



TO: Elite 64 Teams
FROM: Simon Collins, National League Commissioner
DATE: August 2023
RE: **Elite 64 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 Elite 64 players that are members of teams attending our national events and league weekends 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.

Elite 64, our elite-level club-based platform, provides top-level teams and 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, US Youth Soccer, as the manager and operator of the USYS Olympic Development Program (ODP), recognizes Elite 64 as an official player evaluation environment for all levels of the USYS Olympic Development Program (national, regional and state). All National League events are sanctioned and work with USYS ODP for the purpose of talent identification to provide players with a great opportunity to elevate their game. All players that are identified as potential ODP team players will receive written notification along with invitation to the next ODP event.

The dates of our national competitions are: **Nov. 10-13, 2023; Jan. 26-29, 2024; Feb. 23-26, 2024; and May 3-6, 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 and Elite 64, visit usysnationalleague.com.

Thank you for your understanding regarding the absence of Elite 64 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