



## SECTION 7 AYSO EXPO 2024

### Workshop Descriptions

All workshops are 1- hour and 15 minutes, unless otherwise noted.

## Coaching Track

**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 (Attendees must be enrolled/rostered prior to EXPO)

**New! Intermediate Coach Instructor 2023** – 4 hours in-person with 4-hour pre-course online work and 2-hours post-course (Attendees must be enrolled/rostered prior to EXPO)

### **Social and Emotional Learning – “The Missing Link”**

Want to really make a difference with your sessions? Maximize your time with your players? Create holistic playing environments and learn to teach social and emotional lessons making AYSO the most holistic youth sports program in the US. For All forward- thinking coaches who want to maximize their own development while truly enriching their players’ lives.

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

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.

### **4v4 Training for 6U & 8U**

Program guidelines and coaching-related information for coaches playing in the 4v4 environment. Includes age-appropriate methodology and activities.

### **AYSO 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! Annual Coach Update**

*AYSO Office will coordinate with Section to assign an instructor.*

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

**New! Cedar Sinai Kerlan-Jobe presents Female Athletes: ACL Injuries and Beyond**

Injuries to young female athletes are on the rise in the U.S. The world-renowned Kerlan-Jobe Fellowship doctors, trained in orthopedic sports medicine, address some of the most common injuries to female youth soccer athletes, how to reduce them with a practical prevention plan, and the role you can play to advocate for their health and safety on the pitch.

**7v7 Training for 10U**

Program guidelines and coaching-related information for coaches playing in the 7v7 environment. Includes age-appropriate methodology and activities.

**9v9 Training for 12U**

Program guidelines and coaching-related information for coaches playing in the 9v9 environment. Includes age-appropriate methodology and activities.

**Coaching Female Players**

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! US Center for Mental Health and Sport ACT CERTIFICATION (2 hours)**

Learn the signs and symptoms of a mental health challenge and/or crisis, how to de-escalate a situation to avoid harm to oneself or others, and what pathways are available for additional professional support. Certifications include a segment on mental health resources that can be found in your local Region.

**Effective Session Planning and Implementation**

Become a better coach now! Coaches will learn how to plan and conduct a successful training session. This includes efficient time management, what a complete training session should look like and how to develop and progress the session to fit the needs of both the individuals and the entire team.

**Match Analysis using Principles of Play and the 5 W's**

Learn how to easily read the game and transfer your match observations into clear training objectives through functional use of the principles of play and the "5Ws." For 12U coaches and up.

**United Soccer Coaches Essential Principles of Effective Youth Coaching**

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.

**New! US Soccer Foundation presents Coach-Mentor CERTIFICATION (2 hours)**

Evidence-based practices for creating an inclusive team environment where every youth feels welcome and supported. A sports-based mentoring framework designed to instill mentorship in coaching pedagogy. A step-by-step approach to create lasting, positive connections, and to positively impact the physical, social, and emotional health of the youth we serve.

**New! Chicago Fire presents – Beyond the X’s and O’s SEL and Soccer – How to practically implement SEL into practice and games.**

A practical workshop on how to effectively implement Social and Emotional Learning into soccer practices and games. This interactive session will use real life situations where presenters and attendees will discuss and collaborate on incorporating best practices on implementation.

**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.

**Attacking Technically and Tactically**

This session will expose any coach to the theory of possession, from the standpoint of clean first touch, receiving the ball away from pressure, and what that means. We will introduce them to the phases of play dependent on thirds of the field from goal to goal (build up from the back with using goalkeeper, moving through midfield looking for final pass through, and attacking the goal) that will help them understand how to use first touch and receiving away from pressure to attack properly.

## Officiating Track

### **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.

### **Referee Instructor Course**

This Course is training for certification as Regional Referee Instructor and Intermediate Referee Instructor. Training will be on Friday and Sunday and candidates should attend on both days.

Candidates who have not completed the Introduction to Instruction Course (a prerequisite for the Referee Instructor Course) should complete the in-person Introduction to Instruction Course on Thursday night, May 2, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. There is online pre-course work that needs to be completed before Thursday night.

