



AYSO
THE WORLD'S GAME

EXPO
IN YOUR REGION

2023

CURRICULUM CATALOG



AYSO EXPO 2023

Section 2/9/12

Workshop Descriptions

COACHING and PLAYER PROGRAMS

11v11 Strategy: Coaching the Modern Defender

No other position has changed more in recent years than that of the defender. From playing out of the back to the role of the wingback, this workshop brings the demands of defenders in the modern game to the forefront. Attendees should have the Intermediate Coach Certification.

A Framework for Continuous Coach Education I – “The Why”

Lays the foundation to the importance of continuous education and why your AYSO Coaching Certificate should be the start of your coaching journey and not the destination.

NEW! Annual Coach Update 2023

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

From updates to the National Coaching Program to COVID-19 resources and protocols this workshop includes general updates from the AYSO coaching world (and beyond). A must for all AYSO coaches.

NEW! Chicago Fire FC presents – Social and Emotional Learning and how to close the “Gap” in Youth Soccer

Only 37% of American youth play team sports regularly, while youth soccer experiences a 25% drop in participation once players turn 12 years old. What can we as coaches do differently to help children stay in the game? Learn how Chicago Fire FC integrates Social and Emotional Learning into its soccer curriculum and helps youth learn to become their best SELF.

Coach Administrator Training – CERTIFICATION

Arguably one of AYSO’s most important roles, this session is a necessity for all Regional Coach Administrators to learn and enjoy their duties and responsibilities. Topics include an overview of the AYSO National Coaching Program, the importance of our accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation for Coaching Education (NCACE), implementation of US Soccer Player Development Initiatives, how to manage coaching courses, managing your coaching budget, working with the Region Board to create an environment that supports coach and player development, the Stewards of the Game format, the importance of a coaching calendar, and much, much more! Experienced coach administrators are encouraged to attend and to add their experience to the discussions.



Coaching Coaches and Mentoring II – “The How”

Workshop is designed to help implement a structured mentoring program to help stimulate coach and player development from within.

NEW! Coaching Female Players

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Building upon our commitment to further support women coaches and athletes, this workshop identifies fundamental differences, methodology and approaches to coaching, supporting and developing female players in AYSO.

NEW! Chicago Fire FC Presents – Increasing your Players’ Learning Power

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Each of us has a preferred way to “take in” and “deal with” information. Understanding our preferred way to learn can increase our effectiveness as a coach. Learn how Chicago Fire FC integrates experiential learning and self-awareness training to support coaches on and off the field and how you can boost your own coaching toolkit.

NEW! CSKJ presents Keeping your Athletes Healthy

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Injuries to young athletes are on the rise in the U.S., now running in the millions nationwide. The world renowned Kerlan Jobe Fellowship doctors, trained in orthopedic sports medicine, will address some of the most common injuries in youth soccer athletes, how to prevent them and the role you can play to advocate for their health and safety on the pitch.

Periodization 101

Insight to the game’s current “hot-topic” and what it means to the AYSO coach. A summary of periodization elements dripped throughout the AYSO coaching program; insight to current global trends; and some practical applications for everyday use. For 12U coaches and up.

Playground Soccer and Schoolyard Soccer Program Leader – CERTIFICATION

A certification class for AYSO Playground and Schoolyard Program Leaders. We will discuss what the AYSO Playground, AYSO Playtime and AYSO Schoolyard programs are; who should be the lead volunteer; how the programs are run; and why the programs are so important to AYSO.

NEW! TCM’s Top Five Age Group Activities (and how to make them work for your team)

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

The AYSO Coaching Manual team curate their favorite 6U, 8U, 10U, 12U and 14+ age group activities and walk through the design, organization, progressions and how to adapt them for your own team.



