



TO: US Youth Soccer National League Teams
FROM: Simon Collins, National League Commissioner
DATE: June 2023
RE: **National League Season 2023-24**

Please feel free to share this letter with your schools.

On behalf of the US Youth Soccer National League, we would like to request the release of all players that are members of teams attending our Desert Conference during the 2023-24 season. We realize the importance of a player's education and strive to accommodate the academic calendar, which varies from state to state, as much as possible, while also being cognizant of the financial impact that participating in a national program has on families. Regrettably, our schedule may result in a limited number of days missed from school.

National League competitions provide top-level teams and their players with extraordinary opportunities to showcase their talents in front of numerous college coaches and scouts. The opportunity provided to the players is great both on and off the field. As we all know, players at the elite level are striving to extend their educational and soccer-playing careers to the college level. Entering the 17th year of our program, we have already seen the benefit that the National League has provided its players in achieving these goals.

Additionally, USYS recognizes the National League as an official recruiting platform for the USYS Olympic Development Program. National League events are sanctioned and work with USYS ODP for the purpose of talent identification.

The dates of our Desert Conference competitions are: **Sept. 8-10, 2023; Nov. 17-19, 2023; and Feb. 23-25, 2024** (please know to allow for one or more travel days before and after the competition days).

For more information on the US Youth Soccer National League, visit usysnationalleague.com.

Thank you for your understanding regarding the absence of USYS National League players from school during our events. Please feel free to contact me with any questions. I can be reached at nationalleague@usyouthsoccer.org.

Sincerely,

Simon Collins

Simon Collins
National League Commissioner
US Youth Soccer