



# Kickin' It Around

What's going on in AYSO Section 14?

June-July 2010



Section Director: Wendy Smith

AYSO SECTION 14

<http://www.aysosection14.org>

## Upper 90:

*As Spring seasons end, what to do next?*

AYSO SOCCER CAMPS!



Find one near you...

<http://www.ayso.org/camps.aspx>

Or how about the AYSO National Games in Florida?  
[http://www.soccer.org/events/national\\_games.aspx](http://www.soccer.org/events/national_games.aspx)



And oh yeah..  
The 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP!!  
June 11 - July 11

Looking forward to a great summer of soccer!!

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## AYSO 2010 National Games are HERE! July 4 -11, 2010



If you wish to sponsor or volunteer at the AYSO 2010 National Games, please email us at:  
[2010NG@aysosection14.org](mailto:2010NG@aysosection14.org)

AYSO 2010 National Games are HERE! July 4 -11, 2010

## Join the Team!

### More than 100 Volunteers Needed for National Games 2010

Do you want to be a part of the AYSO National games team, but don't want to play soccer? You can - by serving as a National Games Volunteer! Several volunteer options are available - before, during and after the games. You can donate time lining fields and setting up goals, welcome players and families from other states at Opening Ceremonies or walk the fields and be up close and personal to the exciting games as a Public Safety Volunteer. There are a variety of jobs available.

National Games 2010 will be played in Wellington, Fl. during the week of July 4-11. To learn more about National games visit [www.ayso.org](http://www.ayso.org). For information about volunteering contact Martha Vargas at [fvbiker1@comcast.net](mailto:fvbiker1@comcast.net)



### Referees Needed

As the 2010 AYSO National Games quickly approach, I would like to invite the referee's from around the country to participate in the 2010 AYSO National Games taking place in Wellington, FL, located In Palm Beach County, the week of July 4, thru July 11. Please use the link below for you to register as a participating referee for the 2010 games, and see the list of referee hosting hotels that will be offering discounts to AYSO National Games Referees. Thank you.

Nemesio Caraballo  
Section 14, Referee Administrator  
561-215-7442

[http://www.ayso.org/events/national\\_games/referees.aspx](http://www.ayso.org/events/national_games/referees.aspx)

AYSO 2010 National Games are HERE! July 4 -11, 2010

## Soccerfest - Run, Sun and Fun in Florida!

### Unique 'Street Soccer' Event Open To All Players

On Wednesday morning of AYSO National Games week – building on the excitement and celebration of the Opening Ceremonies the night before – the Games begin with a one-day Soccerfest.

Soccerfest is one of the the most significant events in the National Games as it sets the tone for the week and embodies the philosophies of the National Games and of AYSO – the focus is on sportsmanship, team spirit and making new friends.

In Soccerfest, players from every team in each age division U-10 through U-19 congregate at their appointed fields and through a process designed to maximize the mixing of players from different parts of the country, are divided into random teams. Now players from Arizona and Chicago and from New York and Hawaii are teammates.

### Soccerfest Open To All Players

"The best soccer players are creative," said one coach who had never participated in a Soccerfest before. "They try new moves and tactics on their own, without the help of a coach. These 'pickup games' are usually a mixed bag of abilities. Consequently, players learn from each other and the players have a chance to experiment. Great soccer training needs to include this 'street soccer' - Soccerfest is just that - a ball and a bunch of kids, having fun!"



The AYSO National Games 2010 Soccerfest is open to all players, AYSO registered or not, born between Aug. 1, 1990 and July 31, 2001. Registration Forms can be downloaded for currently registered AYSO players or non-currently registered players.

Soccerfest players hang out together all day, getting to know each other and something about their differences. More importantly, by playing two soccer games together as a team, with coaches they have never seen before, they discover their commonality and start to develop friendships through their common bonds of passion for soccer, for AYSO and for fun.

### Great Fun, Great Soccer Learning

"It was great! We got to meet and play soccer with kids from all over the place," enthused a player from the 2008 National Games held in Hawaii. "It was not about winning, but about having fun, playing with other kids who I just met. I still keep in touch with some of my Soccerfest teammates."

Ask almost anyone who has participated in the National Games what they liked best about the Games experience and the most frequent answer is "the Soccerfest!"

"Soccerfest was the best part of the Games for all of us," said one referee. "This is the one part of the Games that the players, coaches and referees can truly be 'family'. Anyone who comes to the National Games and misses this event is missing the point of coming! "

AYSO 2010 National Games are HERE! July 4 -11, 2010

Thanks to the sponsors of the AYSO National Games!

