Frequently Asked Questions - Preparing for the Season



Once registered, this document can provide additional details about what to expect as we prepare for the official start of the season. We can't wait to see you out on the fields!

Important Dates and Events		
Question	Response	
When does the season actually start?	Practices for Fall season typically begin the first week of August. Specific dates are available on the website.	
	In addition, some programs (i.e. Playground, VIP, Extra, and Upper Divisions) may vary from the standard season start.	
Is the Parent Orientation session mandatory?	Yes, we need parents to attend a scheduled session each season. While some of the information remains the same, new information is reviewed each season to address specific changes and needs within the program.	
Is the Player Evaluation mandatory?	Yes, if you are in the 10U-19U divisions, attendance at one of the player evaluation sessions is needed. The information gathered at the evaluation sessions will provide the ability to better balance teams.	
How do I find out about important dates for the season?	Major events are published within Google Calendar and are accessible from our website. In addition, we leverage Facebook Group events as well.	
Communications		
Question	Response	
When will I be contacted by a coach?	The number one question we receive as we near the season. Please be patient with our volunteers as this is a busy time of the year. The week between the coach meeting and practices beginning is typically when your coach will contact you. In addition, team information is loaded to Team Central when the rosters are published and you can access the practice schedules, etc. by logging into your account.	
	 If contact is not received by August 2, 2020, complete the <u>online form</u> to indicate no contact has been received. We will leverage the information provided to confirm account information and contact the coach. Please do not call inquiring about your coach until the dates listed for your player(s) Divisions. The Board will not distribute coach information. If a coach has failed to contact you by the dates listed we will take your information and follow up with the coach directly. This is a Privacy issue for our Volunteers. 	
How will the coach contact me?	The coach may use one or more of the following options: phone call, text, email, or messaging through Team Central. The information provided to the coach is	

	the information contained on your player's registration form. Please ensure that you update any changes to your contact information to minimize delays with contact.
How do I get updates from the Region for the season?	The region will leverage email, text, and Facebook group posts as the primary forms of communication with the region. You must opt-in for region communications via text! Text 84483 with the code FallSeason2020ayso14679
Preparing Your Player	
Question	Response
What equipment does my player need?	Required: • Shin guards • Athletic shoes • Water bottle
	Recommended: • Cleats • Ball • Size 3: Playground/6U/8U • Size 4: 10U/12U • Size 5: 14U/16U/19U
How can I prepare my child for the season?	 There are many ways to prepare your player for the season, depending on age, experience, personality, and other key factors. For all players, it is important to do the below in preparation for the season: Ensure the player has well-fitting equipment Talk with your player about the <u>Player and Parent Code of Conduct</u> Conditioning (running, core strength, and agility) Individual ball skills (more time with the ball at their feet) If your player is an experienced/returning player, they may be more excited than nervous to get back into the season. In addition to the above mentioned items, you can increase the difficulty of the individual drills. Technical training videos may be beneficial for older players.
	For players that are new, or just a little nervous about starting a new season, keeping an open conversation about the soccer season and what to expect can greatly reduce anxiety about the upcoming season. Depending on the age of your player, there are some great books and movies about soccer.
Volunteering	
What does 100% volunteer run mean?	This means that our AYSO region is run by volunteers. There are numerous volunteer opportunities to get involved and the region and kids need your help!
	Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Team Managers : We must have 2-3 registered and trained volunteers for each team!

Referee and Assistant Referees: We must have a referee crew of 3 to officiate each game at the 10U-19U levels. This equates to approximately 48 regional referee positions that must be filled on game days. In addition, our 8U fields need one referee per field throughout the day. This means approximately 15 8U Official referee positions on a game day.
Board Members: Many board positions are available. These positions benefit the community through contribution at the regional level. These include coaching and referee staff, registrar, team parent coordinator, sponsorship and fundraising, and so on bring us your ideas and let's talk!