



Retention Offers – National & Regional 2024

This past weekend, we marked the end of our expanding regional program. Our focus shifts now towards the national push of our season. The Wisconsin Elite program expanded this year from 15 to 22 teams. More national and regional programs were added. We are excited about the growth, especially with the dedication our athletes continue to show. Our program has grown 50% each year, and we plan on expanding again, adding more teams and a tournament series. However, that means tryouts are also becoming increasingly competitive. We had over 600 girls attend tryouts this past season. Summer tryouts present a whole new layer of unknown, and we look forward to navigating this process.

After careful internal discussions about the future of our tryout logistics, we have decided to extend select retention offers to our regional and national program athletes. The retention period will start on July 1, 2024, and end on July 18, 2024. It's crucial to understand that these offers must be accepted within this period to remain valid. Navigating club tryouts and filling teams will always be something we discuss internally every year, but this is the route for this upcoming tryout season.

Retention offers will be made to the national or regional program rather than a team. The long-short of the rationale is that players still earn a final team placement at tryouts, which allows us to place players better. Making such quick decisions at tryouts alone every year doesn't always allow us to put everyone on the best-fit team at the end of the day. Placing athletes on better-fit teams is the goal.

Every athlete in our program is guaranteed to receive the same high-quality training, with a focus on specific positions and master-planned practices from Jon and Patrick for every team. If you accept, receiving an offer to a regional or national program ensures you a spot, regardless of who else attends tryouts that weekend. It's important to remember that regional offers can always be upgraded to national at tryout weekend, even if you accepted regional. The final team offer will be extended on July 20th.

Lastly, we will decide who receives retention offers as follows:

1. Head coach feedback on core skill sets, development, and qualities of a good teammate.
2. Our committee's evaluation of living up to the Elite player mentality and how much they embraced the culture. We know the culture might not be for everyone, and ensuring our gym culture remains focused, hardworking, and driven is critical.
3. Ensuring we do have spots open for tryouts to make the best possible teams.

The exact number of offers made will vary by program and team. It is solely based on the three criteria above. We also can't offer every single girl an offer back, as team limits do happen as players move higher in the program. For instance, five 15s teams shifting up to four 16s teams won't work. More details will come as we get closer about how to accept offers, but it would be like our current process - accept verbally and then accept in SportsEngine.

Thank you for your continued belief in our program, and we look forward to extending offers and growing our family further in the 2024 Summer Tryout period.

Patrick Bieser & Jon Mohr