United Soccer Coaches presents Essential Principles of Effective Youth Coaching

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

An interactive workshop that introduces six key principles of effective youth coaching. Through discussion, first-time and novice coaches will be introduced to helpful ideas to make a training session more purposeful and enjoyable for coach and player alike. Each principle will be explained using training games that can immediately be applied at the coach's next session. After this short class a coach will be able to deliver better and more fun training sessions, leaving both themselves and the players wanting more.

FINANCE / BUSINESS SYSTEMS

NEW! Association Platform

To be facilitated by the Section Systems Support Admin

This workshop is for any board member who needs to learn about (or more about) the Association Platform and how to use it most effectively to print reports, verify volunteer status and certifications, and more! Get the valuable information you need to be able to get the business of your region done efficiently!

NEW! Divvy/QuickBooks

To be facilitated by the Section Systems Support Admin

This workshop is for anyone working with Section/Area/Regional finances, especially treasurers, Regional Commissioners, and Auditors. You will learn about using a Divvy card to help your regional volunteers have the ability to make purchases for the S/A/R with ease. You will also learn about creating and using budgets as well as how to use QuickBooks to record all transactions to make your end of year reporting to the AYSO office seamless and automatic.

NEW! Sports Connect

To be facilitated by the Section Systems Support Admin

This workshop is for anyone who is using Sports Connect, especially Regional Commissioners, Registrars, Webmasters, Coach Admins, etc. There are many things that you can do with Sports Connect that you may not know about. Learn if your registration system is set up to optimize what programs you offer. Learn about the "New Season Tune Up" and more. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and learn how this platform can make the administration of soccer easy and make more time for being on the field!



MANAGEMENT

It is highly recommended that all required board member job certification courses be taken online prior to taking the job specific roundtables listed below. Roundtables will be focused on sharing information, best practices, scenarios, and Q & A's.

Annual Management Update

Updates to the National Management Program including any Bylaw, Rules & Regulations, Policy and Program updates.

Auditor

This workshop provides basic training for Auditors at the Region, Area or Section level, covering the role of the AYSO Auditor, to independently ensure fiscal management in all levels of AYSO, and to identify potential problems before they occur. Learn how to spot a “red flag” and what to do if improprieties are uncovered. The Auditor or Fiduciary will learn about AYSO’s audit procedures and about AYSO’s audit checklist. The types of documents to review will also be covered. Even if you have no financial background, this course will help you get started with the tools that you’ll need for an independent review of your Section, Area or Region.

Advanced Dispute Resolution

Build upon your knowledge gained in the Dispute Resolution workshop. Dive deeper into situations that may arise in your Region and understand additional solutions. This course provides practical application of the strategies learned in both Dispute Resolution and Dispute Resolution Review workshops.

NEW! Creating a Culture of Volunteer Willingness and Appreciation

Providing local soccer programming relies on the willingness of volunteers to donate their time and effort. Creating a volunteer-focused culture starts with educating the families of the community about what being a volunteer-organization entails. This includes setting realistic expectations for our families (and potential volunteers) about the benefits and challenges of a volunteer-run organization, vital compliance & legal aspects of the process that protect their children, and the benefits to the training and certification programming. This workshop will focus on looking at approaches that can be leveraged during the registration, volunteer recruitment, and during the season to improve the volunteer alignment.

Developing a Regional Calendar

A Regional calendar is a clever and useful tool that can productively assist Regions to prioritize, stay on track, advertise, and organize your events. This workshop will walk you through the steps of creating and personalizing your Region calendar. These techniques address how to create a Regional calendar and cover the steps needed to plan a calendar that fits your needs. Included are various online tools to help automate your processes. This tool will help with recruiting volunteers, improving communications, and creating a historical timeline of your Region.



Dispute Resolution

This course is designed for Region and Area Board Members and will cover recommended approaches for dealing with conflict and resolving difficult issues. It will provide resources to help volunteers work through challenging situations before they escalate to the point of needing Due Process.

Dispute Resolution Review

This workshop allows attendees, after taking the Dispute Resolution Course, to review scenarios dealing with difficult people and common difficult situations which left to smolder, can turn your “sunny Saturday” into “manic Monday”. Attendee’s practice recognizing potentially explosive situations and how to deal with them before they flare up.

