



Coach Guide U6-U8 AYSO Region 68 Spring League

Here are the steps to set the foundation for a successful AYSO soccer season.

1. **Region 68 Website:** Get familiar with our region website at <http://www.camarilloaysosoccer.org> the Spring Soccer page.
2. **Register as a 2016 Volunteer:** If you did not already do so in Fall of 2016. *Coaches will not receive their teams until they have been registered and cleared.* Please register as soon as possible so that we can clear you through the National AYSO system.
 - 2.1. Registering as a Returning Volunteer
 - Go to <http://www.eayso.org> and log in with your e-mail address and password. Make sure you write your password and e-mail down, you will need it each year.
 - Click on “apply as a returning adult volunteer” and update/verify your application.
 - Send an e-mail to our CVPA (Child Volunteer Protection Advocate) at CVPA@aysor68.org to let her know what job you are doing i.e. coach, team, and/or referee.
 - 2.2. Registering as a New Volunteer
 - Go to <http://www.eayso.org> and create a new account. Make sure you write down your password and e-mail as you will need it each year.
 - You will be given an AYSO ID number which you will need to us for online training. Please write down this number.
 - Complete your volunteer application online and complete the e-signature and make sure to “Submit” the application.
 - Print off your volunteer application.
 - Bring your volunteer application along with your driver’s license to an AYSO board meeting, Coaches Orientation, or to an AYSO event

- to have it verified by someone trained to do that. You must be in person with your application and driver's license.
 - One of the CVPA trained Board Members can sign you off as a volunteer.
 - Check with your Division Coordinator to see if they are CVPA trained. They can verify your application and forward it to the Region's CVPA.
- 2.3. No adults are allowed to interact with the players until they are properly registered. This is for the protection of our players.
3. **Safe Haven Training:** All volunteers (Board members, Coaches, Assistant Coaches, Team Parents, and Referees) must take the online Safe Haven training course online.
- 3.1. If you have taken it since **June 2015 and** have been a registered volunteer each year since, you do not need to take the class again. If you are not sure, check with your Division Coordinator or just take it again, it cannot hurt to refresh.
- 3.2. Go to <http://www.aysotraining.org> and login with your AYSO ID# and last name. Select Safe Haven and click Course MT02 - AYSO's Safe Haven. Sometimes you have to enter it twice. The Course takes about 45-60 minutes to complete.
4. **Complete Age Appropriate Coach Training:**
- 4.1. Every Coach and Assistant Coach must have age appropriate training. If you are a U6 Coach, you must have U6 training; U7 and U8 must have U8 training. In Spring U6 and U8 Coach Training is online.
- 4.2. Go to <http://www.aysotraining.org> and login with your AYSO ID# and last name. Sometimes you have to enter it twice. Select coach training and click on Course C002 – U-6 Coach or Course C003 – U-8 Coach Course. The Course takes about 20-40 minutes to complete.
5. **CDC Concussion Awareness:** This online course addresses concussions in youth sports and is mandatory. Go to <http://www.aysotraining.org> and login with your AYSO ID# and last name. Sometimes you have to enter it twice. AYSO CDC Concussion Awareness. The course takes about 45-60 minutes to complete.
6. **Coach Orientation:** Every coach, new and returning, needs to attend coach orientation. This meeting will be approximately an hour. New coaches shall stay after for additional instruction. Orientations are held at our AYSO headquarters located at Camarillo AYSO Region 68 Headquarters, 1161 Calle Suerte, Suite F, Camarillo CA 93012. At this meeting you will receive your team roster and uniforms. Coach orientations will be held as follows:
- January 26, 2017, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

- January 28, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- January 31, 2017, 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

7. **Player Registration Forms:** Before you meet with your parents, make two photo copies of the first page of each **Player Registration Form**. When you meet with your parents, have a parent sign the original and both copies in blue ink. Give a set of the forms to your Assistant Coach and one to your Team Parent. This form is an emergency medical release, and if needed, you have the parents' consent if they are not present and the player gets hurt. Keep these forms with you whenever you are with your team, at practices and at games. Return these forms to the command tent at the end of the season.

8. **Decide when & where practice is:**

- 8.1. Make it a time that works best for you but is not out of line with when most 5-8 year olds would be available. You can practice once per week for one hour. Spring is relaxed so please do not practice more than one hour per week.
- 8.2. Don't try to get agreement from the team on location and time; it leads to a logistical nightmare to try to make everyone happy. You can practice on Sunday before your game as we will have room at Pleasant Valley Fields.
- 8.3. You cannot practice at:
 - Valley Lindo Park
 - Lighted sections of Pleasant Valley Fields and Tierra Linda Park.

9. **Call/E-mail your team:**

- 9.1. Before calling or e-mailing your team, look for volunteers on the registration forms.
- 9.2. You can e-mail your team but make sure your parents reply that they received your e-mail. If they do not respond, please call the parents.
- 9.3. Call the team and identify yourself by full name and tell them "I'm going to be (insert player's name) Coach this year." Many families have multiple players, so it is important to specify which child you are coaching. Be sure you contact all players within a day or so of getting your teams.
- 9.4. Inform them when and where your Team Meeting will be.

