



## 2025-26 ECNL Girls Post-Season Structure

### Conference Structure

#### **Mid-Atlantic Conference**

Arlington Soccer, Beach FC (VA), Charlotte SA, Fairfax VA Union, NC Courage, NC Fusion, NCFC Youth, Richmond United, VDA, Wilmington Hammerheads Youth

- 10 teams
- Single Table Competition
- U13-U14 | Play each opponent home and away = 18 games
- U15-U18/19 | Play each opponent home or away = 9 games
  - U15-U18/19 | ECNL League Cup: Group Play (4 games), Top 2 from each group advance to Final Four (2 games)

#### ***Automatic Champions League Qualification***

- Top 3 Teams in the conference U13-U14 based on PPG from conference games only
- Top 3 Teams in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
- [Top 2 Teams in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### ***Automatic North American Cup Qualification***

- [U15-U17 League Cup Winner or the 4th best team](#) in the conference based on PPG from conference games only

#### ***Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification***

- Next Team (5th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

#### **Midwest Conference**

Chicago Inter SC, Eclipse Select SC, FC Wisconsin, Gretna Elite Academy, Kansas City Athletics, Liverpool FC IA Michigan, Michigan Hawks, Michigan Hawks Magic, Minnesota Thunder Academy, Missouri Rush, Nationals SC, Rockford Raptors FC, SLSG Green, SLSG Navy, Sporting Blue Valley, Sporting Iowa

- 16 teams
- Single Table Competition
- U13-U18/19 | Play each opponent home or away = 15 games

- U13-U14 | ECNL League Cup: Group Play (3 games), Winners advance to Final Four (2 games)

#### ***Automatic Champions League Qualification***

- Top 4 Teams in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
- [Top 2 Teams in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### ***Automatic North American Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (5th & 6th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

#### ***Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (7th & 8th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **North Atlantic Conference**

Bethesda SC, FC Delco, HEX FC Bucks, Maryland United FC, Match Fit Academy, PDA Blue, PDA White, Penn Fusion SA, Philadelphia Ukrainians Nationals, Pipeline SC

- 10 teams
- Single Table Competition
- U13-U14 | Play each opponent home and away = 18 games
- U15-U18/19 | Play each opponent home or away = 9 games
  - U15-U18/19 | ECNL League Cup: Group Play (4 games), Top 2 advancing to Final Four (1 game minimum)

#### ***Automatic Champions League Qualification***

- Top 2 Teams in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *3rd best team in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as one of two Wild Card spots across five conferences (see below)*
- [Top team in the conference U18/19 based on PPG in from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game vs. the top team in the New England conference for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### ***Automatic North American Cup Qualification***

- Next Team (3rd place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - **U15-U17 League Cup Winner or the 4th best team** in the conference based on PPG from conference games only

#### ***Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification***

- Next Team (5th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **New England Conference**

Connecticut FC, East Meadow SC, FC Stars Blue, FC Stars White, FSA FC, Scorpions Soccer, South Shore Select, SUSAC FC, World Class FC

- 9 teams
- Single Table Competition
- U13-U18/19 | Play each opponent home and away = 16 games

### **Automatic Champions League Qualification**

- Top 2 Teams in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *3rd best team in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as one of two Wild Card berths across five conferences*
- [Top team in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game vs. the top team in the North Atlantic conference for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

### **Automatic North American Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (3rd place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (4th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *5th best team in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as a Wild Card spot across three conferences (see below)*

## **Northern California Conference**

Bay Area Surf, California Odyssey SC, Davis Legacy, DeAnza Force, Marin FC, Mustang SC, MVLA SC, Placer United, Pleasanton Rage, San Juan SC, Santa Rosa United

- 11 teams
- Single Table Competition
- U13-U18/19 | Play each opponent home and away = 20 games

### **Automatic Champions League Qualification**

- Top 2 Teams in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *3rd best team in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as one of two Wild Card spots across five conferences (see below)*
- [Top team in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game vs. the top team in the Northwest conference for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

### **Automatic North American Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (3rd place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (4th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *5th best team in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as a Wild Card spot across three conferences (see below)*

## **Northwest Conference**

Boise Thorns FC, Eastside FC, La Roca FC, Oregon Surf, Pacific Northwest SC, Portland Thorns, Seattle United, Utah Avalanche, Washington Premier, XF

- 10 teams
- Single Table Competition
- U13-U18/19 | Play each opponent home and away = 18 games

