



# Development Player League (DPL) 2026 | Finals Request for Proposals

Timelines for Consideration

Release Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2025

Intent to Bid Form Submission Deadline: May 23, 2025, at 5 PM EST

Proposal Submission Deadline: June 27, 2025 at 5 PM EST

Proposals should be submitted via email.



# Confidentiality Statement

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This document is submitted with the understanding that it can be held in strict confidence and cannot be disclosed, duplicated, or used, in whole or in part, for any purpose other than the evaluation of the proposal without prior written consent from Elite Tournaments.

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# Development Player League

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**10 CONFERENCES | 6 EVENTS | MULTI-LEVEL PROGRAMMING | 16,000+ PLAYERS**

The Development Player League (DPL) was developed in 2020 to meet the growing need for a developmental league experience in the girl's youth soccer market. In an ever-changing youth sports climate, the DPL has created an opportunity for females U13-U19 in the sport of soccer to receive a first-hand, top tiered league and showcase/event format while continuing to work toward the next level of play.

In the DPL, Nothing is Given, Everything is Earned. As an elite national all-female youth soccer league, we provide clubs with a platform to compete, develop, and rise to their full potential. The Emerging Talent Pathway offer clubs a transparent, purpose-driven path to excellence, where progress is achieved through hard work and performance on the field. With clear milestones and rewards for development, we ensure that every level of advancement is earned.

The DPL isn't just a league—it's a commitment to fostering talent and giving young female athletes the opportunities they deserve to be seen on the national stage.

**Mission:** In the DPL, Nothing is Given, Everything is Earned. As an elite national all-female youth soccer league, we provide clubs with a platform to compete, develop, and rise to their full potential.

**Vision:** We believe through superior experiences, players will be able to showcase their talent, discover collegiate opportunities and create community around the game. We are a standards driven national league connected to the Girls Academy that will encourage clubs to compete and grow, maximizing the development of their players. By creating a cohesive framework in line with the most dynamic organizations in the country, where nothing is given and everything earned, we will raise the bar in youth soccer... together.



# DPL Finals

## EVENT DATES

- June 23-28, 2026

## EVENT SCHEDULE

Day	Event
Saturday	Elite Tournaments Staff   Arrival and quick check of facility
Sunday	Elite Tournaments Staff   Begin Facility Setup
Monday	Elite Tournaments   Continue Facility Setup
Tuesday	Games begin 8 AM   Continue throughout day
Wednesday	Games begin 8 AM   Continue throughout day
Thursday	Games begin 8 AM   Continue throughout day
Friday	Games begin 8 AM   Continue throughout day
Saturday	Games begin 8 AM   Continue throughout day
Sunday	Games begin 8 AM and conclude mid-day   Event Breakdown

## FIELDS & INDOOR SPACE REQUIREMENTS

- 16+ high quality grass fields, some with lights in one location
- Indoor meeting space for tournament headquarters & coaches social if space allows
- Designated indoor space (2 - 3 rooms) for media and interviews

## TEAMS & ATTENDANCE

- 175 Teams | U13 - U19 teams from across the country
- Average team size is 20 players and coaches | Approx. 3,500 Participants
- Average travel party size is 2.5 | Approx. 5,250 Spectators

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Teams traveling to the event from outside of 100 miles will be close to 95% of attendance
- Estimated economic impact for direct spending: **\$3 M**
  - We use an economic impact calculator provided by the Maryland Sports Commission

## EVENT HISTORY & ROOM NIGHTS

Previously, this event has been hosted at the following locations:

- 2022 | MoneyGram Soccer Park in Dallas, TX | 5,900 room nights
- 2023 | Voice of America Park in Butler County, OH | 6,700 room nights
- 2024 | Silverlakes Sports Park in Norco, CA | 5,000 room nights
- 2025 | National Sports Center in Minneapolis, MN | TBD on room nights

# Proposal Submissions to Include

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## **FACILITIES**

Various components are used to evaluate a facility's suitability for tournament play. This event requires all fields to be located at one (1) facility and should be located near major highways or thoroughfares to facilitate easy access for participants. The facility should be located within a 30-to-45-minute drive from a major airport which services a significant number of airlines. The airport should have rental car facilities accessible. Proposals should include option for exclusivity pre-event and during event to allow for maintenance of field conditions and event setup.

