

MINUTES OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
AYSO REGION 18

A meeting of the Board of Directors of AYSO REGION 18 ("AYSO18"), was held at Hennessey's Tavern located at 313 Manhattan Beach Blvd., Manhattan Beach, California 90266 and via video conference, on July 8, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. after verbal and written Notice duly given.

Krista Skinner chaired the meeting, and Jessica Waybright took the meeting minutes.

The Directors participation in the meeting is as indicated on the Participant List attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.

As a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 7:15p.m.

The first order of business was the approval of the minutes from the May 13, 2025, meeting. Upon motion duly made by Dave Brantly and seconded by Baldeep Sadhal the minutes of the May 13, 2025, meeting were approved.

Regional Commissioner's Report

- John Friberg will represent AYSO18 at a movie night at Clark field on Sunday. AYSO18 will have a booth and give away swag.
- A coach for Pony had a cardiac incident while at a game in Orange County. The AED at the field saved his life. In response, the head of the local Pony club, Scott Champagne, is urging the Manhattan Beach City Council to move with urgency to ensure AEDs are in place at local fields. The City needs to lead the effort and AYSO18 can lend support. Hares Najand is heading the AED effort for AYSO18.
- The following Board positions are still open:
 - o The Sideline Project continues to need support. Steve Killman and Dan Angress had agreed to support the initiative, but there needs to be another person to head it up.
 - o CVPA/Compliance Manager would be a good job for someone who likes charts and likes to work from home.
 - o Field Monitors – people to wander around the games and help with issues or intervene before an issue grows.
 - o 7UG – Co-DC
 - o 7UB – Co-DC
 - o 14UB – open

DC Updates

- DCs will have an All-Star meeting this summer.
- Summer Nights will take place on Wednesday evenings. Enrollment for 12/14U is almost full; 10U is half full; 7/8U is half full. Zack Beckman can head up 7/8U. Jeff Stephens will head up 12/14U and Kevin Dawson is helping with 10U and 12/14U. Volunteers will be given the attendance list mid-day on Wednesday to check players in. Pinnies are washed and in the shed at each field.
- Fall registration closes on 7/15, after which time there is a \$40 late fee to register. No refunds will be given after August 1.

- Krista will schedule DC meetings and drafts will take place the week of August 11.
- Krista will confirm with Zack Beckman and Sarah Lefton about a meet the coach day for 5U.
- The Board discussed holding a Parent meeting over zoom in groups for 5/6U, 7/8U, and 10/12U. It is particularly important to get parents in the younger divisions to attend.
- John Friberg is reviewing volunteer records going back to 2017 to determine which parents have some level of certification but have not yet volunteered.
- Referees and DRCs should help get other referees back into volunteering and determine why some referees may not be returning.
- DCs need to provide Sage Asteak with an address to deliver uniforms. She will provide ETAs to DCs on when uniforms should arrive. There will be additional days for equipment pick up.
 - o 16UB does not need new uniforms for National Games.
- There are 5 AYSO18 teams going to National Games. Referees should be invited to participate.
- Registration numbers are on track, with the exception of 10UB which is trending at 24 teams instead of the usual 28 teams. 14UG is also lagging. The Board discussed the fact that sometimes in 12U kids don't want parents to coach them. Hopefully they can still be AC and referee. If a coach is truly done coaching, they can be removed from the e-mail list.
 - o Coaches are still lagging as is typical this time of year. The Board discussed incentives, such as offering the early registration discounts, and jackets.

Uniforms

- Uniforms will ship the week of August 11.
- On July 15 Krista and Sage will look at the revised registration numbers to determine team counts and uniform orders.

Referee Abuse Policy

- Chris Wong presented a new Referee Abuse Policy that will be implemented in the Fall. US Soccer determined that a Referee Abuse Prevention Policy (RAP) would be helpful in trying to stem the nationwide issue of Referee abuse.
 - o Referee Abuse is distinguished from dissent.
 - o There are various types of abuse including physical, threats, harassment, and physical or verbal misconduct.
 - o There will be consequences for Referee abuse including suspensions for one or more games.
 - o AYSO National is requiring a RAP but did not include the details of how to implement a policy. The Area Board developed a framework to implement RAP and Scott Jeris, a well-respected Referee in Area will head up the program.
 - o RAP is being implement at all levels of soccer and referees will be taught how to recognize and report abuse. Messages will also go out to parents and coaches about RAP.
 - o The procedure is for referees to report potential abuse to the Referee Administrator, Dan Angress. Krista Skinner and Dan Angress will review the incident and determine if it needs to be elevated to the Area level. Scott Jeris will then determine if additional information is needed and whether it needs to be elevated to the RAP Disciplinary Panel.
 - The Panel is comprised of three individuals, including Chris Otey.

