

AYSO REGION 677 Coach Meeting



U6/U8

AYSO'S Mission & Vision

- AYSO's Vision is to provide world class youth soccer programs that enrich children's lives.
- AYSO's Mission is to develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs which promote a fun, family environment based on

AYSO's Six Philosophies.

Everyone Plays®

Our program's goal is for kids to play soccer so we mandate that every player on every team must play at least **50% of every game**. It's no fun to spend the game on the bench...and that's no way to learn soccer!

Balanced Teams

Each year we form new teams as evenly balanced as possible because it's more fun and a better learning experience when teams of similar ability play. It allows for each player to gain the experience of a wide variety of teammates of different skill levels.

Open Registration

Our program is open to all children between 4 and 19 years of age who want to register and play soccer.

Positive Coaching

Encouragement of player effort provides for greater enjoyment for the players and leads to better-skilled and better-motivated players. A coach can be one of the most influential people in a child's life, so AYSO requires they create a positive experience for every boy and girl.

Good Sportsmanship

We strive to create a positive environment based on mutual respect rather than a win-at-all-costs attitude, and our program is designed to instill good sportsmanship in every facet of AYSO.

Player Development

We believe that all players should be able to develop their soccer skills and knowledge to the best of their abilities, both individually and as members of a team, in order to maximize their enjoyment of the game.

Kid's Zone®

In AYSO, fans are asked to be cheerleaders, not critics. Kid's Zone® is a unique program Includes a parent pledge that moms and dads sign to commit to positive, encouraging behavior when they're watching the games. It also includes signs, buttons and other game-day reminders.



We in Region 677 will be implementing the Kid's Zone Parent Pledge - all coaches should get the signature of at least 1 parent of every player on their team.

Safe Haven

Volunteers are the lifeblood of AYSO. To ensure the safety of both children and volunteers, each volunteer is required to take an online training session called Safe Haven. It focuses on safety and appropriate behavior with children as well as first aid and other on-field issues. Agreeing to a background check is also required for each volunteer.

Safe Haven is both a child and volunteer protection program. It was the first of its kind in youth sports.



Coaches should not allow their assistant coach, team parent or any other person help with their team until they are registered volunteers and Safe Haven Certified.

ALL VOLUNTEERS MUST BE SAFE HAVEN CERTIFIED

Emergency Treatment Authorization (Player Registration Form)

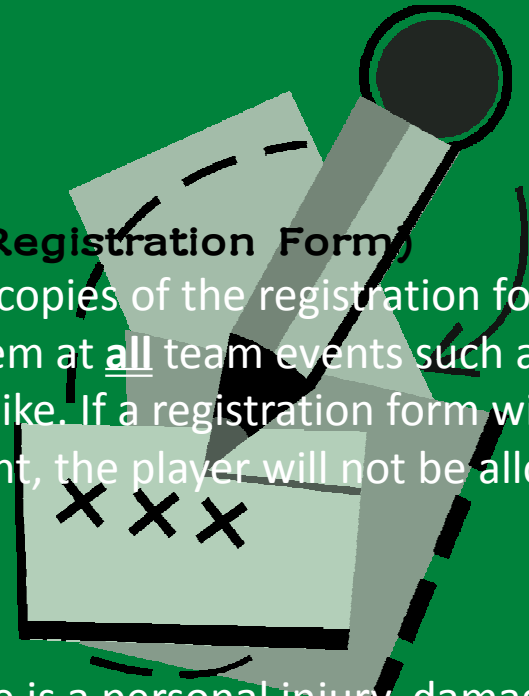
It is **required** that the coach and assistant coach keep copies of the registration form, with an original parent or guardian signature, with them at **all** team events such as practices, games, tournaments, team parties, and the like. If a registration form with the medical release and original signature is not present, the player will not be allowed to play.

Incident Report Form

The AYSO Incident Report Form is used whenever there is a personal injury, damaged property, or threats of or actual physical violence surrounding an AYSO game, practice, event or property. The form should be prepared by the Coach, AYSO Official, or other AYSO Volunteer. The form may also be prepared by a member of the regional staff such as the regional safety director, or by tournament or event staff members.

Participation Release Form

This form must be signed by a parent whenever a player is injured returns to play – this form is required when it is known that a player has had to seek medical attention to treat an injury or illness affecting the player's readiness to participate.



Players

- All players must wear shin guards and closed toe shoes at all times while on the soccer field – cleats are recommended but not required.
- No Player may play with any type of cast or splint – AYSO does allow players to participate with knee braces.
- Players may not wear jewelry of any type – including earrings, chains and watches. The only exception are medical alert which must be secured.
- Energy drinks are prohibited to be given to any child.
- **Never leave a player alone on the soccer field** – you must make sure that every child has been picked up by their parent or guardian – they are your responsibility until a parent arrives.

Dropped Players

Should you be informed that a player wishes to drop, please have the parent notify the registrar. If there are players on the wait list you will be given the first available player – wait list players will be given priority over all other children – if there are no children on the wait list and you know a child who wishes to play – you can have them sign up but only after getting approval from the Registrar -

Referees – U8 ONLY

Respect should be given at all times; our referees are volunteers giving of their time just like you. We have a Zero Tolerance Policy for our Youth Referees; we also believe that our adult referees should be given the same respect - you as the coach set the tone for your sidelines. Please set a good example by refraining from questioning, insulting or making personal attacks against the referees.

