

Youth Soccer in the US



Youth Pathway

College Pathway

Pro Pathway

Real Colorado currently is a member club of the boys: MLS Next, ECNL, ECNL-RL, and USL Academy. For the girls: ECNL (2 teams per age group) and ECNL-RL. We have a history of players playing at the top programs (50 players in our class of 2022 headed to play college soccer), have developed top national team players like Ethan Horvath, Mallory Pugh, Sophie Smith, Tajon Buchanan, Jaelin Howell, and Janine Beckie just to name our more recent and have agreements with the Colorado Rapids, CS Switchbacks FC, and Hailstorm FC to connect our pro path players at the right time. We participate in Colorado Soccer Association (CSA) with both our north and south communities, reaching 9 finals of the USY National Championships Series State Cup and USY Presidents Cup Finals in 2022 alone.

The standard for youth soccer clubs (U4-U19): Both genders play in the top leagues in the United States, MLS Next (boys) and ECNL (girls). Have a history of players attending top college programs, USYNT camps and competitions, and partnerships to accomplish a professional pathway for their players.

Elite Youth Soccer Clubs (U4 – U19): At least one gender plays in the one of the top leagues in the country (MLS Next for boys and ECNL National league for girls). Have a history of developing strong players, some college placements, and good reputation in the regional community.

Advanced Youth Soccer Clubs (U4-U19): Might have U13 and older programs in the Girls Academy, Elite Academy, the new Elite64, ECNL-RL or Desert Premier Conference. There will always be new platforms because they make money. The question is where are the top clubs?

Most Youth Soccer Clubs (U4-U14 +): Clubs that provide a service, but typically should send players on higher pathways beginning at U13 to the clubs above.

Recreational Soccer Clubs (U4-U10+): Rec leagues, city leagues, I9, etc.

Where do you think other clubs in your area fit?



Real Colorado Sets the Standard for the Youth Soccer Experience.