1. Include facility costs for duration of the event (i.e. field costs, lining, equipment rental, etc.).
2. Include any Cancellation & Refund Clause language from proposed facility. (i.e. Force Majeure, Weather Cancellation, etc.).
3. Include any Indemnification Clause language from proposed facility.

## **FIELDS & FIELD LINING**

Fields should be of the highest quality of grass and/or turf and necessary irrigation systems depending on geographic location. A facility map should be provided as well as details concerning surface type, lights, dimensions, stadium specs, etc. Details should be provided about field lining protocols and any field restrictions (i.e., tent staking, golf cart usage on fields, etc.).

## **EQUIPMENT**

Elite Tournaments and the DPL will provide most event equipment for the event. The DPL will ship equipment including tents, signage, game equipment, corner flags, coolers, etc. directly to the facility. Proposals should address onsite equipment at facilities that Elite and the DPL will have access to throughout the event(s). Examples include size and type of soccer goals, coolers (brand and inventory), golf carts, directional signage, etc.

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Proposals should include name, address, phone number, and proximity in miles to the closest Hospital, Fire Department, and Police from proposed facility. Provide information on how proposal can support emergency preparedness leading into and during event.

## **TOURNAMENT OFFICE**

Tournament staff ideally would have access to an area separated from the public to manage the event with minimal distractions and interruptions. The tournament office should include a work area with tables, chairs, and access to internet. Proposals should indicate if a tournament office space is available at the facility and include amenities.



## **PARKING**

Parking should be in a permanently paved lot adjacent to the playing fields. Adequate parking spaces should include approximately 75 parking spaces per field in use. Proposals should include type of parking surface, number of spaces, indicate whether spaces are marked or whether parking attendants are necessary, and location of designated parking area(s) if available.

## **ICE & WATER ACCESS**

Proposals should also indicate if the facility provides access to water and ice during the event. The proposal should indicate the location of this access as well as any restrictions that may be applicable during the event.

## **RESTROOMS**

The facility should have permanent restrooms available onsite. This event requires a minimum of at least three (3) restroom units per field, spaced appropriately in proximity to fields for participants and referees. Proposals should indicate the type of onsite restrooms, number of stalls for men's and women's rooms, and handicap availability. Proposals should also indicate the cleaning schedule for these restrooms throughout the event.

## **VENDORS, SPONSORS & SUPPLIERS**

Facility should have adequate space for a vendor village to be used by vendors and sponsors of the DPL. Proposals should list all facility vendors and sponsors that have exclusive rights. Facilities with onsite food vendor/concessions should include information about requirements/regulations regarding outside food vendors and/or sponsors. Proposals should also include any required or recommended suppliers contracted through the facility (i.e. concessionaires, tent rentals, portable restroom suppliers, etc.) If any suppliers are required, proposals should include pricing structures.

## **INTERNET & POWER**

Tournament operations require constant connectivity to the internet to provide tournament updates, schedule updates, and other communications to staff and participants alike. Proposals should indicate the type (i.e., WIFI or hardline) of internet access available at the facility if applicable. If the connection is a hardline connection, indicate the location of the connection. Proposals should also include all access to power supplies at the facility to include outlets, generators, or other sources. For facilities with access to hardline internet access, proposals should include results from the following speed test: <http://Speedtest.net>

## **STAFFING**

Elite Tournaments and the DPL will provide senior level tournament staff to operate and manage the tournament from setup until breakdown. We will require local event staff to support the logistical needs of the event. This event will require between 10-15 local workers per day in order to adequately manage onsite logistics including but not limited to: hospitality for college coaches, field marshalling, assistance with Gatorade coolers, and other general onsite assistance. Proposals should include information regarding availability of locally hired staff including potential sources for hired staff such as a list with contact information of local colleges, groups, and/or sports organizations. Proposals should include resources and contact information the event can use to source workers for event setup, general event support, and post event breakdown.

## **MEDICAL STAFF**

Proposals should include a description of onsite medical care at the facilities. Additionally, proposals should include information regarding medical staffing or preferred service providers used by the facility. Proposals should include costs associated with these services. Proposals should include location of AEDs onsite at facility and if the event operator will have access and/or permission to use AED/s onsite.



