



7U/8U Parents' Meeting

August 31, 2023

While you're waiting:
download the Game Changer App!





Welcome!

- Please stay on mute
- Ask questions in the chat or raise your hand. We will answer along the way or at the end
- This session is recorded and will be available on the parents' page of AYSO18.org

While you're waiting:
download the Game Changer App!





Points of Contact

Hosts:

- 7UG - Iris Reekie
- 7UB - Andy Abdelmalek
- 8UG - Baldeep Sadhal
- 8UB - Hayley Curtis & Kelly Ankley

YOUR MOST Important Contacts:

- Your coaches! They are your first line of communication
- Find all contact info on ayso18.org > Contacts





About AYSO

- **AYSO National - Volunteer Organization - est. 1964**
 - Organized by Section (1), Area (D), Region (18)
- **850 Regions in AYSO**
 - Region 18 - est. 1971
 - One of the top 3 largest – 4500 players annually
 - 18 Divisions: 5U, 6U, 7U, 8U, 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U, 19U
 - Birth Year Registration
- **Region is run by a volunteer board**
 - Region Commissioner: Krista Skinner
 - ~50 board members: DCs, Coach admin, Referee admin, Uniforms, Registrar...
 - You can be a board member!



Fall 2023 Schedule

- Practices start next week, after Labor Day
 - Drafts are complete (7U+ is draft format for balanced teams)
 - Cannot make schedule changes
- 10-game season
 - Games on Saturdays starting Sept. 9th
 - Discuss with team re: Nov 4 game (Adventure Guides Yucaipa Trip)
 - Last official game on Nov 11
 - No post-season
- Picture Day on October 14/15 (make-up Oct. 22)
 - Location TBD, 8am-3pm
 - Coaches will communicate times and locations the week of pictures



AYSO Philosophies

- **Everyone Plays**
Goal is to play soccer: $\frac{3}{4}$ of every game
- **Balanced Teams**
Keep skill level as balanced as possible for fun development experience
- **Open Registration**
Open to all, register in any region
- **Positive Coaching**
Positive experience for every player, encourage effort
- **Good Sportsmanship**
Positive environment based on mutual respect, not win at all costs
- **Player Development**
All players develop skills, knowledge to the best of their abilities





Team Volunteer Roles

- Head Coach & Assistant Coach
 - Support your coaches! They volunteer MORE hours than you even know!
- Referee! Home teams must supply a ref for their game
 - 8U Official course is all online; consider Regional Ref certification
 - Sign up at www.ayso18.org
 - Login → My Account → Volunteer → Referee
- Team Parent
 - Organize Snack Bags - Signup Genius or Google Sheet works great
 - Trophies/Medals
 - Beginning/end of season party



Ground Rules for Parents

- Set good habits early (carry forward to older divisions)
- Always show positive support
- Coaches Coach, Parents Cheer, Refs Ref, Kids Play
- Get players to games on time (including warmup)
- Please RSVP on Game Changer
 - This is helpful for coaches
- Kick the ball around at home!





Modeling Good Behavior

- **POSITIVE** sideline behavior
 - No coaching kids - it just confuses them!
- **Model good sportsmanship**
 - Don't get overly competitive – these are 6-7 year olds!
 - Don't talk about other players on your team or other teams
- If you see your child exhibiting poor sportsmanship have a conversation at home





Parent Sideline Expectations

- ONLY Positive Cheering
- Things to bring:
 - Blankets and chairs to sit on
 - Snacks and non-alcoholic beverages
- NO alcohol - liability!
- No sideline coaching
- Sit with your team in designated area
- Wear your team colors!!!
- NO DOGS allowed on city property - liability!



We Protect Our Ref Volunteers!

