



US YOUTH SOCCER NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTHWEST CONFERENCE 2018-19 SEASON TEAM INFORMATION DOCUMENT

INTRODUCTION

The US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference mission is to provide the highest standard of competitive play for youth teams that are members of US Youth Soccer State Associations of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. The US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference offers quality league competition for teams primarily against teams outside of their state association. Teams playing in the 2018-19 US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference compete for the chance to earn spots into the West 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.

COMMITMENT

Any team looking to participate in the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference must understand the level of commitment it takes to participate in a League that stretches across 6 different state associations. All teams understand that this is a multi-state league and that teams may travel hundreds of miles to participate in conference games. Teams understand that they may not play any true “home” games. A limited number of teams are accepted into the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference, so it is important that each team makes the commitment to travel BEFORE applying to the conference.

BOYS and GIRLS AGE GROUPS OF COMPETITION

The 2018-19 US Youth Soccer National Northwest Conference will include the following age groups:

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

The 15U (2004) Boys will have 2 Divisions. The Club Division (current structure) winner will face the Academy Division (DA Clubs integrating back into the NW Conference at the 15U age group) winner in a Championship match to determine which team will earn a berth to the West Regionals in 2019 and a spot in the 2019-20 National League. Both teams would earn a spot in the 2019-20 Northwest Conference.

ENTRY FEE

The Team Entry Fee to participate in the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference is \$1,500 per team for 13U and 14U teams; and \$1,600 per team for 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U and 19U teams and is non-refundable if a team is accepted into the conference and later drops out. Payment information will be collected at the time that the team application is submitted. However, payment will not be transacted until the team is accepted into the Northwest Conference.

The Team Fee includes Referee Fees, which will be paid in accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures. 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 Northwest 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 Northwest Conference compiles team contact information based on each team’s application into the conference.

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APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Team Application deadline is Monday, June 25, 2018. Teams wishing to participate in the Northwest Conference should contact their State Association office for the web link in order to enter the secure application website for the Northwest Conference. Following submission of a team application, your State Association will either endorse/approve the application or decline the application for participation in the Northwest Conference. After receiving State Association recommendation, the Northwest Conference will review team applications and determine if your team will be accepted into the Northwest Conference for the 2018-2019 Season. In completing the application form, teams are required to submit accurate information on team accomplishments. Misrepresentation of team accomplishments may result in the team being disqualified from Northwest Conference participation. To register you will need your Affinity team's user name and password. ***Please do not sign up for the league if you cannot meet all of the required dates above that apply to your team.***

QUALIFYING TEAMS, SELECTION AND PLACEMENT

There is a two-step approval process for the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference. First, each team must be endorsed by its respective State Association. Second, the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference shall review and determine the final selection of all teams and placement into divisions, if applicable.

Each gender age group is populated in four ways:

- The 2017-18 RCL 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place teams and TTL 1st and 2nd Place teams earn automatic slots
- The 2017-18 State Cup champions from the 6 states earn automatic slots
- The 2017-18 National League teams that qualify for the 2018 Nationals earn automatic slots
- Teams selected by the Northwest Conference

See "US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference-Populating Each Gender Age Group" document for more information.

The criteria used for acceptance and placement includes but is not limited to the team's performance in 2017-18 NW play, 2017-18 US Youth Soccer National Championship Series play (State Cup, Regionals and Nationals), and 2017-18 National League. Accepted teams shall be notified via a website posting or an e-mail regarding their acceptance and placement into the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference. The list of teams accepted along with tier and division placement for the 2018-19 season is expected to take place on or around July 10, 2018.

REFEREES

US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference games will use a 3-man referee system. **The referee fees are included in the League Registration Fee.**

13U and 14U:	\$120 (\$50 to Referee and \$35 to each AR)
15U and 16U:	\$140 (\$60 to Referee and \$40 to each AR)
17U, 18U and 19U:	\$160 (\$70 to Referee and \$45 to each AR)

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 Northwest Conference play.

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COMPETITION FORMAT

All competitions in every age group shall be round robin. There will be no end of season playoffs except in the 15U Boys. Based on the number of teams placed into subdivisions, teams may play up to a total of 9 US Youth Soccer National League Northwest 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 Northwest Conference teams are required to fulfill their commitment by playing out their entire conference schedule of games.

ADVANCEMENT TO REGIONALS

The top team from each age group in accordance with the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference Rules and Operating Procedures will qualify for 2019 West Regionals that same seasonal year as the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference representative. To remain qualified for Regionals, a team must also play in their state association's State Cup.

QUALIFICATION INTO 2019-20 NATIONAL LEAGUE

The top team from each applicable age group in the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference will qualify for the National League for the following seasonal year. Teams participating in National League must also play in the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference.

LOCATION OF GAMES--HOSTING

There are two categories for hosting US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference games.

Conference Events: The League will host three (3) events for 13U through 14U teams; and two (3) events for 15U through 19U teams.

One Off Games: The League Scheduler will determine the site of one off games between teams that are not available to participate in the December event due to National League games.

