



A Parents Guide to AYSO

EQUIPMENT

Each player must be dressed as follows for each game:

- *A. Jersey tucked into shorts. (Please take care of it by washing it in warm water and drying it in a warm, NOT HOT, dryer. Do not iron it. Do not add or alter it other than sizing.
- *B. Shorts (Uniforms are to be worn for games, not for practice).
- C. Shinguards are mandatory (practices and games).
- D. Soccer shoes (low-sided "football" shoes with rubber or plastic molded cleats) or sneakers. Metal cleats are not permitted.
- *E. Socks pulled up over shinguards.
- F. Mouth pieces are strongly recommended for players wearing braces.
- G. Eyeglass restraining straps are required.

*These items are supplied for each player by the league.

The player cannot wear bracelets, earrings (please ask child to wait until after the season to get ears pierced), wrist watches, barrettes or any other such objects including a cast or splint which could cause injury to themselves or another player. The referee will check players before each game.

BALL: Your child should be encouraged to practice with a ball of the size appropriate to their age. Ages 5 to 7, a size "3". Ages 8 to 11, a size "4". Ages 12 and over, a size "5".

COACH

You can help your child's coach by making yourself known and thanking them for their interest. Support the coach's request that your child be on time for practice and games. Remember that the coaches volunteer their time to help your child and need your help and cooperation.

REFEREE

The Referee is entitled to the highest respect. His/Her mistakes (and there will be mistakes), shall be accepted **WITHOUT COMPLAINT**. Many of the referees have no children playing in the league and all of them gladly give their time to help us. Please give them the respect and understanding to which they are entitled.

YOUR PARTICIPATION

The region and the children need your participation. Go to the games. **PARENTAL SUPPORT** is crucial. Above all, be tolerant of the children's mistakes and weaknesses. When you are at the game, cheer for the team, not just your own child. If they enjoy it and have fun, they'll want to play it to the best of their ability.

INSURANCE

The AYSO reimbursement plan pays only for those eligible expenses NOT covered by group or individual insurance carried by parents or guardians of registered participants (and only submission of the claim to primary insurance carrier) with a \$200 deductible.

PRACTICE LOCATIONS

As all of the coaches in AYSO are volunteers, times and places of practice will be left to their discretion, and at their convenience. The practice fields should be located throughout the community. Each player must arrange to arrive on time and be picked up on time.

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Okeehlee Park
7715 Forest Hill Blvd.
West Palm Beach, FL 33413
Field Conditions: (561) 642-2520
Region 345 Office: (561) 642-5449
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SCHEDULE OF GAMES

Games are to be played according to the schedule distributed in advance. Games are played weather permitting, unless notified to the contrary by the Regional Commissioner at least one hour prior to the starting time. Practice sessions may be canceled or rescheduled at the discretion of the coach, Regional Commissioner or Field Administrator. All games will be played on Saturdays. Practices are Monday through Friday and can begin as early as 5:00 PM, (at the convenience of the Coach).

PLAYER TRANSFERS

With over 1200 children playing soccer on over 100 teams, it is virtually impossible for AYSO to be flexible with practice and game conflicts with Non-AYSO activities. This includes requests for friends to be on the same team. Requests for brothers or sisters in the same age group (same gender) to play on the same team will be honored. Player transfers to accommodate schedule conflicts WILL NOT BE HONORED. Contact your Division Coach Coordinator with questions.

REGIONAL PHILOSOPHY

The aim of the region and AYSO is to operate a soccer program where young people can learn to develop a positive self-image, self-confidence and other positive character traits through their interest and participation in soccer based on our five philosophies. Everyone engaged in sporting competition should have a desire to win. This desire will not be pursued in this organization to the detriment of sportsmanship, fair play, and participation. AYSO is a parent-based voluntary organization and provides a soccer experience for our own children. Enrollment of your child in our program implies responsibility to the team.

EVERYONE PLAYS

Your child is guaranteed to play at least 50% of each game, regardless of his/her level of skill or aptitude, however NO CHILD on the team may play the whole game unless every child has played at least three quarters, provided that the child:

- * attends scheduled practice sessions
- * arrives at the playing field for scheduled game prepared to play in proper uniform, proper shoes, etc.
- * is not under disciplinary suspension,
- * is not physically handicapped due to illness or injury.

Soccer is an ideal sport for kids to have fun with. That's because on the field, the players should be pretty much on their own. There is a difference between soccer and other sports. Coaches are not calling every shot in soccer, like they are in American football, baseball or basketball. Basketball for instance, is a coach's game. Soccer is a player's game.

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