6

National Championships

88

Youth National Team
Players



1000+

Athletic Scholarship
Recipients

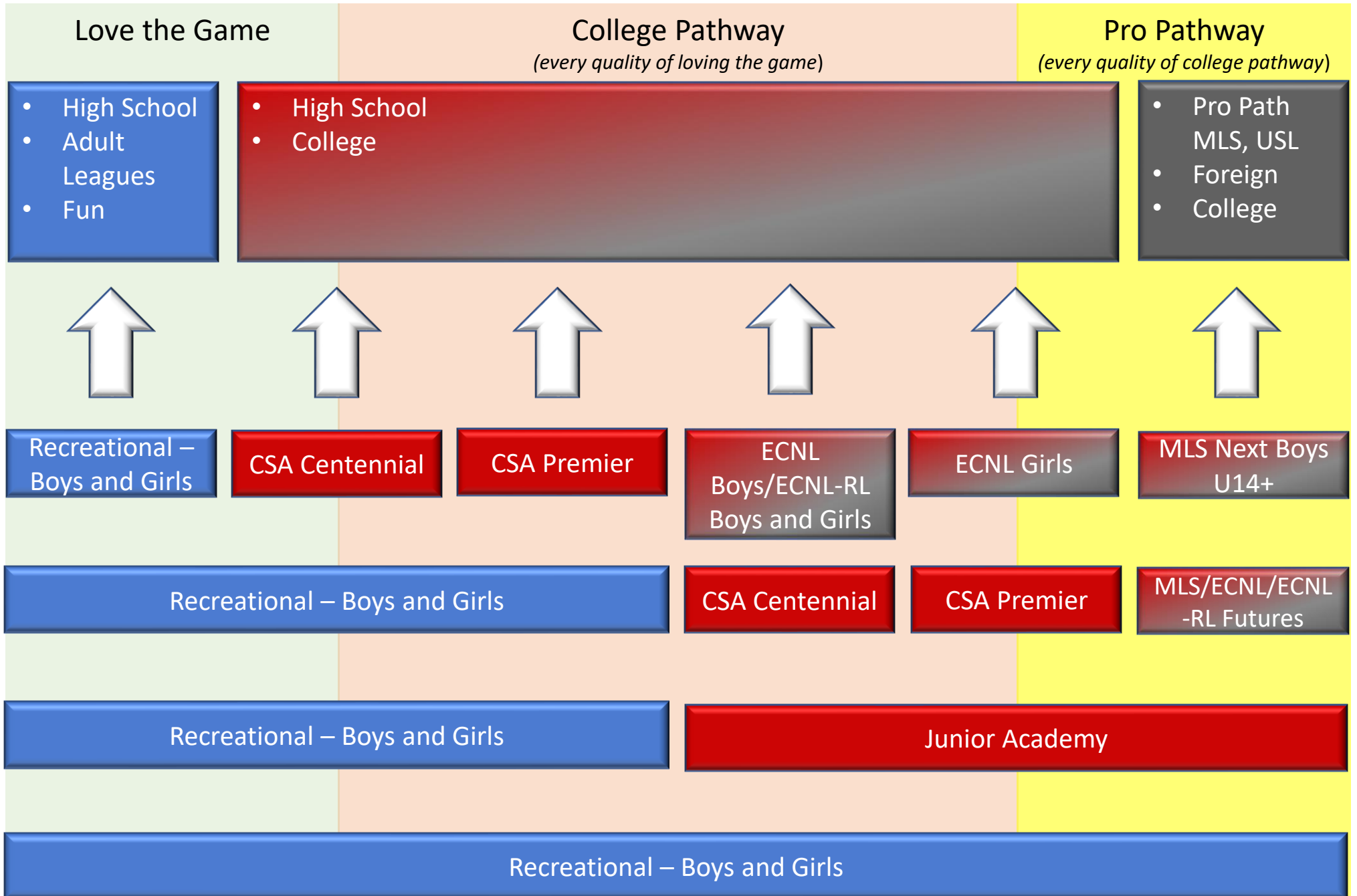
9

Men's & Women's
National Team Players

and counting.....



Real Colorado Pathways



Most competitive players will spend their soccer time playing in the leagues hosted by Colorado Soccer Association (CSA). At one point, CSA supported nearly 65,000 players in Colorado. Clubs like Colorado Rush, Colorado Rapids, Pride from Colorado Springs, Broomfield Blast and Arsenal Colorado are just some of the more recognizable clubs who also play in CSA. On the former slide, this is represented by the blue and red pathways. Prior to any merger, this was the commonality between Real Colorado and Saint Vrain FC with both clubs winning various competitions at the state level and experiencing the opportunity to represent Colorado on a national level.

Only a select few clubs in Colorado offer an elite development track, providing a place for top players to experience nationally recognized programs sanctioned by US Club Soccer (USCS) - ECNL and Major League Soccer (MLS) – MLS Next. Just as CSA is the standard for competitive play in Colorado, these two organizations are the standard for elite player opportunities on a regional and national level.

The breadth of skill at a larger club, with more teams at every age group, creates the opportunity for all players to be challenged slightly beyond their current comfort zone while also participating on a team that allows them to unleash their full capabilities as a player. By bringing the North and South together, we create opportunities to address each individual player's needs in unique ways that weren't available previously.



General Hierarchy of National Platforms

*Boy's Nat'l Platforms

- 1. MLS Next
- 2. ECNL Nat'l League
- 3. Other leagues

*Girls Nat'l Platforms

- 1. ECNL Nat'l League
- 2. Girls Academy
- 3. Other leagues

**Elite64 is the new National platform and until full club list is released, we can only speculate it will be similar initially to the Girls Academy*

Powerpoint is cool, but what does that mean for me?

Real Colorado is one of the few clubs in the country in the top group of youth clubs. We were original members of the US Soccer Development Academy, Elite Clubs National League, MLS Next and now the ECNL. We are the only club to have been invited to play on all these platforms in Colorado. Real Colorado is 1 of 8 clubs in the girls ECNL to have 2 teams in the ECNL National League. With the introduction of the ECNL-RL for 2023, we will expand the opportunities for our players in the north and south with our goal of introducing one of our national programs to the north beginning in Fall of 2024. We stand alone as the most inclusive club in our region. Regardless of where you are today and where you might be tomorrow, you never have to leave to reach your highest level of achievement.

Top 30 Clubs in US and Where They Play

While club rankings have subjectivity, the top 30 clubs are often very similar with small placement changes up or down often the only difference.

Top 30 – Boys Clubs

**information from Soccerwire*

- 22 MLS Next
- 5 ECNL Boys
- 3 USYS

Real Colorado is in the MLS Next and ECNL leagues for our top two teams.

Top 30 – Girls Clubs

**information from Soccerwire*

- 25 ECNL Girls
- 4 Girls Academy
- 1 USYS

Real Colorado is one of 8 clubs in the country with 2 teams per age group in the ECNL National league.