THE 2018-19 SEASON

The start date of the 2018-2019 season for the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference will be August 17, 2018. All games for the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference must be completed by April 15, 2019

The Conference Dates: (TENTATIVE)

August 17-19, 2018 in Boise, ID	Boys and Girls 13U, 14U
October 6-7, 2018 in Seattle, WA	Boys and Girls 13U, 14U
November 10-11, 2018 in Portland, OR	Boys and Girls 13U, 14U
November 10-11, 2018 in Portland, OR	Boys and Girls 13U, 14U
Dec 7-10, 2018, Portland, OR	Boys and Girls 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U and 19U
*Timbers Alliance College Showcase	
January 18-20, 2019 in Seattle, WA	Boys and Girls 15U, 16U, 17U, 18U and 19U
*PacNW Winter Classic	
15U Boys Championship Match	TBD

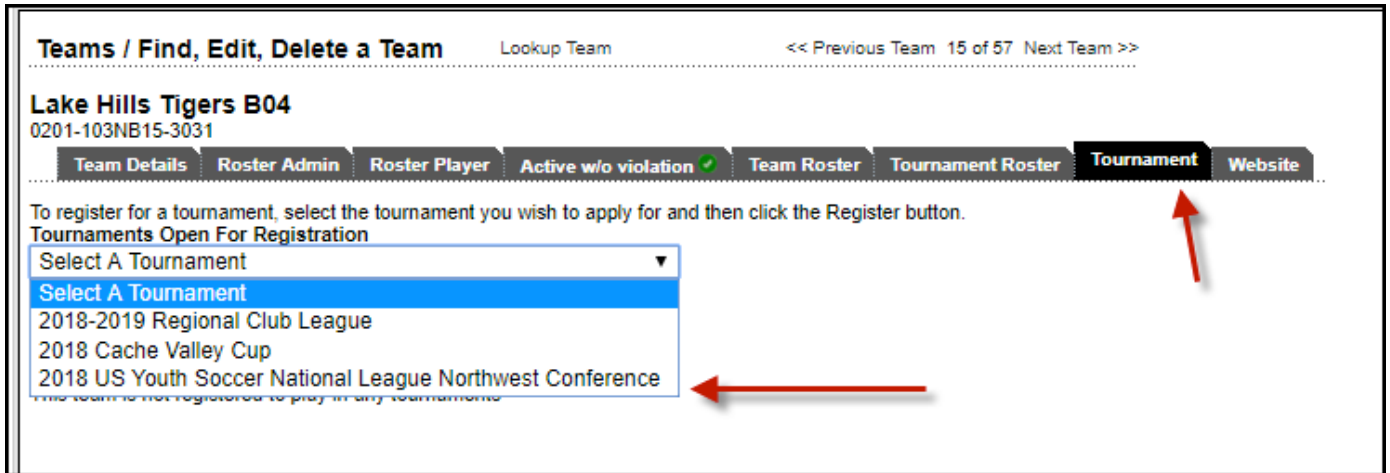
GENERAL SCHEDULING INFORMATION

- Conference schedules will be developed by the League Scheduler and League Manager, who will have sole discretion of game schedules. A coach of multiple teams within the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference will be given scheduling considerations so he/she can be present for their team's games, however coach conflict resolution IS NOT guaranteed. Clubs are strongly encouraged to have a 2nd coach that can step in should a conflict exists.
- Any reschedules will be done in accordance with the Conference Operating Procedures. Schedule requests for individual teams will NOT be considered. For any rescheduling, provided it does not impact the competitive nature at a Conference Event will only be considered if both teams agree to the rescheduling and agree to a date, time and location. Any team requesting to reschedule a One Off Game should understand that they will need to travel to the opposing teams home location provided that both teams agree to the new date and time.

- Teams participating in the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference must be available to play on the published conference dates, which includes rain dates. By submitting your team application, your team is committing to play on the published dates for the conference.

TEAM REGISTRATION - AFFINITY

- Teams within States that use Affinity:
 - GO to Tournament Tab in your current organization
 - Select a Tournament
 - 2018 US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference



The screenshot shows a web interface for a team named "Lake Hills Tigers B04" (ID: 0201-103NB15-3031). The navigation bar includes tabs for "Team Details", "Roster Admin", "Roster Player", "Active w/o violation" (with a green checkmark), "Team Roster", "Tournament Roster", "Tournament" (highlighted in black), and "Website". Below the tabs, a message states: "To register for a tournament, select the tournament you wish to apply for and then click the Register button." Underneath, a section titled "Tournaments Open For Registration" features a dropdown menu. The dropdown is open, showing three options: "Select A Tournament", "2018-2019 Regional Club League", and "2018 US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference". A red arrow points to the "Tournament" tab, and another red arrow points to the "2018 US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference" option in the dropdown.

Affinity Support Line: 800-808-7195

CONTACT

For more information on the US Youth Soccer National League Northwest Conference please contact the League Manager, Chris Webb, at cwebb@usyouthsoccer.org

Subject to change—as of May 11, 2018