

Albertson SC

Northeast Academy League (NEAL)





Albertson Soccer Club - NEAL

Invited to join on 1 year provisional basis.

- U11 (2014) and u12 (2013) age groups.
- 2 teams per age group bracketed in ability based divisions.

Full acceptance to NEAL after 1 year based on performance expectations.

Inside track for future expansion of National Academy League (NAL).



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Former Elite Status



U.S. SOCCER
DEVELOPMENT
ACADEMY



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Current Leagues





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2 "Elite" Pathways

NYCFC
FA Euro NY
Met Oval
BW Gottschee



SUSA
East Meadow

Barca Academy
BW Gottschee
DUSC
Met Oval
LI Slammers



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NEAL becomes primary league for Red and Blue teams in u11 and u12 age groups.

ASC becomes 14th team in the [Northeast Division](#)

Teams play each opponent home and away over the calendar year

- So 13 games in both the Fall and Spring seasons

Also options for 2 “Jamborees” per year with games against teams from the [New England Division](#) (played in Albany over Columbus and Father’s Day Weekends)



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Teams will no longer enter EDP Leagues Cup due to NEAL commitment

Teams will still enter a Pre-Fall Tournament, a Spring Kick Off and a Memorial Day Tournament

All league games will be day trips (no overnight stays) but away games include trips to NJ, Westchester, Hudson Valley and CT

Other teams in age groups (e.g. B13 Bashers, B14 Destroyers) will continue in either EDP or LIJSL with options for EDP Leagues Cup or LI Cup and local tournaments.



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Why Join ?

- Higher level of play on a weekly basis
- Potential for admission to NAL next / in future years
- Relationship and links to MLS Next clubs and organizations for player evaluations and exposure

Other enhancements:

- Adding 4th practice per week for Speed / Agility / Strength / Fitness Prevention
- International Tour will be offered e.g. [US Club id2](#)



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MLS NEXT creates Strategic Relationship with Northeast Academy League



MLS NEXT ANNOUNCED TODAY A STRATEGIC RELATIONSHIP WITH THE NORTHEAST ACADEMY LEAGUE TO ENHANCE PLAYER IDENTIFICATION AND SCOUTING BEGINNING WITH THE 2021-2022 SEASON.

The Northeast Academy League will provide a competition platform for players who aspire to participate in MLS NEXT.

As part of the strategic cooperation agreement, MLS NEXT will collaborate with the Northeast Academy League to provide players with increased identification opportunities, individual assessments, and enhanced scouting and coaching education for team technical staff.

"It is important that we provide opportunities for players to participate in MLS NEXT. Players develop at different ages, and at different rates" said Fred Lipka. "This strategic relationship is intended to address that dynamic."

The Northeast Academy League is comprised of the U11-U19 age groups and includes the following clubs:

Metropolitan Oval, Cedar Stars Bergen, TSF, Cedar Star Monmouth, New York Soccer Club, FC Westchester, Beachside, BW Gottschee, FA Euro, LI Slammers, NY Elite, Oakwood, Boston Bolts, Valeo, NEFC, Bayside and Seacoast.

The Northeast Academy League (which is not a part of, nor operated by MLS Next) is sanctioned and operated under USYS through local state associations including New Jersey, Eastern NY, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire.

"The strategic relationship with MLS NEXT ensures that Northeast Academy League players will be evaluated for potential participation in MLS NEXT" said Jeffrey Saunders, Sporting Director at Metropolitan Oval. "This will provide players with increased opportunities and access to MLS NEXT which represents the highest level of youth competition in the U.S. and Canada.



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Relationship with SUSA

- ASC contracted with SUSA to provide coaching services through the Spring 2025 season
- u13 and older players still encouraged to look into SUSA ECNL once age groups move to 11v11
- U13 and older players have the opportunity to stay with ASC to participate in USYS National League or EDP / LIJSL depending on level of team

