

**LEAGUE  
CHAMPIONSHIP**

# USYS League Championship Pathway 2021-2022 Seasonal Year

# USYS League Championship Overview



# USYS League Championship Benefits

---

The USYS League Championship platform provides NCSL member clubs and teams with a direct pathway to the USYS Eastern Regional Championships while maintaining the league's commitment to high-quality, competitively-appropriate games with reasonable travel and cost.

## Direct Regional Pathway

The USYS League Championship platform provides NCSL teams the opportunity to **qualify for regional level play through their local league.**

## Lower Cost

NCSL continues to offer a **quality league experience at a reasonable cost.** With the League Championship platform, teams can gain still access to the USYS Eastern Regional Championships while spending thousands less in league fees.

## Less Travel

Teams competing at the regional level usually spend hours traveling to and from games. With this new platform, teams can gain **access to same regional pathway with less overall travel.**

## More Choice

High-school aged teams struggle with balancing high school soccer with a competitive club schedule. We help alleviate this pressure by allowing U16-19 teams choose a limited or full game schedule. We **build a custom schedule** that both satisfies their desire to earn at spot at the regional level while also **helping teams manage their overall player output.**

## More Flexibility

For U16-19 teams, we give Super Group teams **early access to schedule games through our online platform that best fits their team needs.**

# USYS League Championship (LC) Pathway

---

NCSL Super Group Division  
Fall 2021/Spring 2022

U13-19 NCSL Super Group division winners move on to compete at the League Championship Playoff. U13-U15 Super Group play will occur during the spring season only within Division 1. U16-U19 Super Group play will occur in both Fall and Spring seasons starting with the 2021-21 seasonal year.

USYS League Championship (LC) Playoff  
May 28-29th @ Long Island, NY

U13-19 winners from each participating league meet for League Championship (LC) Playoff. The current participating leagues are NCSL, CCL, Long Island Junior Soccer League (LIJSL), and CCL New England. The winner moves on to Eastern Regional Championships.

USYS Eastern Regional Championships  
June 24-30th @ Charles & Barboursville, WV

USYS League Championship (LC) playoff winner joins State Cup winners & USYS Conference winners to compete for the USYS Eastern Regional Champion crown.

USYS National Championships  
July 19-24th @ Orlando, FL

The (4) Regional Champions, including the Eastern Region Champion, compete for the USYS National Champion crown.

# Super Group Application Timeline

---

Summer 2021

Teams submit applications for Fall 2021 Super Group by the June BOD meeting.

The top (3) finishers in Spring 2022 Super Group, top (3) finishers in Spring 2022 Division 1, & top finisher in Spring 2022 Division 2 automatically qualify for the Fall 2021 Super Group if they apply. To be considered, a team must play in their state's USYS State Cup.

The NCSL Executive Committee will review applications and notify teams of their Super Group status by mid-uly at latest.

Fall 2021

Accepted Super Group teams compete to determine Fall 2021 Super Group winner.

The top (3) finishers in Fall 2021 Super Group, top (3) finishers Division 1 & top finisher in Fall 2021 Division 2 automatically qualify for the Spring 2022 Super Group if they apply. To be considered, a team must play in their state's USYS State Cup. See FAQ section for more details.

Winter 2021-2022

Teams submit applications for Spring 2022 Super Group by January BOD meeting. Any team within an NCSL member club may apply, regardless of league.

The NCSL Executive Committee will review applications and notify teams of their Super Group status by late January/early February.

Spring 2022

Accepted Super Group teams compete to determine Spring 2022 Super Group winner. See FAQ section for more details.

Fall 2021 Super Group winner plays a (1) game playoff vs. Spring 2022 Super Group winner to capture spot in League Championship (LC) Playoff.

# Super Group Structure

There will be both a Fall 2021 Super Group & Spring 2022 Super Group season. If there is a Fall Super Group winner, the Fall 2021 & Spring 2022 Super Group winners play a (1) game playoff to determine the overall Super Group winner.