**Reserve Your National Games Hotel Now!**  
 LOWEST RATES AVAILABLE  
 { Ask about referee rates }



**OFFICIAL HOUSING BUREAU**  
 of the AYSO National Games 2010



**Reserve Your Group Flights**  
 To The  
 AYSO National Games




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 Official Photographer

# Adjusting to a kinder, gentler soccer

The L.A. Times December 01, 2009. Story by Hector Tobar

*In the AYSO league in South Pasadena, kids and parents of all colors gather and hundreds of girls play on fields alongside the boys. Everybody plays, and parents offer only positive comments.*

Some years back, I stood at the edge of a field in Mexico City watching my older son play soccer. The contest got my blood pressure going. I couldn't help but yell an observation or two. "What's that?" I barked after witnessing an errant pass. I guess I was a bit loud because my wife whispered over my shoulder: "Down, tiger." These days, in a Los Angeles suburb with tree-lined streets, I watch my son play and don't even call out his name. I never say a critical word, and rarely does any other parent. Instead, there is much polite clapping and repetition of the phrases "Nice try!" and "Good effort!"

In the American Youth Soccer Organization, that creation of Southern California suburbia that introduced many of us to the "soccer mom," it's all about the kids having fun. We're not supposed to care who wins, really.

All this mellowness took a little getting used to.

For years, I lived in Latin American countries where insults were hurled freely at players and referees. Once, in Buenos Aires, I saw a boy of about 9 call a referee an especially colorful, anatomical curse word. At the stadiums, fans stood behind the goals, blasting horns and shouting out ribald cheers.

You can't do any of that in AYSO.

During my first youth game at a South Pasadena field, I stood behind the goal and whooped "Yes!" when my son's team scored. A moment later, the referee walked over to me and said in the polite but stern voice of a good cop: "You can't cheer if you sit behind the goal."

I must have looked perplexed, because one of the moms sitting next to me explained. "Yeah, that's a rule. They say cheering intimidates the goalkeeper."

The little soccer hooligan inside me wanted to say: "Of course it does. That's the whole point!"

In the context of American suburbia and AYSO culture, my little soccer hooligan is a big jerk. And I've happily put him on leave. "There are more than 650,000 children playing AYSO soccer," says the manual the league gave me when I volunteered to referee. "And each one of those children has the right to a safe, fair, fun and positive environment."

How could I possibly argue with that?

Coming back to the United States and its youth soccer fields, watching the moms with sliced oranges and other healthful snacks and the quiet dads sitting in their folding chairs, I've been struck by one of those insights about home that comes when you've been away a long time.



See you next issue!



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- ◆ **Free Camp T-Shirt**
- ◆ **Free Parent/Coach Clinics**
- ◆ **Guaranteed AYSO Fun!**



West Palm Beach AYSO National Games 2010  
 July 6-July 10 Code: 71500  
 IPC Field #8, 3667 120th Avenue South, Wellington  
 9am-12pm (6-16 yrs) \$75 or 9am-10:30am (4-5 yrs) \$55  
 TUES / THURS / FRI / SAT  
 AYSO Soccer Camps 888-857-6222  
 Make Checks Payable to AYSO Soccer Camps  
 PO Box 1838  
 Redlands, CA 92373



## Community Soccer Camps

Visit [www.aysosocccamps.org](http://www.aysosocccamps.org) ○ Toll Free 1-888-857-6222



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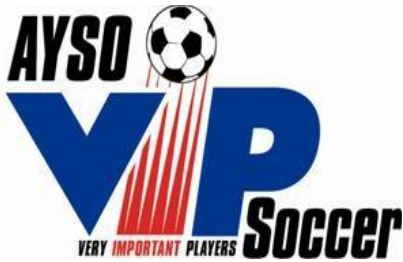


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American Youth Soccer Organization  
Region 345/Okeehetee Park  
7715 Forest Hill Blvd  
West Palm Beach, FL 33415



***THE AYSO NATIONAL GAMES WELCOMES  
VIP PLAYERS TO THE GAMES  
THIS SUMMER!!!!***

VIP players are those with physical and mental disabilities that make it difficult for them to successfully participate on mainstream teams. VIP teams can include those that are blind or visually impaired, have impaired mobility, are mentally or emotionally challenged, autistic, have Down Syndrome or Cerebral Palsy.

The players who need assistance are escorted on the fields by buddies. Buddies help guide the players on the field during the soccer session. Buddies and volunteers in the program increase their understanding of individuals with special needs and their lives are all greatly enriched.

VIP allows our population with disabilities to have the benefit of sports participation in a supportive and fun environment.

**DATE:** Saturday, July 10, 2010

**TIME:** Registration: 10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.  
Soccer games: 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** International Polo Club in Wellington, FL  
\$12.75 per player (includes souvenir shirt,  
lunch and soccer medal)

**\*\* Pre-registration is encouraged.**

Please visit [www.ayso.org](http://www.ayso.org) for registration form and information.

The registration fee is waived if the player is currently registered with their local AYSO VIP Program, but the player must still pre-register for the National Games.

If you do not have a local AYSO, please contact Rachel Forberger at [rachforb@comast.net](mailto:rachforb@comast.net) or (561)795-0044 to pre-register by phone.