- The Panel will determine the punishment and will communicate the outcome to all Regions.
- The goal is to have consistency across all 6 Regions in Area to ensure punishments are fair and reasonable.
- There are multiple levels of review and ultimately a single administrator and 3-member Panel to ensure consistency.
- RAP deals with abuse. Dissent will be dealt with at the Region level as it always has. If an incident goes past dissent this is the tool to address it. Rarely does dissent get to the level of abuse in AYSO18, but it happens in other Regions and in older divisions.
- The Board discussed examples of Referee abuse and how Referees will likely show more cards and be clear that certain behavior will not be tolerated. Referees will be empowered to stop games and instruct coaches to control their sideline and get the name of a perpetrator. If a coach is unwilling to cooperate, that objection will be noted on the game card.
- The Board discussed the fact that the 3-person Panel are all well respected leaders in AYSO Area. The punishments will follow guidelines put out by US Soccer and could be quite severe.
- US Soccer has made it clear that RAP is not about bad calls and the Panel will not be determining whether a call was correct as it is irrelevant. RAP is about abusive behavior.
- The Area website will have information about RAP and slide decks for coaches and referees.
- Each Region is required to report their incidents to the Area level and Area will report it up as well. There will be a database of offenders to ensure people are not moving to other Regions to offend again. New volunteers from other Regions will be reviewed by the RC with National and will have a background check to ensure abusers are not moving around.
- Registration includes information about RAP.
- The Board discussed having a 1-page document to disseminate to parents about RAP.
- There is no official module for referee or coach training, but slides should be added to the coaches meeting about RAP.
- The goal is to make the compliance part as easy as possible for Referees. They should report up a level so they are not dealing with the issue themselves, but should feel empowered to demonstrate their control of the game by showing cards and asking coaches to control their sidelines.
- Anyone can report an incident, including coaches and other spectators. Coaches are obligated to cooperate with the Referee to identify the person. The Board discussed examples of potential incidents.

Referee

- The Roadshow will take place in August in Westchester. A full-day Regional Referee class and Intermediate and Advanced classes will be offered.
- AYSO18 will schedule Regional Referee classes, youth classes and potentially an all-women's class.
- The Board also discussed offering a continuing education class/roundtable for returning Referees.

Coach

- Live Scan will be required for all coaches this season. A local vendor, located across from Target, can provide the service.
- The Roadshow in August will also have coach classes for 12U, Intermediate and Advanced coaches.
- AYSO18 will schedule a 10U class before the 10U coach meeting.
- Safe Sport is required for coaches 10U and above and requires annual renewal. Intermediate Referees and above are also required to do Safe Sport.
- Steve Hershowitz explained that it usually takes a week for Live Scan to clear so coaches should get it done as soon as possible and submit proof that it was done so they can be cleared.
 - o AYSO18 will hold a Live Scan event in August, but there are currently 249 volunteers with Live Scan outstanding.
- US Soccer is working on implementing Safe Soccer which will be a 90 min course and will integrate Safe Haven and a background check.

Coach Trainers

- Summer camps have been scheduled.

Fields

- The field locations still need to be determined for each division.
- MBMS field should look better in a few weeks.
- Begg field looks good currently and Sports Complex looks okay.
- Robots are back and are working. If they break again the company will supply a loaner.

Youth Volunteer Program

- Woody Hauck will work on the Youth Volunteer Program for the Fall.

Baldeep Sadhal reported that DCs should have access to Player Rankings soon and the draft book is almost done.

DCs with unranked kids could ask that they come to Summer Nights for DCs to evaluate them. All draft divisions are doing Summer Nights.

Meeting concluded at 8:38 pm

NEXT MEETING: August 5, 2025 at 7:00pm

Board Member	Participated in Person	Participated via Zoom	Did Not Participate
Albert Chen	X		
Alex Fargo	X		
Andrew Werhane			X
Andy Abdelmalek			X
Anthony Lombardo			X
Ashley Choi			X
Baldeep Sadhal	X		
Ben Davidson			X
Byron Eguchi			X
Chris Otey	X		
Chris Talbott			X
Chris Wong			X
Dan Angress			X
Dave Brantly	X		
Hares Najand	X		
Hayes Burrell		X	
Jackie Eanes			X
Jamie Chang			X
Jeff Stephens	X		
Jessica Waybright	X		
John Friberg	X		
Karl Primm	X		
Katie Patton			X
Kim Digillio		X	
Krista Skinner	X		
Linda Veliz			X
Mark Hodson	X		
Matt Rosenfeld		X	
Michael Hinz	X		
Mike Duarte	X		
Nathan Bavolek			X
Nedra Yost			X
Russ Allen	X		
Sage Asteak		X	
Sarah Lefton			X
Scott Coopman	X		
Scott Lentz			X
Steve Hershowitz	X		
Steve Killman			X
Taylor Hauck			X
Vince O'Hara			X
Woody Hauck			X

Zack Beckman			X
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