- Remember
 - Referees are volunteers, donating their time to train and ref the game
 - We never have enough refs – the pipeline begins at 7/8U and we need more in older divisions
 - Parent and coach behavior (dissent, sniping) is the biggest challenge to recruitment and retention
 - Refs do not have the power to change safety rules: remove earrings, bracelets (yes, even string bracelets), hard hair clips, etc. at home
 - Home team supplies the ref – you can ref your own kid's game
- See something you disagree with?
 - Show 'em how it's done - volunteer to be a ref!
 - Do not engage except to say "hi" and "thank you"
 - ***They are not FIFA international referees. There is no VAR. Calls will be missed.***
 - If a ref will benefit from mentoring, please notify your division commissioner
- Zero tolerance for dissent against youth refs
 - Parents and coaches who dissent with a youth ref's call face immediate suspension



Game Changer

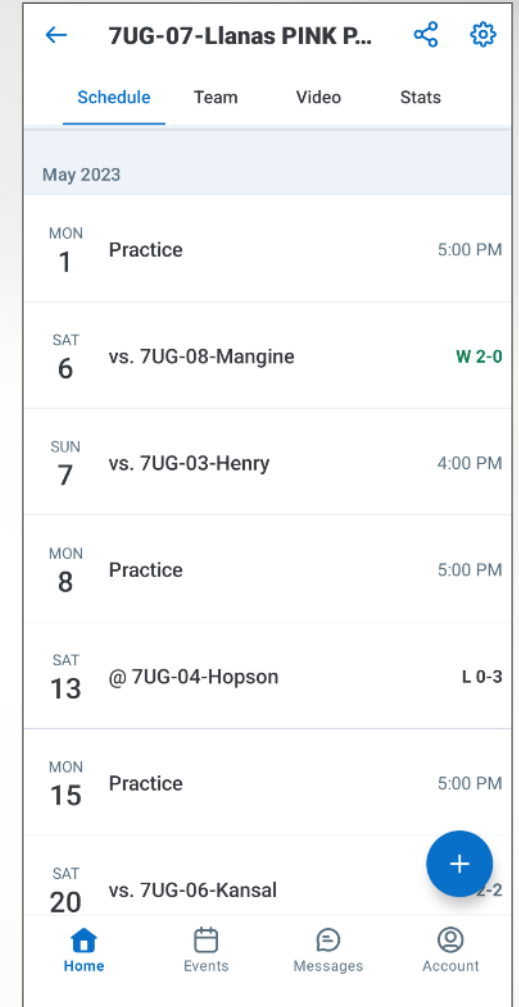
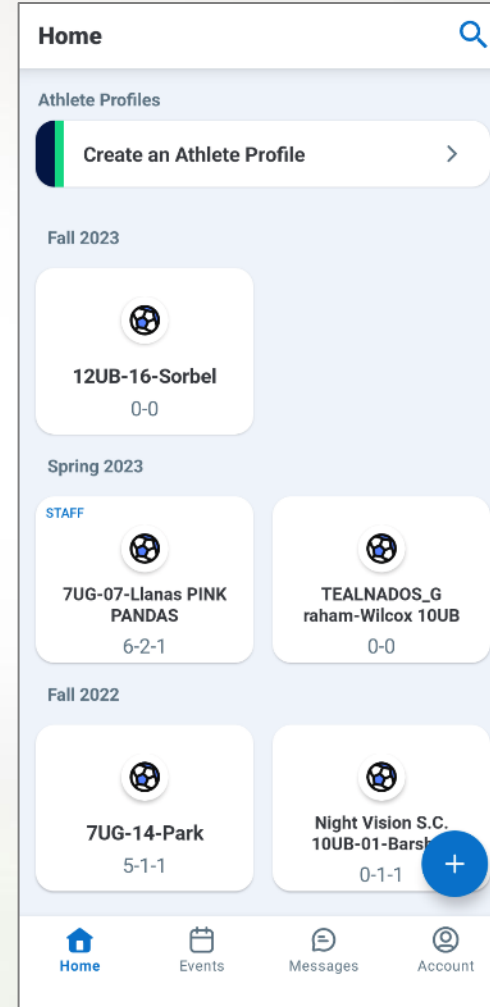
Use it for

- Practice, game schedules
- Team roster/contacts
- Chat and share media
- Track practice/game RSVPs
- Live scoring



Troubleshooting:

- Register with the same email address as ayso18.org
- Coach must import team first (parents do not need to add team)
- Coaches can add additional family