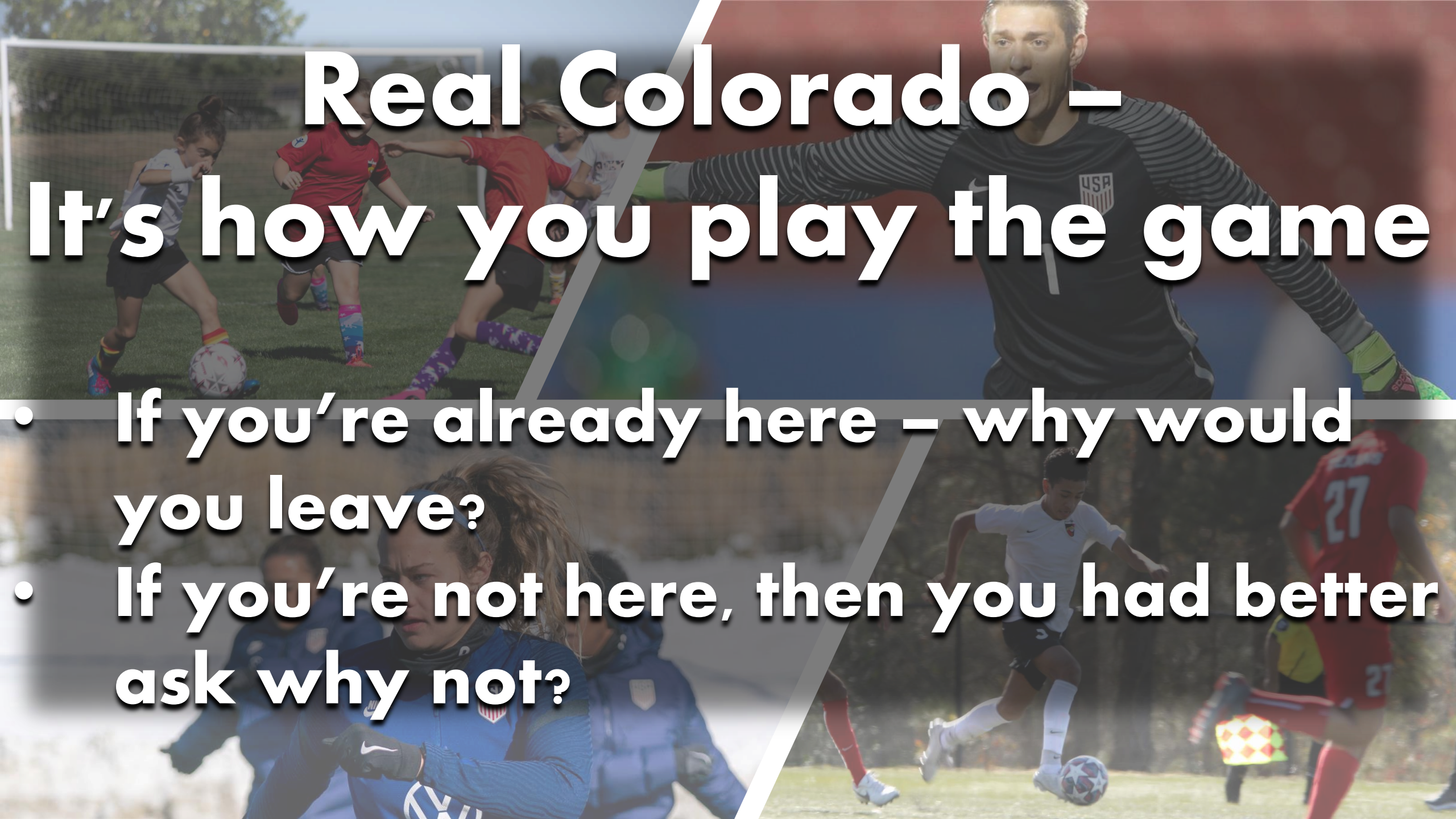


Why Kids Play.

According to the Aspen Institute, the Top 4 reasons kids play sports is:

- Having fun
- Exercise
- Learn and improve skills
- Play with and making new friends

Real Colorado is committed to providing a safe soccer environment that supports having fun, exercise, learning and improving skills, and playing with and making new friends. With a full range of programming other clubs cannot offer, you can stay at home for your soccer knowing Real Colorado has a pathway for your player that will fit their level whether a future pro in soccer or something other than soccer.



Real Colorado – It's how you play the game

- If you're already here – why would you leave?
- If you're not here, then you had better ask why not?