



Kickin' It Around

What's going on in AYSO Section 14?

April/May 2009



Section Director: Wendy Smith

AYSO SECTION 14

<http://www.aysosection14.org>

Upper 90:

- Check out the cool new YouTube video of Julie Foudy (famous US player) plugging AYSO!
www.fcys.net/julie-ayso.htm
- Why AYSO? Find out at:
<http://www.whayayso.org>
- AYSO 2010 National Games countdown.. 13 months and counting..
- AYSO website gets a kick start. Check out the up-graded website at:
www.soccer.org
- Are AYSO Soccer Camps coming to your region?

NAGM - May 22-25, 2009 – Dallas, Texas

The delegates of AYSO passed the proposed budget for fiscal year 2009 and also voted on the proposed Bylaw and Rules and Regulations changes. The results are as follows:

-Proposed Bylaw Amendment No. 1 - **Passed**

Add "Player Development" as the sixth philosophy of AYSO to reinforce our historical focus on developing the "whole child" and our existing goal of fostering youth development through soccer.



-Proposed Bylaw Amendment No. 2 - **Failed**

Add authority for Executive Members to approve a short-term "special-use" fee, rather than a long-term membership fee increase, in order to fund a short-term need or project.

-Proposed Bylaw Amendment No. 3 - **Passed**

Amend definition of "participating member" to clarify that all Regions, Area and Section register volunteers are participating members.

-Proposed Bylaw Amendment No. 4 - **Passed**

Amend existing Bylaw to provide for the National Board of Directors to establish standards and procedures for suspending or expelling participating members, rather than requiring each Region, Area or Section to propose its own standards and procedures.

-Proposed Rules and Regulations (R&Rs) Amendment No. 1 - **Passed**

Require both Area Director and Section Director to approve a Region's request to allow the registration and participation of children if they are four years old as of the date of the first organized activity rather than as of the July 31 cutoff date.

(con't on Page 2)



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Why AYSO? Here's a great example WHY!
<http://cbs2.com/video/?id=97557@kcbs.dayport.com>

**If you wish to sponsor or volunteer at the
AYSO 2010 National Games, please email us at:
2010NG@aysosection14.org**

2010 National Games Wish List

Grilles for cooking and heating food.
 Misting fans - at least 10
 Varying color souvenir t-shirt for refs to reflect their certification level (need number/colors, etc).
 Golf carts or gators - at least 10
 30 sets of full size goals.
 30 sets of nets
 50 - 10' X 10' tents
 2500 plastic `to go' cups
 Enough paint for 45 fields twice - need an estimate of cases and need to know color.
 Any kind of giveaway stuff for volunteers that anyone would like to donate.
 100 Field Marshall jerseys.
 30 sets of high quality radios

2008-09 RAP/AAP Applications Are Now Available

The 2008-09 Regional and Area Assessment Applications (RAP/AAP) are now available here (<http://soccer.org/Programs/AwardsRecognition>). RAP applications are due to your Area Director by July 1, 2009. Area Directors have until Aug. 1, 2009 to submit approved RAPs and their AAP to their Section Director. All approved RAPs and AAPs must be submitted to the National Support & Training Center (NSTC) by Sept. 1, 2009.

2010 National Games Toolbar

Help fundraise for the 2010 AYSO National Games by downloading the toolbar and using it to do your daily web searches. It's a program sponsored by YAHOO and it's FREE! Follow this link, follow the instructions, and that's it.
<http://www.benefitbar.com/benefitbar/subscribe/toolbar.php?toolbarId=2645>



Section 14 Conference Photos

<http://picasaweb.google.com/AYSOEVENTS/Section142009SC#>



NAGM (con't from page 1)

-Proposed Rules and Regulations (R&Rs) Amendment No. 2 - **Passed**

(1) Specify that the AYSO traditional logo on uniforms must be between three and four inches in diameter, rather than providing for an "approximate" size range. (2) Delete the current restriction on the location of a manufacturer's logo on a player's uniform and allow manufacturer's logo to be placed anywhere on uniform except for upper left front of the jersey.

-Proposed Rules and Regulations (R&Rs) Amendment No. 3 - **Failed**

Gives Regional Commissioner, rather than Area Directors, the authority to permit a team to have more than the maximum number of team members recommended in Article II.C.

-Proposed Rules and Regulations (R&Rs) Amendment No. 4 - **Failed**

In addition to the rule that everyone must play at least half of the game, requires that all team members play at least three "quarters" of the game before any team member may play the entire game.





Birth. Soccer. Death. What Else Is There?

IT'S NO BIG DEAL COACHING A TEAM OF 9-YEAR-OLDS. HONEST. **By Hampton Sides**

Every Saturday morning in the fall, I wake up with a tingle in the pit of my stomach. I pull on my uniform: the Adidas striped shirt, the Adidas turf shoes, the Adidas cap, the Oakley wraparounds. I reach for the monogrammed stainless steel whistle the parents gave me as a gift a few years ago. I check the mesh bag of No. 4 balls to make sure they've got the proper pop of inflation.

