

May 24, 2018

Good morning all.

This message is being sent to all current MRL teams that played in either the Fall 2017 season and/or the Spring 2018 season. There is a lot of important information in this email, so please read in its entirety.

As many of you may have seen yesterday, US Youth Soccer put out a press release announcing the new National Leagues Program. For those of you that missed the press release, it can be seen at <https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/us-youth-soccer-announces-additional-conferences-in-new-national-leagues-structure/>

I just wanted to make sure that you have also viewed the 2018-19 Fact sheet that has been posted on the National Leagues Program Website at https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/1/6/usys_nl_midwest_and_great_lakes_conferences_fact_sheet_5-11-18v2.pdf This will answer a lot of the questions that you may have. More information, including Must be Available to Play weekends, costs and other administrative items will be released shortly before the application period opens on or around June 6th. As in previous years, once an application has been received, all teams will need to be endorsed by their state association before teams will be considered for the National Leagues Program. ***The fact sheet also explains how we are splitting the former MRL into two conferences as well as adding teams from the neighboring state associations from New York West, PA West and West Virginia***

My role will be the League Manager for both the Midwest Conference and the Great Lakes Conference, overseeing both conferences and covering 17 state associations. Once we are through the applications period, all communication you receive from me will be specific to your own conference.

I am a former club director and coach of several teams that have participated in both the MRL and the National League. For the past five years I have been an assistant men's coach at Division I Western Michigan University. I am connected with club coaches, DOC's and college coaches throughout the Midwest and Great Lakes conference territories. For the past 13 years I have also owned my own event management company, organizing and providing event management services for a number of youth soccer tournaments and showcase events, hosting more than 1,200 teams annually.

The Team Application period to participate in the **2018 Fall Season will open on or around June 6, 2018 and close on Wednesday, June 27, 2018**

The Team Application period to participate in the **2019 Spring Season 15U through 18U age groups will open on or around July 16, 2018 and close on Wednesday, August 8, 2018**

The Team Application period to participate in the **2019 Spring Season 13U and 14U age groups will open on or around Oct 15 and close on November 11.**

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR INDIANA AND MICHIGAN TEAMS ONLY

Teams in Michigan and Indiana may choose which conference they choose to play in, for a full description on this please see the fact sheet link. This link again can be seen at https://www.usyouthsoccer.org/assets/1/6/usys_nl_midwest_and_great_lakes_conferences_fact_sheet_5-11-18v2.pdf

My preferred method of communication is email, please try to communicate this way when possible. Cell phone communication should be for urgent use only, I would appreciate your help with this.

I am excited to work with you and your state as we look to establish the new US Youth Soccer Leagues program throughout the country.

Thanks,

Marc Frankland
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NL Conference League Manager
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