Division Coordinator

The Division Coordinator is a vital member of the support team in any Region. All the basics of the Division Coordinator position are covered including roles and responsibilities and the importance of functioning as an intermediary between the Region Board, Coaches, Referees and parents. See how a Division Coordinator can be effective in different scenarios and learn how to have a real impact on the success of your Region.

Due Process

This workshop provides more detail and information for Regional Boards and Disciplinary Review Panel members when handling difficult situations with volunteers. Learn the process to use when limiting, suspending, or removing/terminating a volunteer (Non- Executive Member) from their participation in AYSO. This workshop will review the many tools available to properly deal with serious personnel problems and examine the procedures when offering the volunteer their due process and appeal protection.

Due Process Review

This workshop provides an opportunity for attendees, after taking the Due Process Course, to discuss real-life scenarios and apply the processes to use when limiting, suspending or removing/terminating a volunteer (Non-Executive Member) from their participation in AYSO.

Governance Made Easier

Every Region is governed by Standard Policies & Protocols. Do you know what they say? Do you know what things you “must do” and what things you can modify to meet your local requirements or preferences? This document affects the daily operation of your Region and even determines who on your Board is eligible to vote. The course is for Regional Board Members and for Section and Area Directors as reviewers.



Getting Started: Building Your Region's Homepage (Formerly Maximizing Website Presence I)

Does your Region's website home page need a lift? Websites are the go-to place for people to find information. Here's an opportunity to get quick and easy ways to improve your Region's home page to better disseminate information to the community. This course will cover setting up the Home Page using the Sports Connect website as a model. Understanding website development is helpful, but not necessary.

Getting to Yes! Improving Volunteer Recruitment

Recruiting volunteers can be a challenge. In today's atmosphere of every changing reasons for volunteerism, volunteers want to make a meaningful impact within their communities. With the wide use of technology, traditional recruiting is more challenging. In this course, volunteers will review methods and develop skills that will help them be more successful in their recruitment.

Guide to Better Communications

Effective communication is key to the success of your Region, fostering good will and happy participants. Communication issues cause some of the most difficult problems that Regions face. This course offers over 20 strategies for better written, electronic, verbal, and non-verbal communication, including what's best in different situations--and how to avoid missteps. This training is important for all Regional Board members, especially Regional Commissioners, Coach and Referee Administrators, CVPAs, Safety Directors, and Registrars.

Instructor Training for 2021 I2I

Workshop presents an overview of the updated 2021 Intro to Instruction Course (I2I). It is intended to prepare current instructors to teach the new I2I. Content includes a review of the pre-course online content, classroom content, and philosophy in the new I2I. This is not a certification class.

Planning Effective Region Board Meetings (Formerly Guide to Improving Region Board Meetings)

This session discusses the things that contribute to more effective meetings and the things that frustrate people most about ineffective meetings. You'll get ideas for having more constructive meetings and suggestions for increasing interest and attendance. The session focuses on length of time, agenda creation, who should be there, and what should be reported on a monthly basis. You will be given 10 ideas to make Region Board Members look forward to each meeting. Recommended for RCs and Board Members.

Regional Board Member Training

Calling all volunteers; this workshop is for you! This course provides all board members with a general understanding of their role in the administration of the Regional Board and where to find information about their specific role. Learn about AYSO's Standard Regional Policies and Protocols and using AYSO's Six Philosophies. Volunteers will understand the common responsibilities all volunteers share in the areas of Kid Zone, budgeting, time management, communications, and recruitment necessary to make a Region successful.



Registrar Guided Q&A (Formerly Registrar Roundtable)

This workshop provides an opportunity for attendees to discuss and discover best practices after taking the Online Registrar Certification Course. Did you volunteer for this job but now feel overwhelmed? Are you confused or need help getting started, or worried about what to do next? Ever wonder why AYSO does things in certain ways? The answers will come from attendees through a guided discussion. All Region Board Members will benefit from attending. Please note that issues with Sports Connect and other systems won't be addressed.

