

AYSO REGION 425

Fall 2008 – Spring 2009

Coaching Agreement

Coaches Name: _____ Division _____

Signature: _____ Date _____

I understand that my responsibilities as a Coach in AYSO Region 425 include:

1. Support the AYSO Philosophy and the 6 tenets and how it applies to my role as a coach in Region 425
2. Take the required coaching courses for my specific division in AYSO Region 425 before the Fall 2008 Season begins.
3. Review the AYSO Kid Zone video prior to the Fall 2008 Season on www.playsoccer.org
4. Attend one of the June 2008 Administrative meetings for coaches.(U6-U7-U8 Divisions)
5. Hold a pre-season meeting with the *parents* on my team and review the information included in the AYSO Region 425 Parent Information Guide.
6. Hold a pre-season meeting with *my team* to distribute uniforms and review the AYSO Region 425 Good Sportsmanship Guide for players.
7. Attend the Fall Coaches Meeting in August, (dates posted July 1st), to meet with my Division Coach, review the rules of my Division and understand the skills that my players need to learn this year.
8. Maintain e-mail contact with my Division Coach and check the AYSO website each week for updates, www.playsoccer.org.
9. Insure that my team attends 1 practice a week and 1 game a week.
10. Agree to coach the AYSO team I have been assigned for both the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 Season.
11. Observe the communication guidelines for conflicts or problems that may arise during the season.
12. To set an example of Good Sportsmanship and Positive Coaching for players and parents throughout the Season.

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The AYSO Philosophy

Vision Statement: To provide world class youth soccer programs that enriches children's lives

Mission Statement: To develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs, which promote a fun, family environment based on the AYSO Philosophies.

Everyone Plays: Our program's goal is for kids to play soccer-so we mandate that every *player on every team gets equal playing time.*

Balanced Teams: Each year we form teams as evenly balanced as possible-because it is more fun and fair when teams of equal ability. *Coaches will be responsible for submitting a "Player Ratings" for their team every year so that we can use this data in balancing teams.*

Open Registration: AYSO Region 425 is open to any child who lives or goes to school in the New Trier Township. We guarantee placement of all children into our program who register by our May 15th deadline each year. We will accept late registrations as we have spots available on existing teams or as we can build new teams in any of our Divisions. Coaches will be given a roster of their players in late July. *It is the coach's responsibility to report to their Division Coach if there is a player who will not be taking their spot for the season.* Your Division Coach is the only person who can assign a new player to your team. These players will be taken from a list our registrar will keep in order of the date they have been received. *Coaches may not allow any child to play on their team that has not been approved by the Division Coach.*

Positive Coaching: Encouragement of player effort provides for greater enjoyment by the players and ultimately leads to better-skilled and better-motivated players. *Before the Fall 2008 Season, AYSO Region 425 requires that every coach view our Kid Zone video on-line at www.playsoccer.org. Sign our Kid Zone Pledge and fax it to 847-919-4428. Coaches will also be responsible for collecting the signature of every parent on their team at their pre-season meeting verifying that every parent has read our AYSO Kid Zone Pledge.*

Good Sportsmanship: AYSO Region 425 encourages everyone to create a positive environment based on mutual respect rather than a win at all costs attitude, and our program is designed to instill good sportsmanship in every facet of AYSO. *Coaches will*

be responsible for reviewing “Good Sportsmanship” guidelines for young athletes with their team prior to the first game (will be included with your team roster). This packet will also include instruction on traditional pre and post game procedures that encourage good sportsmanship.

Player Development: AYSO’s newest tenet reflects the commitment we have to make sure that every child develops the soccer skills and knowledge of the game that increases self esteem and a sense of achievement in players. Coaches will be responsible for taking the coaching course that is specifically designed for the age group they are coaching. All coaching materials have been drawn from the knowledge and expertise of the AYSO National Coach and National Coaching Commissioner.

AYSO REGION 425 COACHING CERTIFICATION COURSES

AYSO National has designed age specific coaching courses to help teach coaches to learn the age specific skills needed to coach their players and to maintain the quality of instruction in our Region. Many of our courses are offered on-line, others require your classroom attendance.

In order to take any AYSO course and received confirmation that you have attended them, coaches **first** need to have submitted a volunteer form to AYSO Region 425 and **secondly**, obtain their Volunteer Identification Number, to be used when registering for a course and **thirdly**, use the course number posted on the AYSO website to register for the correct course. We will also distribute your volunteer number with a copy of your volunteer form at the June Administrative Coaches meeting. **You do not need to repeat a course once you have taken it. We will post Classroom course dates on our website www.playsoccer.org by June 21st.**

On-line courses:

1. U8 Coaching Course: For 1st and 2nd grade coaches: Covers soccer skills and team management for the U7-U8 Division
2. U10 Coaching Course: For U10 coaches: Covers soccer skills and team management for the U10 Division
3. Safe Haven: mandatory course for all coaches which covers safety issues

Classroom Courses:

1. U6 Coaching Course: For all Kindergarten Coaches
2. U12 Coaching Course: For all U12 and U14 coaches

AYSO REGION 425 COACH PORTAL SYSTEM

All coaches in AYSO Region 425 will be able to access reservations for practice fields through our Coach Portal System. This system will be activated on July 12, 2008. Access and instructions to use this system will be on www.playsoccer.org.

Communication Guidelines

Communication is important in AYSO Region 425 for the efficient running of our organization. Division coaches are responsible for all decisions concerning parents, players and coaches. We request that all questions and concerns regarding your responsibilities be directed to your Division Coordinator. Your Division Coach will maintain weekly communication with you and it is your responsibility to keep your e-mail address current with AYSO Region 425.

Uniforms and Equipment

At the beginning of the Fall 2008 Season each coach will receive the equipment and uniforms for their teams. The equipment bags and uniforms will be distributed at the Lock up Self Storage facility on Frontage Road in Northfield. The bags will include balls, cones, emergency kit, pinnies and goalie equipment for U10 thru HS teams. Coaches will be responsible for returning all equipment at the end of the Spring Season. Coaches can get additional equipment by filling out a form that will be available on our website in the Fall for pick up the following weekend at a specific site.

Coaches will also receive a box that contains the uniforms for their teams. The uniforms are numbered and there is usually a *representation of 3 sizes of uniforms per team*; the smaller sizes beginning with #1 to the largest size which is the highest number. When *coaches distribute their uniforms*, they should line up their team from the smallest player to the tallest and pass out the uniforms accordingly. Every year we get calls requesting new uniforms for players in exchange for a uniform that does not fit. The problem is easily solved with the distribution procedure described above.

Coaches will also receive a practice t-shirt for each of their team members. The *players are required to wear their practice shirts to practices* and clinics so that they can be identified as AYSO registered players for both AYSO staff and Park Districts who want to make sure that their fields are being used by sports organizations who have approval to use their facilities.