Positive Coaching Alliance

Positive Coaching Alliance 's Double Goal Coach Workshop is required for all coaches, it is our hope that it will better enable you to follow AYSO's Philosophies. The workshop focuses on coaches whose first goal is winning, and whose second **more important** goal is teaching life lessons through sports.

Details and dates will be on the web site.

CATZ COACH

CATZ Coach is the only video-based on-line soccer training program that delivers a complete season of practice plans that are age and gender specific. In 8-12 minutes a coach is able to observe the exact practice they can deliver later that day. Warm-up games, agility and mobility exercises, drill and skills, developmental games, and various scrimmages all work in concert to progress players in a systematic manner. Coaches watch, emulate, and learn.

Instructions for using Catz Coach are included on your CD disc.

Field Usage

Practice fields through any school district will be reserved by the Region only. Coaches are NOT to approach any school official or complete any Facility Use Request Agreement with the school districts. If you are using the schools for training sessions please be sure to clear it with our Field Director, Sebastian Torres, before notifying your parents and players.

Field use permits must be with you at all times.
They will be posted on the web site for you to print.

Our field permits do not include the use of bathroom facilities for practices, please have your team plan accordingly and please do not disturb any school aftercare programs with requests to use their facilities.

ABSOLUTELY ... NO DOGS, NO SMOKING, NO ALCOHOL, NO SKATEBOARDING and NO BIKE RIDING at ANY of the schools ... this includes for practices and games.

Please be respectful of the school rules – we depend on them for field usage.

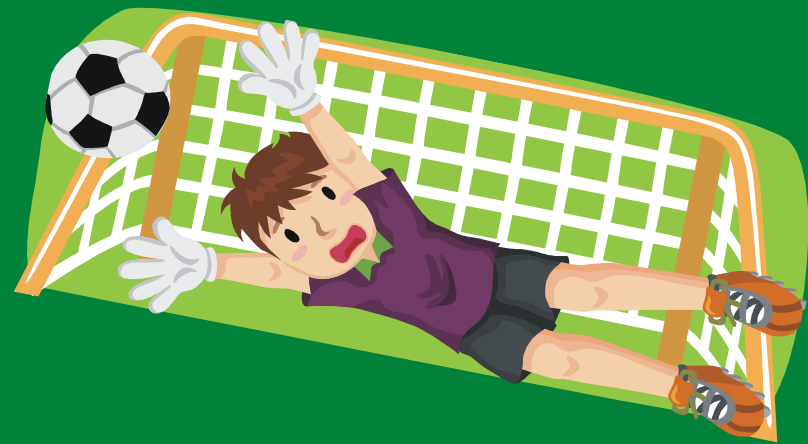
Game Days

Teams having the first game of the day are responsible for field set up – this includes setting up the goals and painting the fields

Teams having the last game of the day are responsible for field tear down – this includes disassembling the goals and returning them to their proper storage location.

Each team is also required to supply a field monitor for the game directly after their game.

Please have your parents and players pick up the area before leaving the field.



Game Times



U6 Matches - (4)5 minute quarters , Halftime of about 5 minutes
the game should run 5 minutes- water break/substitution (DO NOT STOP CLOCK)
run 5 minutes - Halftime break (STOP THE CLOCK)
the game should run 5 minutes- water break/substitution (DO NOT STOP CLOCK)
run 5 minutes - END GAME

U8 Matches - (4)10 minute quarters, Halftime of about 5 minutes
the game should run 10 minutes- water break/substitution (DO NOT STOP CLOCK)
run 10 minutes - Halftime break (STOP THE CLOCK)
the game should run 10 minutes- water break/substitution (DO NOT STOP CLOCK)
run 10 minutes - END GAME

ALL GAMES MUST END AND START ON TIME.

Keeping Score

We do not keep score in the U6/U8 divisions. Yet we are aware that some parents, coaches and maybe even a few of the children do. It is your duty as the coach to not focus on how many goals went in but instead praise your players for a job well done – win or lose. Your legacy of coaching will not be based on the margin of victories. What the children will remember and the parents will appreciate; is that you set an example of Good Sportsmanship and Positive Coaching. Do this and you will always be a winner on the field.



Important Dates

✓ Team Parent Meeting– August 25th Time: 7:30PM

✓ U8 Referee Course – August 17th - 7:30PM

✓ **FIRST GAME – September 10th**

Schedules should be done in a week or 2



✓ **PICTURE DAY – SEPTEMBER 24 AND OCTOBER 1**
MORE INFORMATION WILL BE GIVEN AT THE
TEAM PARENT MEETING

✓ **PCA WORKSHOP - TBA**

I HAVE MY ROSTER ...NOW WHAT?!?!

After you are Safe Haven Certified you can begin calling your players to set up a team meeting. At this team meeting you should:

- Inform players and parents when and where training sessions will be held and what your policy will be regarding late pick ups. – **NEVER LEAVE A PLAYER ALONE AT THE FIELD**
- Provide the families with your contact information and encourage them to notify you if their child will not be able to attend practices or games.
 - **Recruit Parent Volunteers** – you will need
Assistant Coach – Team Parent – Referees (U8 ONLY) – Field Monitors
- Get Signatures – Have your parents re-sign the player registration form and have them read and sign the Kid's Zone Pledge.
 - Hand out uniforms and Dick's Sporting Goods Coupons
 - Remind your parents of the field use policies – NO PETS and that restrooms are not available during practices.
 - Have the team think of a team name and decide on whether you will get a team banner.

QUESTIONS?

FOR UPDATES GO TO OUR WEB SITE
[HTTP://AYS0677.ORG](http://ays0677.org)

THANK YOU FOR COACHING!