



Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate

Purpose

The AYSO volunteer position of Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate (CVPA) is intended to oversee the Child and Volunteer Protection Program in the Region in accordance with the AYSO Safe Haven program.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

The Regional CVPA is expected to perform their duties consistent with the directions as detailed in the AYSO Safe Haven Child and Volunteer Protection Policies, training, certification and continuing education provided by AYSO for this position including:

1. Support the AYSO Vision, Mission and National Programs in both specifics and in spirit.
2. Ensure all potential Regional volunteers annually submit an AYSO volunteer application form and background check in AYSO's Regional Management System of record and comply with any additional background screening requirements as defined by state laws.
3. Screen all potential Regional volunteers annually and submit eligible names to the Regional Board for approval.
4. Work with Regional administrators to ensure that only currently registered, cleared and approved volunteers are assigned to volunteer positions within the Region. Clearance to volunteer includes background check results, legislated health and safety training requirements (SafeSport Training, CDC Concussion Awareness Training, Sudden Cardiac Arrest), AYSO's Safe Haven training and Job specific/age-appropriate training.
5. Serve as the Safe Haven representative for the Region and the liaison between the Region and the AYSO Office.
6. Serve as a resource and/or facilitator for mandated good faith reporting of suspected child abuse to law enforcement and child welfare agencies. Report all incidents to the AYSO Risk Manager immediately.
7. Enforce AYSO's protocols to protect volunteer/player identities, privacy and privileged information.
8. Work with Regional Commissioner, Coach Administrator and Referee Administrator to ensure an annual review is held on child and volunteer protection responsibilities.
9. Promote the standards of behavior and conduct as reflected in the child and volunteer protection policies, procedures and guidelines of the AYSO Safe Haven program.

Qualifications and Desired Skills

To be considered for the position of Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate, the applicant must:

1. Annually submit an AYSO Volunteer Application form.
2. Pass the AYSO screening and background check.
3. Be annually approved and duly appointed as Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate by the Regional Commissioner (RC).

4. Demonstrate discretion as well as strong administrative and organizational skills.
5. Be familiar with the Child Protection Acts, Volunteer Protection Act and Safe Sport Act, and requirements for mandated reporting of suspected child abuse.

Supervision Protocols

While performing as the Regional Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate, the volunteer is:

1. Subject to the bylaws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures and guidelines of AYSO.
2. Under the overall authority of and directly supervised by the Regional Commissioner.
3. Required to maintain the recommended adult to child supervision ratio as referenced in the AYSO Safe Haven Child and Volunteer Protection guidelines: one adult for every eight or fewer children and two adults (one of whom may be the coach and one of whom should be of the same gender as the group) present at all times, and for the protection of both the children and the volunteer, no volunteer should be alone with any child or group of children (except his or her own) during AYSO-sponsored activities.

Time Commitment

Time commitment will vary depending on Region size and length of playing season(s). For the typical AYSO Region, the CVPA will devote about 8 hours per week per playing season.

Orientation, Training, Certification and Continued Education Provided

To fully prepare for the position, the Regional CVPA is expected to participate in the following AYSO training, certification and continuing education opportunities:

1. Orientation by the Regional Commissioner.
2. AYSO's Safe Haven, US SafeSport, CDC Concussion Awareness, and Sudden Cardiac Arrest Trainings.
3. Regional Board Member Training – 1.25 hours.
4. CVPA Job Training – 1.25 hours.
5. Annual Safe Haven Addendum – 1.25 hours.
6. Annual Management Update and other Workshops at AYSO EXPOs.

Activity Locations

While performing the duties of Regional CVPA, the volunteer is limited to the following locations, unless expressly authorized in writing by the Area Director to hold or participate in activities in another location:

1. Regularly scheduled and duly approved inside or outside AYSO activities.
2. Independent work at home alone, in committees of adults, or in a properly supervised situation with children.