



The Ohio River League (ORL) has proudly partnered with the Ohio State Association (OSA), Kentucky Youth Soccer Association (KYSA) and Indiana Soccer Association (ISA) to operate the new, Midwest District 2 National 1 League in US Soccer. We are collectively excited to deliver a high-level, competitive, team-based platform to the Southern Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana areas. This new competition, announced by US Club Soccer and US Youth Soccer is set to launch in the 2026–27 season.

This new platform, National 1 League (N1), will serve as the top team-based league across both organizations (US Club Soccer & US Youth Soccer), bringing together the National Premier Leagues (NPL) and the National League into a unified structure. The initiative marks a major shift in the youth soccer landscape, creating a more aligned and elevated competitive environment nationwide.

For the 2026–27 season, the Ohio River League Midwest District 2 National 1 League will operate as a regional league for boys and girls from U13 through U19. Teams in the U13–U14 age groups will begin play in the Fall 2026, while U15–U19 teams will begin after the high school season in November 2026.

The league will consist of two divisions: ORL Midwest District 2 N1 1st Division and ORL Midwest District 2 N1 2nd Division, across all age groups (U13–U19). Both divisions will be organized into conferences in most age groups, with teams from Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. Where possible, we will attempt to align Conferences geographically in order to minimize travel. All N1 teams will card through US Club Soccer via the GotSport Platform. Teams from all affiliations may apply to National 1 League.

U13–U14 Structure

Teams in the U13–U14 age groups will play a year-long league schedule of 16-20 league matches over the course of the seasonal year (2026-2027). All District 2 N1 League matches will be self-scheduled matches. Matches will be 40 minute halves and teams will only be permitted to play one game per day. Referee Fees per match will be determined at a later date. There are no mandatory events associated with District 2 N1 league. Teams are free to play in other tournaments and events at their discretion but not in place of District 2 N1 league matches. District 2 N1 league matches must take priority over all other leagues and events.

Cost: \$1,700.00 per team for the 2026–27 season

U15–U19 Structure

Teams in the U15–U19 age groups will play a 16-18 game schedule, starting in November after the high school season concludes. All District 2 N1 League matches will be self-scheduled matches. Matches will be 40 minute halves for U15 & U16 age groups and 45 minute halves for U17 and U18/19 age groups. Teams will only be permitted to play one game per day. Referee Fees per match will be determined at a later date. There are no mandatory events associated with District 2 N1 league. Teams are free to play in other tournaments and events at their discretion but not in place of District 2 N1 league matches. District 2 N1 league matches must take priority over all other leagues and events.

Cost: \$1,400.00 per team for the 2026–27 season

Post-Season Structure (2026-2027)

ORL Midwest District 2 N1 1st Division Champions (U13–U19) Advance to the 2026–27 ECNL Conference League Playoffs TBD.

GLA Midwest District 2 N1 2nd Division Champions (U13–U19) will be promoted to the ORL Midwest District 2 N1 1st Division for the 2027-2028 seasonal year and Advance to Midwest Regionals in Libertyville, Illinois (late June 2027).