

Georgia Soccer National League Selection Criteria and Team Continuity Policy

Georgia Soccer is a member of US Youth Soccer. US Youth Soccer created a National League with several conferences in order to allow for the most competitive teams in the country to compete against each other on a scheduled basis. The league is comprised of boys and girls teams in the 13U-18U age groups. Each State Association is allowed to place teams in the National League and each State decides the criteria for selecting its respective teams to be included. Teams will be promoted and relegated within the National League through a promotion/relegation criterion set up by US Youth Soccer.

Georgia Soccer Criteria for Selection to the National League Conferences:

The Georgia Soccer Board reserves the final right to select the teams that represent Georgia in the National league. Therefore, if a Georgia Soccer Affiliate and/or its officers, directors, coaches or players participate in non-sanctioned league (a league not sanctioned by Georgia Soccer to exclude U.S. Soccer Development Academy), that affiliate's teams shall not participate in US Youth Soccer National League. (this includes any US Club Soccer league, ECNL, Super Y, and any new league that may be formed with US Club Soccer).

13U Selection Criteria: Georgia will send four (4) boys teams and four (4) girls teams annually to compete in the National League. The top four (4) finishers in the 13U Classic 1 and Athena A Fall season shall receive invitations to the four (4) slots to represent Georgia in the National League. If any of these top four teams declines the invitation to the National League, the fifth-place finisher shall receive the National League slot, and so on, by league standing.

14U-18U National League Selection Criteria: Georgia Soccer may receive zero to four (0-4) slots each year in the National League. The selection criteria below shall be used to select the teams which shall receive the Georgia invitation to fill the open National League slots:

1. 1st Place Classic 1/Athena A fills slot one
2. Teams relegated from the Premier division of SRPL/National league, by standing
3. RPL/National League 1st Division teams that finished 3-10, in order
4. Classic 1/Athena A second place, then third, and so on in order of finish of previous season

If a team declines a National League invitation, the next team in the order from the criteria above shall be offered the slot.

TEAM CONTINUITY To be considered the same team moving from Classic & Athena, or from one National League season to the next eligible team must retain at least 11 players from the previous season. If a club is unable to field a team meeting this requirement, the available National League slot will be offered to the next qualified candidate, based on the previously stated Georgia Soccer selection criteria policy.