#### **Automatic Champions League Qualification**

- Top 2 Teams in the Conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *3rd best team in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as one of two Wild Card spots across five conferences (see below)*
- [Top team in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game vs. the top team in the NorCal conference for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### **Automatic North American Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (3rd place) in the Conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

#### **Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (4th place) in the Conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *5th best team in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as a Wild Card spot across three conferences (see below)*

### **Ohio Valley Conference**

**North Division** - Cleveland Force, Internationals SC, Greater Toledo FC, Ohio Premier, Pittsburgh Riverhounds, WNY Flash

**South Division** - FC Alliance, FC Pride, Indy Eleven, Ohio Elite SA, Racing Louisville Academy, Tennessee SC

- 12 teams
- U13-U14 | Play each opponent home and away = 22 games
- U15-U18/19 | 2 Divisions (North & South)
  - Play each division opponent home & away/each cross division opponent home or away = 16 games

#### **Automatic Champions League Qualification**

- Top 3 Teams in the Conference U13 & U14 qualify for the Champions League based on PPG from conference games only
- Top Team in each division of the Conference U15-U17 qualify for the Champions League based on PPG from conference games only
  - *Best 2nd place team from either division in the conference U15-U17 qualify for the Champions League based on PPG from conference games only*
- [Top Team in each division of the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### **Automatic North American Cup Qualification**

- Next 2 Teams (4th & 5th place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

#### **Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification**

- Next Team (6 place) in the conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **Southeast Conference**

Alabama FC, Atlanta Fire, Carolina Elite Soccer Academy, Concorde Fire Platinum, Concorde Fire Premier, FC Prime, Florida Kraze Krush, Florida Premier FC, Florida West FC, GSA, Jacksonville FC, Orlando City Youth Soccer, South Carolina United, Sporting Jax Soccer Academy, Tampa Bay United, United Futbol Academy

- 16 teams
- Single Table Competition
- Play each opponent home or away = 15 games

#### ***Automatic Champions League Qualification***

- Top 3 Teams in the Conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - *4th best team in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only has an opportunity to qualify as one of two Wild Card spots across five conferences (see below)*
- [Top 2 Teams in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### ***Automatic North American Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (4th & 5th place) in the Conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

#### ***Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (6th & 7th place) in the Conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **Southwest Conference**

Arizona Arsenal, Beach FC (CA), Eagles Soccer Club, LA Breakers, LAFC So Cal, Legends FC, Legends FC San Diego, LV Heat Surf SC, Pateadores, Phoenix Rising FC, Rebels SC, San Diego Surf, Slammers FC, Slammers FC HB KØGE, So Cal Blues, Sporting CA Arsenal FC, Utah Royals FC AZ

- 17 teams
- Single Table Competition
- Play each opponent home or away = 16 games

#### ***Automatic Champions League Qualification***

- Top 5 Teams in the conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
- [Top 2 Teams in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026](#)

#### ***Automatic North American Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (6th & 7th place) U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

#### ***Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (8th & 9th place) U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

### **Texas Conference**

Albion Hurricanes FC, Challenge SC, Classics Elite, Colorado Rapids, Colorado Rush, Dallas Texans, DKSC, FC Dallas, Oklahoma Energy, Real Colorado Athletic, Real Colorado National, Solar SC, Sting Austin, Sting Black, Sting Royal, West Side Alliance

- 16 teams
- Single Table Competition
- Play each opponent home or away = 15 games
  - U13-U18/19 | ECNL League Cup: Group Play (3 games), Winners advance to Final Four (2 games)

### ***Automatic Champions League Qualification***

- Top 4 Teams in the Conference U13-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
- **Top 2 Teams in the conference U18/19 based on PPG from conference games only will compete in a Play-in game for a place in the U18/19 National Finals in St. Louis, MO - June, 2026**

### ***Automatic North American Cup Qualification***

- Next Team (5th place) in the Conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only
  - **U15-U17 League Cup Winner or the 6th best team** in the conference based on PPG from conference games only

### ***Automatic Showcase Cup Qualification***

- Next 2 Teams (7th & 8th place) in the Conference U15-U17 based on PPG from conference games only

## **ECNL National Championship Structure**

### **U13-U17 Champions League = 32 teams (30 Automatic Qualifiers & 2 Wild Card Qualifiers)**

- ECNL National Playoffs - 32 team knockout
- 3 Games guaranteed
- Teams will be seeded 1-32 based on PPG in conference games only
  - The team ranked 1st will play vs. the 32nd ranked team and so on....
  - **A first round match-up can not consist of two teams from the same conference**
    - ***If this Match-up occurs, the lower seed team will switch with the seeded team below them.***
    - ***If it happens to be the 32nd seeded team, the 32nd and 31st seeded teams will switch.***
- Teams that lose on day one will compete in the Champions League Cup competition
- The two teams who advance to the National Championship game and the Champions League Cup final will play a total of 5 games in 7 days.
- If a game ends in a tie, it will go directly to Penalty Kicks, except for the ECNL National Championship game. In that case, there will be two (2) periods of ten (10) minutes each, played to completion (ie. no "golden goal"), followed by Penalty Kicks, if necessary.