Registration Events in the Digital Age

This workshop is not just for Registrars! E-signature technology has simplified the registration process and moved it online, saving time for both the participants and the Region staff. But is there still value in having in-person, face-to-face events? What are the benefits of personal interaction with your potential volunteers and players? Come and explore the pros and cons with your fellow Registrars and other Board Members.

Safety Director Guided Q&A (Formerly Safety Director Roundtable)

This roundtable workshop provides an opportunity for attendees to discuss and discover best practices after taking the Online Safety Director Certification Course. This position, more than any other, has the opportunity to create the "safe, fun, fair environment" that all AYSO parents expect. Share experiences of what it takes to fulfill the role of the Safety Director to ensure the safety and risk management of the Region's soccer program. What do Soccer Accident Insurance (SAI) and risk management mean to your Region?

Tips for Enhancing Your AYSO Website (Formerly Maximizing Website Presence II)

Not sure what to include on Region's website? More is better when it comes to what to include, especially if it helps answer common parent questions. This course will cover extra tips that can help customize your website using the Sports Connect website as a model. Understanding website development is helpful, but not necessary.

Treasurer Guided Q&A (Formerly Treasurer Round Table)

This roundtable style workshop is a guided question and answer session to provide an opportunity to discuss and discover best practices after taking the Online Treasurer Certification Course. This workshop allows any volunteer to give their input and share ideas and to explore best practices to ensure financial responsibility within your Region, Area, or Section Boards.

Volunteer Retention is not Detention

Once you've recruited them to volunteer, your next step is keeping them. Are you supporting them, meeting their needs, and appreciating them? If you are struggling with keeping your volunteers active and engaged, come learn new tools and skills to help you in your efforts. This course will help participants cultivate more effective methods of volunteer retention.



What is a Budget Really For?

Have you wondered what the budget is really for or what its purpose is? Budgeting is a useful tool to assist Regions in setting goals, ensuring you aren't spending money you don't have, preparing for emergencies and providing transparency of the Region. In this session, you will have an opportunity to have a hands-on experience using your own Region's budget to see why a budget is an important tool. We will look at each section of the budget to help your Region see your spending habits and determine if your fees are appropriate to keep your Region running in the black. Please make sure that you bring a copy of your Region's budget to get the most out of this experience!

NEW! Working with Field Owners

Regions are challenged with a variety of field owners, requirements, and usage agreements. This course will help Regional Commissioners and their boards better understand the challenges they face when working with City, School, and Private owners when it comes to using fields. Attendees will learn what to do to secure field permits, negotiate field fees, and watch for red flags that could put field use in jeopardy. Come learn how to secure your fields and protect your Region.

Leadership Forum with NBOD Members and Section Directors

An open session to follow up on National Updates for volunteers to discuss AYSO with senior leadership.

INSTRUCTION

NEW! Facilitation and the Teaching Process

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Gone are the days of reading PowerPoints to engage and educate our volunteers! As our Introduction to Instruction, Education Philosophy and Instructor Profile outline, we must use researched adult learning methodology (andragogy), interactions and interventions and facilitate learning through various experiences, contexts, and situations. This workshop introduces foundations of facilitation in the teaching process...and why it works!



MARKETING/COMMUNICATIONS/FUNDRAISING

All Marketing/Communications/Fundraising Course are intended for: RCs, Assistant RCs, Marketing Coordinators, Fundraising Coordinators, Sponsorship Coordinators, and any Region volunteers involved in promoting Registration, your Region and events.

Advanced Social Media

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Understand the basics, but want to know how to implement multi-channel and multi- platform campaign strategy? In this session, we will learn how to advertise on social media and strategize your content and the best platforms to use through the building of a campaign. We will also further explore how social media can play a pivotal role in your Region's branding.