And then I call for Griffin, my 9-year-old right wing, who has been immersed in his own rituals of preparation. For the past half-hour, he has been playing FIFA Street on PlayStation 2, while getting pleasantly jacked up on a Starbucks Vanilla Frappuccino. He pulls on his shin guards, tucks in his jersey, straps the rubber lace guards over his cleats. A glance at the clock, and the gravity of the moment descends on me: it's game time. God, I'm a geek.

The games are held in the grassy infield of the Downs at Santa Fe, a defunct horse racing track owned by a nearby Indian pueblo. We file past a few minivans that have felt soccer balls dangling from the rearview mirror and windows soaped up with annoying messages like "Heads we win, tails we kick" or "Our goal is to deny yours." We march through the echoey concrete tunnel, and then, with a sense of self-conscious grandeur, emerge like gladiators into a world of emerald green. There, spreading before us, are hundreds of young soccer players, buzzing around on 24 immaculately lined fields.

I've been coaching soccer in Santa Fe, N.M., for seven years, and though I doubtless look like a moron out there, pacing the sidelines and yelling at my boys to open up! and play wide! and send it!, I've found it a worthy neurosis. I love playing the role of benevolent dictator to these kids, even if they sometimes drive me nuts with their untied cleats, their endless pleading to be captain, their curious fixation on overflying airplanes at critical moments during a game. My wife thinks it's ridiculous to spend so much time obsessing — who do I put at center mid, the crotch-tugging kid with the world's smallest bladder or the attention-deficit space case? — but what does she know? She lacks the *fútbol* gene.

All three of our boys have it. For much of the year, soccer

rules our lives. We subscribe to Fox Soccer Channel. We go to the summer camps run by those traveling brigades of loud-jerseyed coaches from Scotland or Cameroon (any foreign accent will do). We root for the University of New Mexico Lobos, who finished second in last year's N.C.A.A. championship. I even sit on the board of the local soccer league, where like a band of knee-socked druids we spend endless hours debating such earthshaking matters as whether or not to merge with a nearby league, or at what age we should implement the offsides rule.

This year our team is called the Onslaught, a name that doesn't resonate well here in Santa Fe, a famously touchy-feely place full of magical people who think competition is mean. But the parents seem to have acquiesced, and I've heard many of them, even the magical ones, joining in on the team cheer: "Toughest team you ever fought. We're the Onslaught and you're . . . not!"

We do a few warm-up drills, and the team takes a brisk lap around the field. Soon it's time for kickoff.

"Remember," I whisper to Griffin in an attempt to impersonate Will Ferrell, "I want you to go out there and play dirty."

"I know, Dad," he says. "*But don't get caught!*"

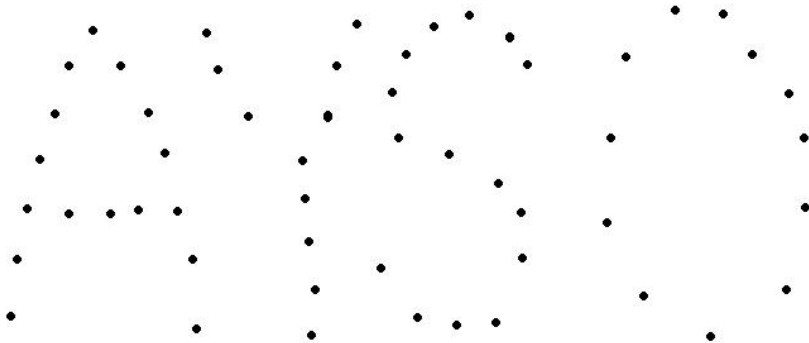
Coaching soccer to young players is a matter of planting one central idea over and over in their little minds until it finally takes root: stop bunching. I tell them to think of themselves as force fields; each force field must have its own separate sphere of influence. Most of the boys seem to accept this analogy, although every year someone asks, "Yeah, but what is a force field?"

It's frustrating how long it takes the message to sink in, but when it does, the game takes a quantum leap. The boys begin to hold positions. They see new patterns on the field. And then it happens: they begin to pass. This is the revelatory moment I live for as a coach.

I'm happy to report that the Onslaught has experienced its revelation. The boys are playing a brisk passing game now and winning most of their matches. But winning is of secondary consequence, at least to them. No matter how they fare, you can bet they'll come running up at the end of the game with a single burning question: "Hey, Coach — what's for snack?" ■

Hampton Sides's new book is "*Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the American West.*"

Connecting the Dots



The past year has been a busy one for Section 14 Developer Becky Mitchell.

Recently, we have added five new regions to our section, which are; Sunny Isles Beach and Doral in area A. Lake Placid in area I and Umatilla and Citra in area L. All regions with the exception of Lake Placid will start their first seasons with AYSO in fall 2009. Lake Placid is currently going into their second season. Four of the five regions were represented in Tampa at our Section Conference in April and are all excited to be part of our AYSO family. Currently, there are six prospects in the works.....stay tuned...

<u>Region Name</u>	<u>Region Number</u>	<u>Regional Commissioner</u>
Lake Placid	# 1560	Manny Lopez
Sunny Isles Beach	# 1566	Gabriel Alves
Doral	# 1575	Rick Retamoso
Umatilla	# 1574	Ted Waterman
Citra	# 1242	Tom Christmas

See you next month!