# Role of CVB / Sports Commission

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The CVB / Sports Commission (SC) will act as an initial point of contact during the site selection process. The CVB / SC should provide the required information as outlined in the RFP and submit a proposal including the following:

- Background on the CVB / SC including previously hosted events and role in the event
- List of references of rights holders; including one that utilized the proposed facility
- List of complimentary services provided by the CVB / SC
- List of event enhancements that can be accessed by Elite Tournaments and the DPL:
  - For example, how can the CVB / SC support logistically with enhancing player experience to include: photo ops, co-branded banners, unique player gifts, etc.

## **GRANTS AND REBATES PROGRAM**

The proposal should describe any grant, rebate, or concession program that may provide financial or in-kind services and assistance to the event. The proposal should include a general overview of the programs, program requirements, and the application for the program.

## **HOTEL LIAISON**

This event is stay-to-play and will utilize the DPL's third-party housing agency: Halpern Travel. The CVB / SC will act as the initial liaison between the third-party housing agency and the local hotels. Specific hotel contracts will be negotiated by Halpern Travel and the hotels directly. Proposals should include total number of rooms in the area, average room rates for the proposed dates, distance to facility, recommended host hotel for hosting event functions, and examples of hotel properties in the area (name, address, amenities).

## **SITE VISIT AND EVALUATION**

Proposals submitted from serious bidders will be expected to host and provide all expenses for one (1) staff member from Elite Tournaments and one (1) from the DPL to make a site evaluation. These staffers will conduct a site visit to determine the adequacy of facilities, meet CVB / SC staff, see any host hotels if needed. Staff members should be lodged in a hotel proposed to be used for event housing and be provided with one (1) standard room for the duration of the stay.



# Proposal Submission Checklist

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Proposals are considered independently and evaluated with no one element taking precedence over another. CVB's and Sports Commissions are recommended to address all items in the proposal including optional items even if it is to say that such an option is not available. Proposals should address all the required elements as identified in this RFP. We've included quick information for each topic, but please be sure to refer to the specific section within the above information to address all items requested:

## I. Event Dates & Event Schedule

- a. Include any schedule limitations (i.e. practices during event setup, events booked concurrently with proposed dates, etc.)
- b. Date availability for the following year in 2027 & 2028

## II. Facilities

Include facility costs for duration of the event (i.e. field costs, lining, equipment rental, etc.). Include any Cancellation & Refund Clause language from proposed facility. (i.e. Force Majeure, Weather Cancellation, etc.). Include any Indemnification Clause language from proposed facility.

- a. Fields – number, type of surface, dimensions, lighting availability, field map(s)
- b. Field Lining – address any restrictions or notable items as it relates to field lining
- c. Equipment – inventory of goals at each facility, quality, and additional equipment available onsite
- d. Emergency Preparedness – name, address, phone number, and proximity to closest Hospital, Fire Department, and Police to proposed facility
- e. Tournament Office – availability, location, and amenities if applicable
- f. Parking – parking surface, number of spaces, marked or unmarked, designated parking area for college coaches and referees, and quantity of police or parking attendants needed for traffic flow
- g. Ice & Water Access – availability of each and location onsite
- h. Restrooms – type of restrooms onsite, number of stalls for men's and women's, handicap availability, and plan for portable restrooms if needed
- i. Vendors, Sponsors & Suppliers – designated area(s), exclusivity of onsite vendors and include restrictions for food and requirements to be onsite, and fees associated with vendors. Supplier recommendations and/or requirements including fee structures
  - i. Please note we will not agree to pay additional fees to bring in vendors
- j. Internet & Power – WIFI or hardline, availability, and location onsite for power access, results of: <http://Speedtest.net>

## III. Staffing

- a. Event Staff & Volunteers – resources to recruit local workers and volunteers
- b. Medical Staff – availability and resources used to hire medical staff and/or access and permission to use AED/s onsite

## IV. Role of CVB / Sports Commission

- a. Grant or Rebate Programs – financial and in-kind services available
- b. Hotel Liaison
- c. Site Visit and Evaluation