AYSO Best Practices for Sponsorship and Fundraising

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Sponsorships and fundraising are two subjects that may evoke slight fear, but they are not as scary as you think. In this session, we will discuss how you can target localsponsors for your Region as well as access our national sponsors on a local level. We will also discuss fundraising best practices and build a campaign example together.

Building the AYSO Brand in your Community

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

What is a Brand? Why is your brand important? Brand, branding and brand identity...they are words that are thrown around in the marketing and communications space all the time but theyoften go undefined for your market space. Come learn what makes a brand, how do you build a brand and why it is important to control your brand identity in your community.

Marketing your Program for Your Community

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign instructor

The landscape of youth soccer post-COVID has changed, so what does this mean for your programs moving forward? In this session, we will discuss how you talk about and build your AYSO program menu in this new environment to different audiences. Come learn what adjustments you need to make to build upon the relationships you have in the community as families and volunteers re-engage or engage with AYSO. You'll leave this workshop fortified with information, techniques, tips, and tactics to help promote your AYSO program Menu in your community for today's families.



Social and Digital Marketing

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Social and digital marketing is a vital part of marketing your program, product, and organization, but how do you choose the right mix. This session is for those that understand the basics, but want to know how to design and implement multi-channel and multi-platform marketing and communications strategy? In this session, we will discuss the best platforms to use as you build and strategize your content for the most effective campaign. We will also further explore how social media can play a pivotal role in your Region's branding.

OFFICIATING

Advantage - When and Where?

Designed for the more experienced referee, this workshop reviews the proper use of advantage and how to signal it properly in different situations. Using scenario training, this workshop provides guidance to help the referee decide when to apply advantage based on the age and skills of the players, the location on the field, the nature of the match and other relevant factors.

NEW! Annual Referee Update

Attendance is essential for all AYSO volunteers in the referee program including referees, instructors, assessors, mentors, schedulers/assignors and administrators. Workshop covers the latest changes in the Laws of the Game, review of program changes, points of emphasis for 2022/23.

Avoiding Trouble

Techniques, skills and processes needed to successfully manage younger players' games. Designed for the less experienced referee, this workshop presents key topics that every referee should know well in order to be a good referee.

Be a Great Mentor

Learn, understand and effectively use the mentoring process. Interactive session to present, discuss and use the Elements of Mentoring which referee leaders can use to influence the referees' ability to learn, retain information and modify behavior.



Establishing a Mentoring Program

The workshop is designed for Referee Administrators as well as Intermediate and above referees with at least two years of refereeing experience interested in developing and maintaining a successful mentoring program in the Region. The workshop helps the referee program administrators understand the importance of mentoring and how to set up and run a Region Mentoring Program. It also defines the attributes of a quality mentor. The workshop describes ways that Areas and Sections can enhance the Region Mentoring Programs or help when Regions lack the staff to run such a program.

Fouls and Misconduct Review for 14U Games & Above

Workshop will provide a review of Law 12; pictures and video clips to help the participants better understand basic fouls that are common in 14U games and above to facilitate a discussion based on the video clips presented. The correct decision for each video clip presented will be provided along with tips and recommendations on how to manage fouls and misconduct.

Fouls and Misconduct Review for 12U Games & Below

Workshop will provide a review of Law 12 with an emphasis on the Direct and Indirect Free Kicks; pictures and video clips to help the participants better understand basic fouls that are common in 12U games and below to facilitate a discussion/decision based on the video clips presented.

Free Kicks & Restarts

Restarts matter: statistics indicate that more than 60% of goals result from restarts in the attacking third of the field. This session focuses on how to manage free kicks and other restarts and provides recommended (and alternate) referee positioning. It also addresses the role of the referee team in directing restarts.

Foundations of Officiating Futsal

Introductory class providing a foundation and overview of Futsal officiating, US Soccer's official indoor soccer format.

