



NYSWYSA Champions Conference



Rationale for Creating the League



- **Feedback and input from NYSWYSA member clubs & teams.**
 - Desire for an open, team-based, league above district-level leagues.
 - Open to any single qualifying team.
 - League promotion/relegation based on results from specified competitions.
- **Responding to national trend for parallel/complimentary Club Member-based Leagues and Team-based Leagues.**
 - Western NY will now offer a full range of leagues to meet members' needs.
 - Grassroots/recreational leagues, generally town-based.
 - Geographical district leagues.
 - Team-based state-wide league.
 - Club member-based state-wide league.
- **Opportunity for individual teams that do not qualify for the Thruway League but have expressed a desire to play at a competitive level beyond their District Leagues.**



League Structure

- NYSWYSA Ownership & operation
- Team-based League
- Age groups: 12U to 19U
- Open Entry
- League Acceptance (post-2021)
 - Acceptance based on District League standings performance (i.e. top-2 finish in district league's top division)
 - Acceptance based on State-Cup top 4 finish.
- State-Cup qualifying league
- Annual promotion & relegation between District Leagues



Opportunity for Teams, Clubs, Leagues

- For teams & clubs that desire it
 - Increased opportunity for District League teams to progress to higher level of league play.
- Smaller Clubs
 - Additional opportunity for smaller clubs' teams to progress to higher level.
- Urban and rural teams
 - Increased opportunity for teams to progress.
- Within District Leagues
 - Participating teams/clubs have alternative progression paths within Western NY to aspire to a higher level (club-based or team-based) based on their teams' or clubs' performance.



2021 Team Acceptance



- For 2021 only, may require some flexibility given 2020 league seasons were cancelled.