Game Logistics

- Players show up 20 minutes early wearing:
 - Uniform (jersey, shorts, socks) provided at first practice/team meeting
 - Soccer cleats recommended, athletic shoes at the minimum (no metal cleats)
 - Shin guards (must be completely covered by socks)
 - Sunscreen
 - No earrings, bracelets, hair clips, or hats with a hard brim. Warmer layers, if needed, should be worn under the uniform (but no hoods permitted). Soft headbands, hair ties are allowed.
- Also, please bring:
 - A water bottle
 - Size 3 soccer ball (write name, phone number or decorate it!)
- Post-game high-fives
 - Remind players good sportsmanship is important
 - Look opposing team in the eyes and say good game while giving a high-five

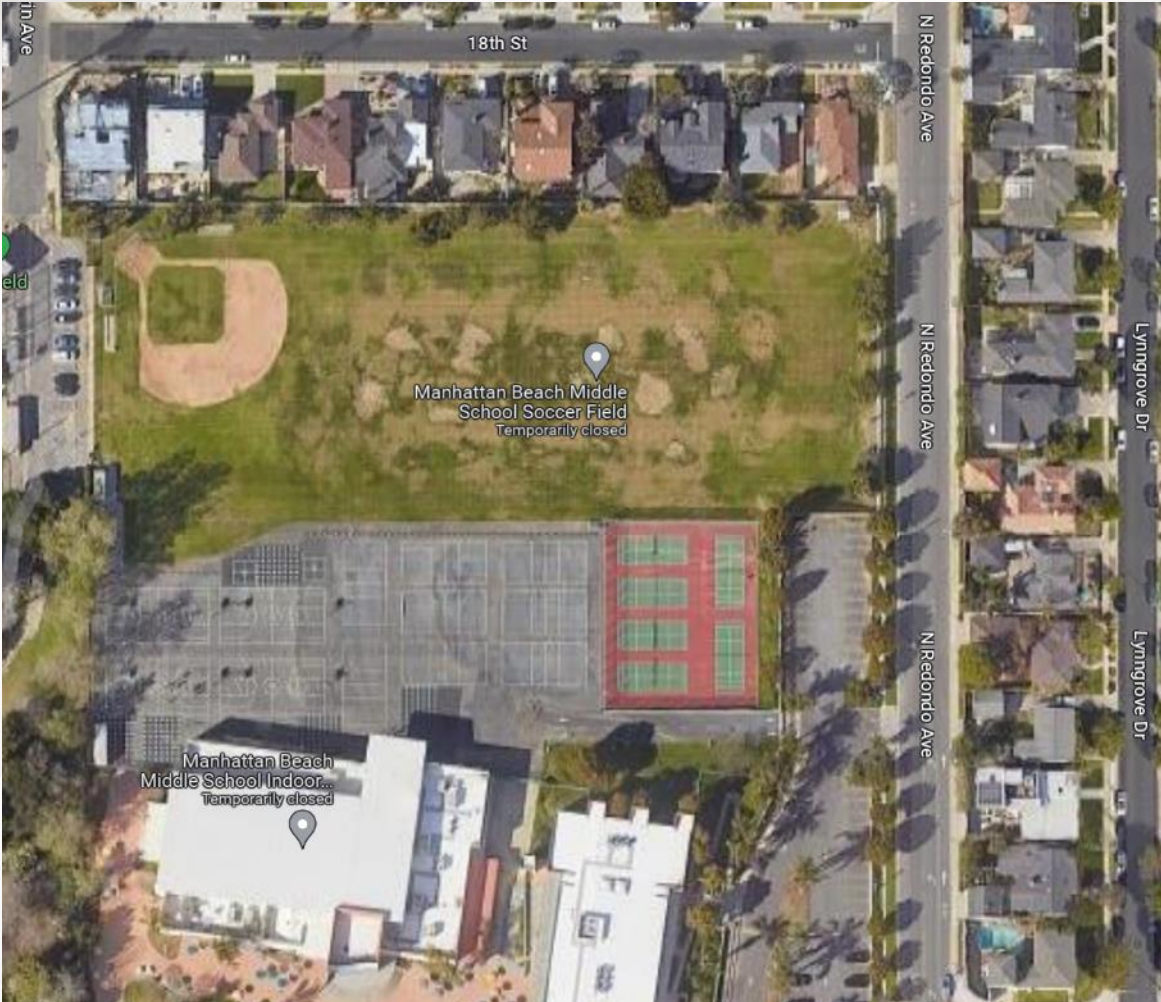


7U/8U Game Guidelines

- Two 20-minute halves:
 - 5-minute halftime
 - 1-minute quarter break mid-way (clock runs)
- Rotate goalkeepers
- 7v7 – 6 players on the pitch, 1 goalkeeper
- If not enough players, can be 5v5 or fun pinnie scrimmage
- Everyone gets a chance to play all positions