Game Reports

This is a workshop to teach participants the components of a game report and how to prepare one. It will include an interactive exercise where every participant will complete a report with a focus on preparing correct game reports. Administrators have a consistent challenge with reports that are submitted before they are reviewed and correctly completed. 90% of referees around the world don't like to do paperwork so this workshop provides a creative, fun way to get participants to practice and learn how to develop good reports.



How to Be a Lead Referee Instructor

This workshop shows why Lead Instructors are important in the AYSO Referee Instructor program and discusses the administrative and leadership roles that Lead Instructors play in AYSO courses and other instructional activities.

Newer Ideas in Referee Positioning

Techniques, skills and processes needed to successfully manage older players' games. Designed for the more experienced referee; this workshop presents key topics that every referee should know well in order to be a good referee.

Nurturing and Retaining Youth Referees

With an emphasis on the development and retention of youth referees, this workshop explores techniques for establishing and running a successful youth referee program. Intended primarily for referee administrators, this workshop explores the who, what, when, where, why and how of a youth referee program. Participants share their experiences and ideas, learning best practices that are known to make such programs effective. This workshop will also provide the opportunity to share Section, Area and Region experiences in growing and retaining youth referees, thereby uncovering best practices and new ideas from which all participants may benefit. (This integrates the round table workshop to make this session more effective).

Officiating as a Team

Refereeing as a team begins with the pregame conference and goes on to include clear delegation and execution of duties, proper positioning by the referee and assistant referees, eye contact between officials, and signaling per the USSF Guide to Procedures. More experienced referees will learn skills to enhance their performance and communication both as the referee and as an AR. The workshop emphasizes the communication subtlety required when refereeing older players. Attendees should bring assistant referee flags.

Offside Review

A review of Law 11: Offside basic components. This is a simple Law per the text content but very challenging because of the physical and mental requirements. In this session, we'll review the basic concepts; provide tips and advice to help the assistant referees and referees evaluate offside incidents; and review diagrams and video clips with simpler offside scenarios.

Proactive Refereeing - Reading the Game and Taking Action

Workshop focuses on techniques that help referees anticipate game-control challenges they will face when refereeing older players. Referees learn that anticipation comes from "reading the game" – that is, understanding specific keys to the players' objectives revealed in their actions and behaviors. Referees also learn techniques to adjust the balance of flow and control in response to their reading of the game, especially in high-risk situations.



Recruiting & Retaining Referees

The workshop focuses on methods/techniques for recruiting and retaining referees, an essential but challenging aspect of our soccer program. This workshop covers proven approaches to recruiting, developing and retaining referees across the country, and mentoring is emphasized as a retention and development technique. Attendees exchange ideas and effective methodologies and best practices in recruiting and retaining referees. Workshop will also provide the opportunity to share Section, Area and Region experiences in recruiting and retaining referees, thereby uncovering best practices and new ideas from which all participants may benefit. (This integrates the round table workshop to make this session more effective.)

Refereeing is Thinking

Intended for experienced referees, this workshop emphasizes the importance of avoiding "book refereeing" in older players' games. It uses scenario training to explore real game situations in which rigid application of the Laws is not the best remedy. Referees learn practical techniques and specific referee behaviors – rooted in the Spirit of the Laws but mostly unwritten – to maximize player enjoyment through flexible game management.

Refereeing with Fewer Than Three

The workshop addresses the all-too-common problem of officiating a game with fewer than three trained referees. The mechanics of the diagonal system of control (DSC) are reviewed with an emphasis on the responsibilities of the three officials. The workshop focuses on how to redistribute those responsibilities when there are fewer than three trained officials. Compromises and variations are examined to deal with the loss of field coverage. The workshop emphasizes the application of these techniques in younger division matches, but it also addresses referee positioning for older players' matches when fewer than three officials are available.

Regional Referee Administrator

We will review the responsibilities of a Regional Referee Administrator focusing on the activities that are key to managing a Regional Referee Program. Topics include Referee: Budget, Recruitment and Retention. Resources, methods and recommendations will be shared with the students to help you be successful in carrying out the RRA duties.