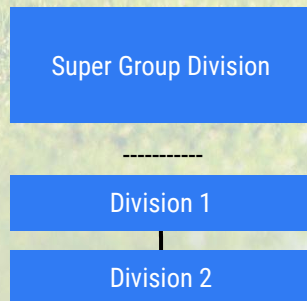
\*If teams apply and must participate in USYS State Cup

# Super Group Implementation

---

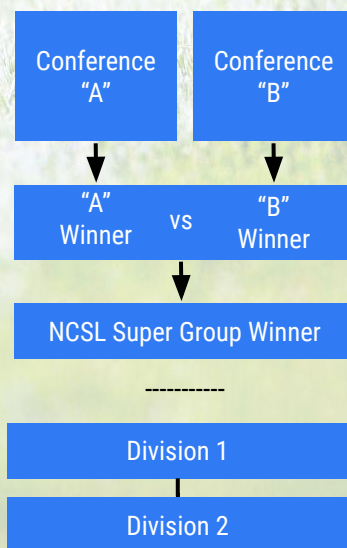
We will allow teams to choose between a limited schedule (up to 3-4 games) or a full schedule (6+ games). The league will create either a “division” or “conference” Super Group structure based on division make-up and team feedback.

## “Division” Structure



The Super Group “Division” is separate from Division 1. A division will consist of up to 10 teams, depending on age group. If Super Group does not provide a “full” schedule, the league will schedule quality crossover games with teams within the NCSL division structure and/or Elite Soccer Series (ESS) teams.

## “Conferences” Structure



The Super Group “Conferences” are separate from Division 1. Each conference will consist of a small set of teams. If Super Group does not provide a “full” schedule, the league will schedule crossover games with younger/older Super Group teams and/or Elite Soccer Series (ESS) teams for interested teams.

# FAQs

---

- Q | What is the Super Group cost?

A | For teams that would like a full schedule of 6+ games, it is the [regular league fee](#) + \$150 Super Group fee. For teams that want to play a limited league schedule of 3-4 games, the fee is \$600 + \$150 Super Group fee.

- Q | What does the \$150 Super Group fee cover?

A | This fee covers the league's basic expense to participate in the League Championship pathway. It also covers the Super Group winner's entry fee to the League Championship playoff and USYS Easter Regional Championships (if they advance).

- Q | How do you choose Super Group teams?

A | Teams are selected based on their league and tournament results.

- Q | Does a team need to play USYS State Cup to be considered?

A | Yes, a team must play in the current year state-sanctioned USYS State Cup to be considered.

- Q | Can any team apply to the Super Group?

A | Any team within an NCSL member club can apply regardless of league.

- Q | What if my team is not accepted into the Super Group?

A | Teams not accepted are strongly encouraged to still play in the league divisional format.



# FAQs

---

- Q | When is the registration deadline to apply to Super Group?

A | The Fall 2021 deadline is the by the late-June BOD meeting. The Spring 2022 deadline is the by the mid-January BOD meeting.

- Q | Is this pathway for both boys and girls?

A | Yes, this pathway is for both boys and girls teams.

- Q | What if my team plays Fall Super Group and didn't win?

A | Teams may apply again for the Spring Super Group if they'd like. Likewise, teams that were not accepted in the Fall may reapply for Spring Super Group entry. The top 3 Fall 2021 Super Group finishers will get automatic qualification for the Spring 2022 Super Group.

- Q | What if my team plays Fall Super Group and wins?

A | As a Fall Super Group winner you are already qualified for the single game NCSL Super Group Championship game in the Spring, however, Fall Super Group winners also gain automatic entry into Spring Super Group play (if they choose to participate)

- Q | What are the roster restrictions during NCSL and League Championship playoffs?

A | For NCSL Super Group play, teams will abide by NCSL rules. For NCSL games, teams are allowed unlimited club pass players per game. For League Championship playoff games, Super Group winning teams abide by USYS National Championship rules.

\*If you have any additional questions, please contact Ryan Rich, NCSL Executive Director, at [execdir@ncsl-soccer.com](mailto:execdir@ncsl-soccer.com)