCup?**

Youth soccer in the United States is evolving rapidly, with increasing demand for international exposure and advanced development opportunities.

Partnering with IberCup allows State Associations to:

- Connect their clubs to a global football ecosystem
- Expand opportunities for players and coaches
- Build international partnerships
- Position their state as a leader in innovation and development

### **How can IberCup help states grow their club ecosystem?**

Through the IberCup platform, states can help their clubs to access:

- International tournaments with different levels
- Strategic international partnerships
- Global player identification programs
- European tryouts and scouting exposure
- Gap Year development programs in Portugal
- Advanced coaching education
- Learn from international club management models

This strengthens clubs, improves player development, and increases the overall value delivered to families.

### **What are the costs to participate?**

Participation costs may vary depending on travel arrangements and level of involvement. For more information, click [here](#).

## **More questions?**

Click [here](#) for more information, or feel free to reach out Chris Bentley/Tom Condone for further details