NEW! Stopping Referee Abuse

Adapted with permission from presentations by Matthew Buckman, Director of Referee Development for the California-North Referee Association of USSF and National Assignor for U.S. Soccer. Workshop covers strategies and techniques for identifying and addressing abuse; what to say and when to say it and promoting zero tolerance for referee abuse.



Women's Referee and Coach Forum

Experienced women referees and coaches answer questions and lead discussions on the challenges and opportunities for women in this male-dominated arena. Attendees at this session will discuss their secrets of success by sharing questions, suggestions and ideas for dealing with difficult situations in order to feel more comfortable on the field. All are welcome.

You Make the Call I

You make the call in this workshop that presents scenarios that may occur in 12U games and below. Newer and younger division referees will challenge themselves and each other to judiciously apply the finer points of the Laws, decide whether to whistle or not. You're the referee on your game; be prepared for it by sharpening your decision-making skills in this dynamic workshop.

You Make the Call II

You make the call in this workshop that presents difficult scenarios that may occur in older players' games. Experienced referees will challenge themselves and each other to judiciously apply the finer points of the Laws, decide whether to whistle or apply advantage, determine how to handle gamesmanship and misconduct and more. You're the referee on your game; be prepared for it by sharpening your decision-making skills in this dynamic workshop.

SAFE HAVEN

Child & Volunteer Protection Advocate

The Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate (CVPA) is a required board position put in place to help protect our two vital resources: the players and volunteers. This training class leads you through an understanding of the position, AYSO's Criminal History Background Check Policy, and volunteer screening protocols. This workshop is also open to others who wish to learn more about volunteer eligibility and what AYSO is doing to protect players and volunteers.

AYSO's Safe Haven Addendum

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Designed for Section, Area and Region board members, this workshop covers challenges in providing a "safe haven," additional protocols for dealing with these challenges, and program updates including U.S. Soccer's requirement for SafeSport training. The workshop facilitates discussions about common issues and concerns.



NEW! The Importance of a Safe, Fair, Fun, Family-Friendly Environment. Welcome to Kids Zone 2023!

While everyone agrees that youth sports provide invaluable benefits to all kids, staggering statistics show that kids are leaving sports at increasing rates. Why? Because it's not always fun and because of the unrealistic expectations placed on them to perform. Kids Zone sidelines are essential for kids to play freely, fail, and learn the beautiful game of soccer. Learn about the newly updated Kids Zone program materials and the importance of making every AYSO game a Kids Zone.

Stewards of the Game

Learn about the role of coaches, referees, and administrators in managing a safe, fair, fun, family-friendly experience on game days. Discussion of on-field collaboration and how on-field confrontation may be managed.

VIP – VERY IMPORTANT PLAYER PROGRAM...WELCOME TO EPIC!

NEW! VIP Program Guide: Welcome to EPIC!

AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor

Significant updates to the VIP Program, including identity/branding, methodology and guidelines. The step-by-step plan for adding an EPIC “division” is easy to implement; and if you already offer the program, it is a chance to share enhancement ideas and learn how to provide even more opportunities for participants. A must for all VIP/EPIC administrators, coaches, buddies and volunteers.

EPIC Volunteer Training (2½ hours)

This course provides the training needed for all coaches, referees, administrators and buddies who volunteer with your EPIC division.

INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION COURSES

Introduction to Instruction 2021 – 4 hours in-person with 1-hour pre-course online work (this course must be rostered prior to EXPO)

Coach Instructor 2022 – 4 hours in-person with 4-hour pre-course online work and 2-hours post-course (this course must be rostered prior to EXPO)

Advanced Referee Instructor – 6.5 hours

Referee Instructor Evaluator – 5.5 hours

Management Instructor – 6 hours

Advanced Management Instructor – 6 hours

VIP/EPIC Instructor – 3 hours