



Elkhart County United is now offering **ECNL Regional League to players U13 (2013) to U19 (2007)**

What is ECNL?

Founded in 2009, ECNL (Elite Clubs National League) consistently developed in alignment with the needs of its member clubs, always seeking opportunities to lead and provide more, no matter the challenge or adversity. In 2017, an expansion led to the top boys clubs in the country joining together to improve the experience of players, coaches, clubs, and the environment in which they develop, to change everything. Today, the ECNL represents the epitome of excellence in youth soccer, for boys and girls, as the league and its clubs, players, coaches, and everyone involved seeks to constantly "Raise the Game" for the future.

Why did ECU decide to join the ECNL Regional League?

ECNL is the premier youth soccer platform on the East and West Coasts as well as the South and is currently expanding in the Midwest. Not any club can join, you must be invited. After careful research, ECNL league officials identified Elkhart County United as a club worthy of an invite into their newly formed Chicago Metro Conference. This was based on our history of producing highly competitive teams across multiple age groups as well as our performance in State Cups and National League play. Above everything else, this gives our local players an opportunity to play in the most competitive league in the country and to undergo intensive training by experienced licensed coaches. Also, at the older age groups players can attend ECNL regional and national college showcases that are widely known as the best college recruiting opportunities in youth soccer.

Who will we play against and how many games will we play?

All 6 of our teams (BOYS U13-U19), will play in the Chicago Metro Conference versus Bloomingdale FC, Crystal Lake FORCE, Chicago City, Chicago Inter, and FC Libertyville. The league schedule will be 10-12 games (16-18 games for U13 and U14). U13 and U14 starts in August and U15 & Older start in December. All ages end in June with possible league playoffs extending in late June.

Will this require more travel?

ECNL Regional League travel will be comparable to ISL Premier/1st division and Midwest Conference so if you have been playing at those levels, your travel should not increase for league play. You would play in Chicago, Indianapolis, and NIBCO! Also, one new advantage of ECNL RL is that all 6 of our club teams will travel together to play same date/same location games so siblings, coaches, and friends can plan to be together on weekend trips!

Who will coach these teams?

ECU has worked hard to interview and secure some of the top experienced and licensed coaches in the area. The training will be intense and we will demand much from our coaching staff to ensure each player develops to their highest potential