- Coaches and spectators on sidelines only
- To keep the game moving, refs only call:
 - Blatant hand-ball
 - Intentional trip, rough play
 - We DO NOT give out red/yellow cards
- No deliberate heading
- No punting or dropkicking
 - Keeper can throw or kick from ground
- No offside
- Build out line
 - Gives goalie time to get back to net
- All free kicks are Indirect
 - Must be touched by another player before it can go into the goal
- Throw-ins allowed for 8U, pass-in only for 7U



7UG: Play at MB Middle School



BRAND NEW GRASS FIELD!

Check Game Changer app to see if you are Home or Away

HOME teams sit on the NORTH side





7UB/8U: Play at Marine Sports Complex

PARK HERE!!

**DO NOT PARK HERE YOU
WILL BE TOWED!**

**DO NOT PARK
AT
ADVENTURE
PLEX**



DO NOT PARK at Adventure Plex

Use Following Address:

1625 Marine Ave

Manhattan Beach, CA 90266

Entrance:

Enter on Northwest side

***Check Game Changer app to see if you are
Home or Away***

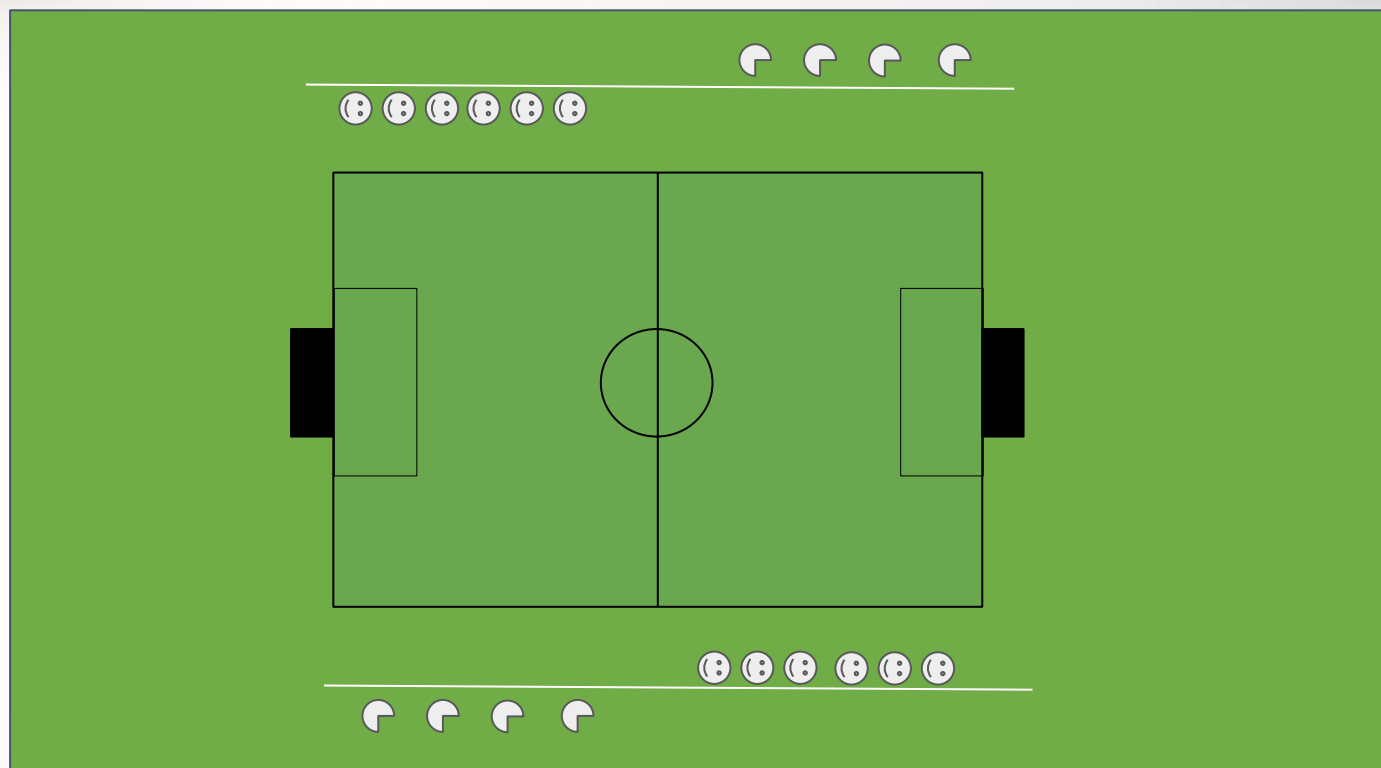
HOME teams generally sit on the
NORTH or WEST side





