



AYSO Region 624

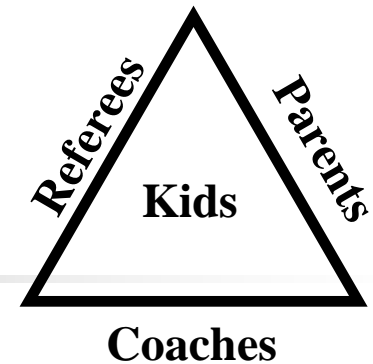
Basic Referee Course

Module 13

Understanding the AYSO Game



AYSO Team

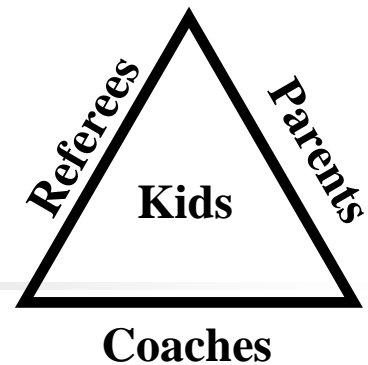


For any team to function well it has to have rules. The AYSO Team has four basic rules

- a) Work together
- b) Help each other
- c) Protect each other
- d) Do your best



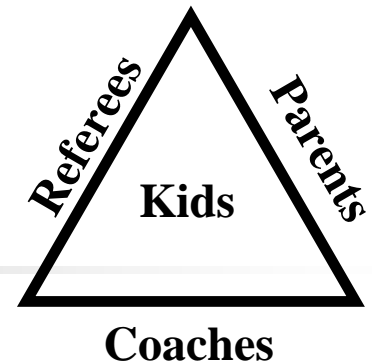
AYSO Team



- ***Coaches*** are the foundation of the program. They spend more time and do more role modeling for the players. They influence player's values and behaviors and they form important relationships.
- ***Referees*** are the guardians of the game. They protect its spirit by making sure that the game is FUN, FAIR and SAFE. Referees represent the role of authority and need to set a tone of competence, control and humanity.



AYSO Team



- *Parents/Spectators* are the third members of the team. They are the mood setters, emotion influencers and attitude changers. They have the power to exemplify the values of sporting behavior and positive role modeling, *or to destroy them!* They also influence the players after a game.

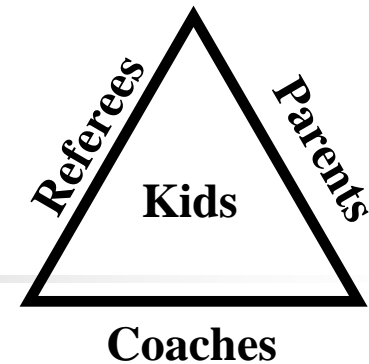


AYSO Coaching Philosophy

AYSO philosophy is driven by the principles set forth by the founders in 1964. Membership is not restricted by talent, race, religion, nationality or creed (**Open Registration**). Little is gained for anyone involved when grossly uneven teams are formed, each year the regional leadership does it's best to see that every team has a chance to succeed (**Balanced Teams**). At every game the team members present for the whole game are guaranteed the opportunity to play a minimum of half a game (**Everyone Plays**). AYSO coaches are trained to stress Positive, Instruction and Encouragement (PIE) because criticism that is negative harms the player and the coach (**Positive Coaching**). All AYSO programs are designed to instill "**Good Sportsmanship**" instead of a "win at all costs" attitude that only produces short term rewards.



AYSO Coaches



- AYSO coaches are taught to respect and apply these philosophies in conjunction with the importance that all practice and games be fun for the players, coaches, referees and parents.
- A referee that is receiving unwanted “advice” and judges that it is negatively affecting game control should work with the coach or coaches to resolve the problem.



Spirit of the Game

- The over-riding *Spirit of the Game* is Fair Play. The referee is constantly seeking to maintain fair play for all players, when the Laws of the Game are infringed “fairness” is restored by giving opponents a “free-kick” At an extreme the referee will have an “unfair” player removed from the field of play whereby the offending team will have to play the remainder of the game with one less player than before.



