

To: All Elite Clubs National League Teams, Student-Athletes, and School Officials

From: Jen Winnagle, Commissioner, Elite Clubs National League

The Elite Clubs National League (ECNL) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 2009 to enhance the developmental experience of female youth soccer players in the United States through improving the competition, player development, and player identification platforms for elite female youth soccer players. The ECNL is the nation's top competitive league for female youth soccer players, and is sanctioned by US Club Soccer, a member of the US Soccer Federation.

The ECNL currently includes the top seventy-nine female youth soccer clubs across the United States. Each ECNL club travels extensively to participate in competitions and player development events as a member of the league. These competitions and events are integral for the players to continue their development, be scouted for NCAA collegiate opportunities, and be identified for potential participation in US Soccer youth national team programming.

This letter is to verify the travel commitment necessary to take part in the ECNL. As a member of an ECNL club, every player attends 2-3 "ECNL National Event" competitions, depending on their age. At each National Event, competitions are played over the course of three days (with a maximum of one game per day to insure player safety and a high level of play). Upwards of 300 college recruiters attend each event, and scouts from the United States Soccer Federation (US Soccer) are also in attendance, to identify and evaluate players for possible inclusion in United States Youth National Teams.

The ECNL works diligently to limit the number of school days missed due to participation in ECNL events. However, it is impossible to eliminate all school absences. Each ECNL National Event occurs over a weekend (either Friday – Sunday, or Saturday – Monday), but due to the need to travel across the country for these events, student-athletes may have to miss an additional day of school for each event. Occasionally, travel for regional games (regular season games) may require the student-athletes to miss part of a Friday school day. We ask for your understanding in this matter, and your support of these student-athletes as they attempt to continue their careers in college, and for some, with US National Teams.

Thank you in advance for your understanding in this matter. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Jen Winnagle

Commissioner, Elite Clubs National League mailto:jen@eliteclubsnationalleague.com www.eliteclubsnationalleague.com