AYSO Field/Spectator Guidelines

NO DOGS ALLOWED!!



😊 = players

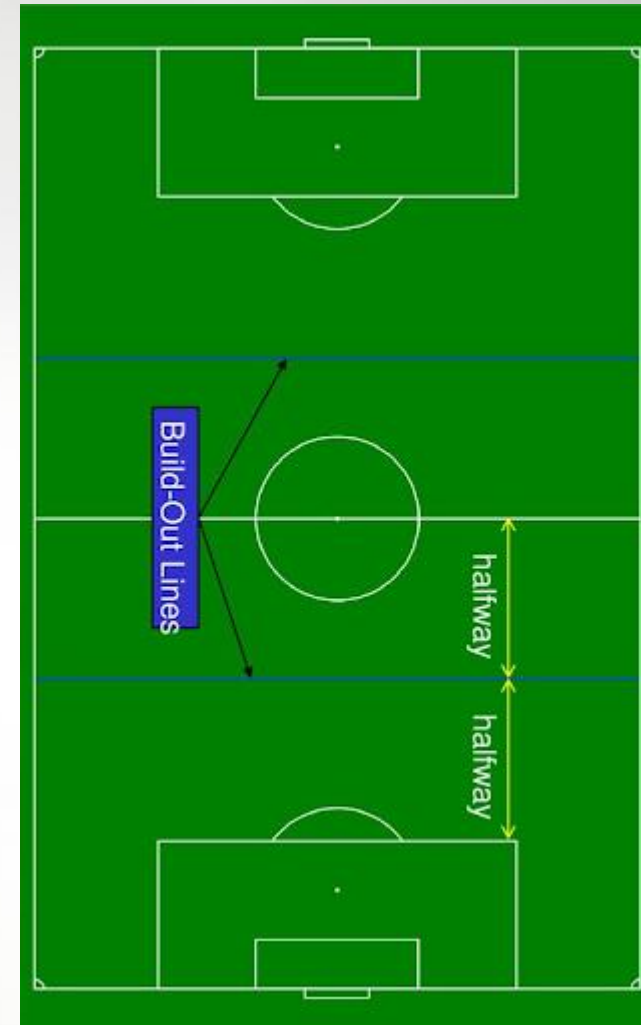
◐ = spectators

- **HOME** teams sits on the **NORTH** or **WEST** side
- **Which team is HOME?** On GameChanger App - easy for coaches & parents to find (if you have the App) Home team is listed first on the schedule.
- Spectators should sit 10' from the touchline and primarily on the side to the left of the coach facing the field.



Why the Build-out Line is Important!

- Younger goalies can be slow to run back after throwing the ball out; we enforce the buildout line to keep it competitive
 - Coaches will remind players about the build-out line during the game
 - This gets kids ready for making sure they aren't offside in older divisions





Any Questions?

We are going to have a great season!





Q&A