The Soccer Referee's Authority

To maintain fairness a soccer referee is given the “full authority to enforce the Laws of the Game“. Those laws include the power to; “stop, suspend or terminate the match, *at his discretion, - - etc.*” This power of discretion is almost unique amongst games played in the USA, and consequently causes the most confusion with spectators that are conditioned, from other sports, to expect arbitrary application of the laws. However, “uninterrupted” flow for each half of the game is fundamental to the game of soccer.



Outside Factors

Occasionally “interference” from an “Outside Factor” will require the referee to stop the game and take some form of action. If the ball was in play and the referee stopped play *solely* due to “outside” interference then the game must be restarted by a “dropped ball”.



Interference from an “Outside Factor Example

- A spectator runs onto the field of play and kicks a ball headed toward the goal, the ball still goes into the goal. Referee should blow the whistle to stop the game and restart with a dropped ball.
- Spectators, Coaches and Substitutes are “Outside Factors” and any effect that they have on the game should be treated this way. Note: any “player” that is not at that time a “field player” is a “substitute”.



Sideline Behavior

According to the AYSO National Rules and Regulations, a coach must "...conduct him/herself in a manner becoming a member of AYSO...at all times encourage clean competition and good sportsmanship...uphold the Rules and Regulations..."

Specifically, coaches' sideline participation is limited to "...positive instruction and encouragement..." from no more than two registered coaches as listed on the game card from within the coaches' area. Spectators may not give game instructions.

Coaches are responsible for their sidelines abiding by AYSO's sideline behavior and conduct policies.



Referees & Assistant Referees

- Referees and Assistant Referees are “part of the field of play and are treated the same as goal posts or corner flags, etc.
- Example: A ball rebounds off the referee and entering the goal is treated the same as if the ball had rebounded off a goal post. A ball that was traveling out of play hits the AR and stays on the field of play is treated the same as a ball that hits the corner flag and stays on the field.



Referee Support

- Mentoring: an extremely effective *“friendly”* way to impart knowledge. Mentoring is predominantly “on-the-job” training and instruction to facilitate improvements in performance. Mentors interact significantly with their protégés.
- Assessing: is a partially an examination to establish whether a particular level of expertise has been attained and a forum to provide “on-the-spot” advice and information on how to improve performance to the next level. Assessors have minimal interaction with their candidates.



Taking it to the next level

At different times during the soccer seasons Basic Referees should be mentored by more senior referees. Experienced Basic Referees should also be encouraged to mentor other referees, *to teach is to learn!*. To attain to the next level (Intermediate Referee) a Basic referee will have demonstrated “basic” proficiency in a number of categories:

- Appearance
- Pre-Game Administration
- Courage, Character & Consistency
- Accuracy of Decisions
- Fitness
- Attitude
- Game Control



Continuing Education

As a referee develops, questions will arise as to the correct interpretation of the Laws of the Game. Referees are encouraged to visit the web sites below.

- AYSO (www.soccer.org and www.aysohelp.org) is affiliated with the United States Soccer Federation (USSF)
- USSF (www.ussoccer.com) is the governing body of Soccer in the USA recognized by FIFA.
- FIFA, Federation Internationale de Football Association, (www.fifa.com) is the world governing body of soccer.



AYSO National Referee Program

- Referee training modules 1 thru 7 (***U-8 Official***) provide the information necessary to Start, Stop and Restart a game between U8 players.
- Training modules 8 thru 13 (***Basic Referee***) build on the additional knowledge of Fouls and Misconduct, Offside and the Diagonal System of Control required to officiate a match under the FIFA Laws of the Game and the AYSO National Rules and Regulations.
- Modules 14 thru 19 (***Intermediate Referee***) is the continuing education needed to officiate more challenging matches.
- Modules 19 thru 24 (***Advance Referee***) provide further education needed to officiate most AYSO matches.
- The ***National Referee*** Course (15.5 course hours) provides the final training needed to officiate the most challenging upper level AYSO matches. The course is designed to be residential as the interaction between students and the instructor/facilitators is an important part of the learning process.