10. **Team Meeting:**

- 10.1. Provide a handout with all of your contact information and your expectations, including a list of the volunteer needs along with who committed to positions over the phone.
 - 10.2. Remind the parents that you want as many parents as possible present at practice to help out and observe and those parents should be Registered Volunteers. You should never be the only adult at practice.
 - 10.3. Discuss the volunteer positions and their time commitment.
11. **Volunteer Positions:** We strongly suggest that you get as many parents involved on your team as possible. AYSO is an all-volunteer organization and the sooner the parents understand the need to participate the better. If the head coach does all the work, they will get burned out and not enjoy this wonderful organization.
- 11.1. **Coach, Assistant Coach, Referee and Team Parent must to do the following:**
 - ▲ Register as a Volunteer (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Safe Haven Course (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Concussion Awareness Course (see above)
 - 11.2. **Volunteer duties** (a short summary)
 - Assistant Coach Duties (not required in Spring League)
 - ▲ Register as a Volunteer (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Safe Haven Course (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Concussion Awareness Course (see above)
 - ▲ Have completed age appropriate Coach training
 - ▲ Be at all practices and games
 - ▲ Help you as coach
 - Referee Duties
 - ▲ Register as a Volunteer (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Safe Haven Course (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Concussion Awareness Course (see above)
 - ▲ Encourage parents to be referees. They are a great resource for a team.
 - ▲ Take the Basic Referee Online Training Course. Go to <http://www.aysotraining.org> and login with your AYSO ID# and last name. Sometimes you have to enter it twice. Select Safe Haven and click Course R002- Basic Referee Online Training This course takes about 60 minutes to complete. Some of this course will cover competitive games but it is still a helpful training exercise.
 - ▲ In Spring League, each team provides referee, the region league does not supply referees. We recommend that each team have a

referee and one team and referee the first half and the other team can referee the second half.

- Team Manager Duties
 - ▲ Register as a Volunteer (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Safe Haven Course (see above)
 - ▲ Take the Concussion Awareness Course (see above)
 - ▲ Arrange for snacks
 - ▲ Create team roster
 - ▲ Coordinate team party at the end of the season
 - Field Painter:
 - ▲ If you are the first game of the day, you will need a volunteer who can arrive before the game to make sure the lines are painted prior to the start of the game.
 - Goals and Nets:
 - ▲ If you are the first game of the day, you will need to set up the goals which will be on your field.
 - ▲ If you are the last game of the day, you need to break down the nets and leave them on the field.
12. **Always Be Two Deep:** At any AYSO event, practice, games or other events, always have two registered adult volunteers at all times with any of the players. You can be alone with your own child, but when more players are present have at least two adults present, one of which must be the same gender as the players. If two deep leadership is unavailable for an event (practice, ice-cream social, etc.), cancel the event.
13. **Game Cards:** Each coach needs to have a completed game card for each game. Coaches will complete them and turn them in to the command tent after the game. The purpose of the card to make sure that each player is playing at least 3/4 of the U8 game or 2/3 of the U6 game.
14. **Uniform Contest:** As the uniforms you are given are white T-shirts, each team is encouraged to decorate their uniforms. We have a uniform contest each year with a winning team in each division U6 - U12. There are also three overall winning teams. Please see our website under the Spring Soccer for rules and procedures.
15. **Regional Policies and Procedures:** All of the policies and procedures for our region are found in our Regional Guidelines located on the website at

the “About Us” page in the “Information/Links” section and is called “R68 Policies and Procedures.”

16. **Kids Zone:** Kids Zone is a program that encourages fans on the sidelines, and anyone else near the play, to use positive language, show sportsmanship in their attitude and behavior, and create a great experience for every player. It’s a reminder that the soccer fields are a kid’s zone – a friendly, happy, wholesome place for children to play. Please make sure your team and parents remember the following:

- 16.1. Kids are #1
- 16.2. Fun, not winning, is everything
- 16.3. Fans only cheer, and only coaches coach
- 16.4. No yelling in anger
- 16.5. Respect the volunteer referees
- 16.6. No swearing or abusive behavior
- 16.7. No alcohol, tobacco or drugs
- 16.8. No weapons
- 16.9. Leave no trash behind
- 16.10. Set a proper example of sportsmanship
- 16.11. No pets

17. **Player Safety:** If a player gets hurt at a practice, game or event, enough that the player should not continue to play, the coach should complete the AYSO Incident Report Form which can be found at the Safety Tab under About Us. The AYSO Incident Report Form will instruct you on who should receive a copy. AYSO also has insurance for injured players. Please contact our Director of Safety at safety@aysor68.org for details.

18. Important Dates

- Coach orientations and uniform distribution
 - 1/26/2017 7:30-8:30 p.m.
 - 1/28/2017 10:00-11:00 a.m.
 - 1/31/2017 7:30-8:30 p.m.
- First game of the season Sunday, February 12, 2017
- No games on March 19, 2017
- Season ends on April 2, 2017

HAVE FUN!!! That is what AYSO soccer is all about.