

## **ECNL BOYS ANNOUNCE MAJOR ADDITION OF REGIONAL LEAGUE CLUBS AND MULTIPLE NEW ECNL REGIONAL LEAGUES**

### ***Expansion Signals Growing National Alignment within the ECNL Pathway***

**RICHMOND, Va. (April 14, 2023)** - The ECNL Boys is thrilled to announce the addition of 37 new clubs to the ECNL Boys Regional League, as well as the formation of five new ECNL Regional Leagues across the country for the 2023-24 season. The creation of the ECNL Regional League - Far West, ECNL Regional League - Mid America, ECNL Regional League - Midwest, ECNL Regional League - Mountain, and ECNL Regional League - North Atlantic are part of a multi-year growth strategy to create a robust ECNL national competition pyramid.

Acceptance into the ECNL Regional League for these clubs was based on exceptional performance over the past 18 months in a number of different national leagues around the country. Top performing teams from clubs in the NPL, Elite 64, Elite Academy League, and multiple different USYS National Leagues will be joining the ECNL Regional League platform moving forward.

Beyond the great local and regional competition and college showcasing available in the ECNL Regional League, these clubs also have a potential pathway to earn promotion to the ECNL Club Competition in the future based on their performance.

Below is a full list of clubs representing the five new ECNL Regional Leagues for the 2023-24 season.

**ECNL Regional League - Far West:** Based upon the successful integration of Oregon-based United PDX into the ECNL Northwest Conference, the Far West will kickstart the ECNL Boys Regional League in both Oregon and Idaho.

**Clubs:** Boise Timbers (Meridian, ID); Capital FC (Salem, OR); Eugene Metro (Eugene, OR); Idaho Rush (Boise, ID); Oregon Premier FC (West Linn, OR); Westside Metros (Beaverton, OR)

**ECNL Regional League - Mid America:** Creating an ECNL pathway in a zone of the country that has exceptional talent, the Mid America brokers the league's first presence in Arkansas, Mississippi, and Western Tennessee.

**Clubs:** Arkansas Comets (Springdale, AR); Arkansas Rising (Little Rock, AR); Blitz Academy (Tulsa, OK); Germantown Legends (Germantown, TN); Memphis Lobos (Collierville, TN); Mississippi Rush (Madison, MS); South Lake Oklahoma Cosmos (Oklahoma City, OK)

**ECNL Regional League - Midwest:** The formation of the Midwest will serve to help accommodate the depth of player pools of member clubs in the ECNL Midwest Conference.

**Clubs:** Chicago Magic (Highland Park, IL); FC Pride (Indianapolis, IN); FC Wisconsin (Germantown, WI); Indiana Elite (Crown Point, IN); Rockford Raptors (Rockford, IL)

**ECNL Regional League - Mountain:** Welcoming four new Colorado-based clubs to the mix, this eight club Regional League will provide an excellent competition structure all contained within the state of Colorado.

**Clubs:** Arsenal Colorado (Fort Collins, CO); B-Elite Academy (Denver, CO); Boulder County United FC (Lafayette, CO); Colorado EDGE (Arvada, CO); Colorado Rapids (Aurora, CO); Colorado Rush (Littleton, CO); Pride SC (Colorado Springs, CO); Real Colorado (Centennial, CO)

**ECNL Regional League - North Atlantic:** Aligning eight top-performing clubs from Connecticut, Delaware, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania, the North Atlantic will bring together a powerful lineup of clubs seeking an ECNL pathway in one of the nation's most competitive regions.

**Clubs:** AC Connecticut (Newtown, CT); Delaware FC (Hockessin, DE); East Coast FC (Long Island, NY); Long Island Slammers (Long Island, NY); Philadelphia Ukrainians (Philadelphia, PA); PSA Monmouth (Tinton Falls, NJ); Quickstrike FC (Hudson Valley, NY); South Jersey Elite Barons (Pitman, NJ)

#### **Additional Clubs Added to ECNL Regional League - SoCal**

In addition to the creation of these new Regional Leagues, Eagles SC (Camarillo, CA) and Fullerton Rangers FC (Fullerton, CA) will be joining the ECNL Regional League - SoCal for the 2023-24 season.

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#### **About the ECNL:**

The ECNL is the nation's leading youth soccer development platform. The ECNL respects and celebrates the unique individuality of every youth soccer player and club, supporting and enabling them to unleash their unfettered passion and fierce tenacity in striving to achieve their potential.

The ECNL's mission to Raise the Game is a total commitment to create the best possible environment for players, coaches, referees and administrators, with a determination to constantly question convention and challenge the status quo in youth sports.

The ECNL Commitment:

We will lead, set our eyes on new horizons, and pursue them relentlessly. Born out of the belief in a better way. Continued in the ever-evolving pursuit of excellence.

[www.TheECNL.com](http://www.TheECNL.com)

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