

Real Colorado

2024-2025

Boys Elite Platforms Overview



Real Colorado Boys Elite Platforms



For the 2024–2025 seasonal year, Real Colorado will offer three tiers of Elite level national platforms. MLS Next, ECNL and ECRL.

Why offer multiple national level programs? It is our firm belief that matches are the ultimate training ground and skill development can only be recognized when it is demonstrated in match conditions. Our goal is to develop confident players who are competent at a wide range of abilities and by providing the right venues for this range we will reach it. Our inclusion in the top programs in the United States ensures our players have a platform to demonstrate and sharpen their talent at the highest levels.





What is MLS Next

MLS Next is a platform established by Major League Soccer to provide pathways for the elite player. MLS Next aims to provide the best player development experience in North America at the highest levels across the country. Real Colorado is an inaugural member of the 133 clubs currently participating in the platform nationwide. This is our top tier program on the boy's side here at Real Colorado.

What is ECNL



ECNL (Elite Clubs National League) is a league that was established in 2009 to challenge the status quo of youth soccer. Real Colorado is an inaugural member of the 151 clubs currently participating in the platform nationwide. ECNL is the perfect platform for those players who want to play at the highest level while still playing for their high school, or who are interested in a pathway to our Academy (MLS Next) program.

What is ECNL-RL?



ECNL-RL (Elite Clubs National League Regional League) is a league developed by ECNL in regional markets across the country. The goal is to ensure a consistent environment on a more localized level and to facilitate more club connectivity and collaboration between levels. This connectivity provides a path for more players within each member club to reach their fullest potential. Again, this is a great option for players who want to play at a high level while still playing for their high school, or who are interested in a pathway to our ECNL and Academy (MLS Next) programs.

Who Will We
Play?



MLS Next (U13 – U19)

MLS Next teams play primarily in the Frontier Conference of the MLS Next League with advancement to the MLS Next Championships for the U15 – U19 teams. Home and away games will be scheduled with each opponent. At times other opportunities will be added to the MLS Next line up with USL when the opportunity aligns.

- Austin FC
- Colorado Rapids
- FC Dallas
- Houston Dynamo/Dynamo Youth
- RISE Soccer Club
- San Antonio FC
- Solar SC
- Sporting KC
- Total Football Club

*This is the current conference for our Academy teams and is subject to change once 2024/2025 season information is released.



ECNL (U13 –U19)

ECN Teams will play a local conference and non-local conference schedule with advancement to the ECNL Boys Playoffs. Home and away games will be scheduled with each opponent in the conference with additional opportunities to travel to ECNL showcase events throughout the year.

- Conference opponents TBD



ECNL-RL (U13 –U19)

ECNL-RL Teams will play a local conference schedule with advancement to the ECNL Boys Regional League Finals, held in conjunction with the ECNL Boys Playoffs. Home and/or away games will be scheduled with each opponent in the conference with additional opportunities to travel to ECNL-RL showcase events throughout the year.

- Conference opponents TBD



Financial Responsibilities



Real Registration Fees



Club fees will be due at the time of registration (when you accept a spot on one of our Real Colorado teams). These fees can be paid in a lump sum or spread out over time. Fees vary per age group and per program.

These fees cover the cost of the following:

- Team coach
- Referee fees for program related games
- Field rental fees (not indoor rental space)
- Player registration to their program (MLS Next, ECNL & ECNL-RL)
- Direct club expenses (club staff, office and administration)

Additional Costs



- The following fees will be in addition to the Real Colorado registration fees and will be paid directly to your team:
 - Travel Costs
 - Airfare
 - Hotel
 - Ground Transportation
 - Chaperone and Coach Expenses
 - Indoor Training Rentals
 - Any fees for events that fall outside of the team's respective leagues
- Uniforms and Training Gear – to be ordered through Soccer.com. Real Colorado will be entering into year two of a two-year uniform cycle for Fall 2024 and only new players will purchase a new kit. Returning players can supplement as needed.

MLS Next Estimated Travel Budget for 2024/2025

- 5-8 conference trips at \$800 each (some teams could travel more)
- 2-3 national event trips at \$1500 (U15 – U19 only)
- Playoffs at \$1500

Travel costs per player include air, ground transportation, hotel, meals, coach and chaperone costs

*all cost estimates are subject to change based on final travel schedule and potential fluctuation in the cost of travel.



ECNL Estimated Travel Budget for 2024/2025

- 2-3 conference trips at \$800 each
- 2-3 Showcase trips at \$1500 (U15 – U19 only)
- Playoffs at \$1500

Travel costs per player include air, ground transportation, hotel, meals, coach and chaperone costs

*all cost estimates are subject to change based on final travel schedule and potential fluctuation in the cost of travel.



ECNL-RL Estimated Travel Budget for 2024/2025

- 2 Showcase trips at \$1500 – U13 – U14
- 2-3 Showcase trips at \$1500 – U15 – U19
- Playoffs at \$1500

Travel costs per player include air, ground transportation, hotel, meals, coach and chaperone costs

*all cost estimates are subject to change based on final travel schedule and potential fluctuation in the cost of travel.



Real Colorado and our staff are very excited to offer this three-tiered national platform system to our players in 2024/2025. This is meant to be a general overview and we understand that you may have other questions that have not been addressed here. Please feel free to reach out to any of our staff members should you have additional questions.

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