### **U18/19 Champions League = 16 teams (16 Automatic Qualifiers)**

- Qualifying Play-In Game | Each team who automatically qualifies has a one off play-in game.
  - The higher seed or the team with the highest PPG from conference games only will host the play-in game
    - If the Play-in game ends in a tie, the game will go directly to Penalty Kicks
- ECNL National Finals - 8-Team Knockout
  - 8 winners of the play-in games
  - 2-Game Guarantee
  - Only the Teams Advancing to the ECNL National Championship day will play a 3rd Game
  - Champion Crowned at ECNL RL Central Playoffs in St. Louis, MO

### **U15-U17 North American Cup = 16 teams (teams seeded 33-48 based on PPG from conference games only)**

ECNL National Championships - 16-Team Knockout

- 3-Game Guarantee
- Only the Teams Advancing to North American Cup Final Play 4th Game

**U15-U17 Showcase Cup = 16 teams (teams ranked 49-64 based on PPG from conference games only)**

- ECNL National Championships - 16-Team Knockout
- 3-Game Guarantee
- Only the Teams Advancing to Showcase Final Play 4th Game

**U16-U17 Showcase Games = 28 teams**

- 28 Teams, selected from any ECNL conference, will be provided an opportunity to compete in three Showcase games in Seattle during the ECNL National Championship Event
  - Teams that did not qualify for the Showcase Cup will be selected based on team interest and PPG in Conference Games only

**Standings Structure**

**U13 - U17 Age Group**

***32-Team Champions League***

- 30 Automatic Qualifiers based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown
- 2 Wildcard Qualifiers from five conferences (New England, North Atlantic, Northwest, NorCal and Southeast), based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown
- Champions League Seeded 1-10 Based on Conference Champions on PPG in Conference Games only
- Remaining Teams Seeded 11-32 Based on PPG in Conference Games only
- Conference Champions are Defined as the Team in the Conference with Highest PPG Regardless of Division

**U18/19 Age Group**

***16-Team Champions League***

- 16 Automatic Qualifiers Based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown
- NO Wildcard Qualifiers
- Winners of the Play-in games will be seeded based on Conference Games PPG Only as indicated in Conference Breakdown

**U15-U17 Age Groups**

***16-Team North American Cup***

- 16 Automatic Qualifiers Based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown
- North American Cup Seeded 1-16 Based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown

**U15-U17 Age Groups**

***16-Team Showcase Cup***

- 15 Automatic Qualifiers Based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown
- 1 Wildcard Qualifier from three conferences (New England, Northwest and NorCal), based on Conference Games PPG Only as Indicated in Conference Breakdown
- Showcase Cup Seeded 1-16 Based on Conference Champions on PPG in Conference Games only

Conference	Clubs	Champions League	North American Cup	Showcase Cup	Showcase Games	U18/19 Champions League
		U13 - U17	U15 - U17	U15 - U17	U16 - U17	
Southwest	17	5	2	2	-	2
Texas	16	4	2	2	-	2
Midwest	16	4	2	2	-	2
Mid-Atlantic	10	3	1	1	-	2
New England	9	2*	1	1*	-	1
North Atlantic	10	2*	2	1	-	1
Ohio Valley	12	3	2	1	-	2
Northwest	10	2*	1	1*	-	1
Southeast	16	3*	2	2	-	2
NorCal	11	2*	1	1*	-	1
<b>Total Qualifiers</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>16</b>
*	The next best team is in contention for one of <b>two</b> Wild Card spots to the Champions League based on conference games only					
*	The next best team is in contention for a Wild Card spot to the Showcase Cup based on conference games only					
-	The next best teams outside of Showcase Cup qualification, will be considered to compete in Showcase games at the ECNL National Championship Event in <b>Seattle, WA - July 2026</b>					
U18/19 Champions League	Qualifying U18/19 teams will compete in knockout Play-in game, with the 8 winners qualifying to the U18/19 National Championship in <b>St. Louis, MO - June, 2026</b>					