In addition, candidates should take the EXPO Workshop on Friday, May 3, 6:00 to 7:15 entitled "AYSOU/eTrainU for Instructors".

### **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.

### **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 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.

### **New! Why Can't We Be Friends?**

This workshop explores ideas for promoting greater cooperation between coaches and referees starting with Stewards of the Game. Discuss the AYSO Team's expectations and steps for building understanding, common ground and ultimately, improved cooperation.

### **New! Annual Referee Update**

Attendance is essential for all AYSO volunteers in the referee program including referees, instructors, assessors, mentors, schedulers/assignors, and administrators. This workshop covers the latest changes in the Laws of the Game, review of program changes, points of emphasis for 2023/24.

### **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. This 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.

### **New! Introduction to Referee Communication Systems**

Introducing the expectations and appropriate use of electronic communication (comms) systems to augment the standard IFAB signals; not to replace them. Discuss best practices for what and when to communicate over comms.

### **Building Referee Confidence**

The purpose of this workshop is to help referees develop greater confidence in their officiating skills and have a better officiating experience. In addition, we will show referee administrators, referee mentors and senior referees how they can help new and developing referees in that journey.

### **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.

### **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.

### **Fouls and Misconduct Review for 14U Games & Above**

This 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.

### **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.



### **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.

### **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.



## Management Track

(includes Safe Haven, Systems, EPIC & Marketing)

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

### **Regional Commissioner & Area Director (RC & AD) Training**

AYSO offers Regional Commissioner and Area Director training in a combination of delivery modes designed to provide the best learning options including standalone online modules for key "need-to-know" information, guidelines and policies, and attendee focused, facilitated discussions to create shared understanding and support.

RC/AD Training Online Pre-Course - available on AYSOU under ONLINE COURSES/MANAGEMENT COURSES. This Pre-Course contains a review of key information and material that will be used in the Live Session. The course includes pre-work assignments for the Live Sessions which will confirm and finalize your completed RC Training certification. You may take this course at any time; however, it must be concluded prior to attending the Live Sessions

### **AYSOU/eTrainu Directed Q&A with emphasis on Instructors**

This workshop is for any volunteer who needs support using AYSOU to create courses, register for courses, take online courses, complete courses, and more. Please view the slides and videos for "AYSOU" in the AYSOU Document Library prior to this session. This session will not be an overview of the system, but rather a chance to discuss questions and issues you may have.

### **Updated! Building & Marketing the AYSO Brand in your Community**

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 they often go undefined when it comes to the world of youth soccer. Come learn what makes a brand, how to leverage the power of the AYSO brand and how to think about your own Region as a brand.

### **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.

### **Regional Board Member Training – CERTIFICATION**

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.

### **AYSO's Safe Haven Addendum**

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! First Time EXPO Attendee Orientation**

Is this your first EXPO? Do you have questions about AYSO basics? This course is designed for the new volunteer or first-time attendee to learn more about AYSO's structure and foundation. It will also help the first-timers navigate the complexity of discipline tracks, courses, and events available to all EXPO attendees.

### **Sports Connect Directed Q&A – (Overview - Getting Started)**

This workshop is for any volunteer who is getting started using Sports Connect to run reports, create programs, manage orders, manage teams, update settings, and more. Please view the slides and videos for 'Getting Started with Sports Connect' prior to this session in the AYSOU Document Library. This session will not be an overview of the system, but rather a chance to discuss questions and issues you may have.

### **New! Annual Management Update**

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

### **New! Introducing AYSO Play!**

***AYSO PLAY! Team Members will be on hand at each Expo to deliver this workshop.***

Come learn about AYSO's newest initiative, AYSO PLAY! designed to bring more soccer to more kids in more communities. Hear about how we're expanding AYSO's footprint nationally, learn how you can help support this initiative, and how you can use the principles of AYSO PLAY! to spark growth in your player numbers while enhancing the world-class soccer training you're already giving through your program.

### **Updated! Tips for Enhancing Your AYSO Website**

You spend a lot of time and energy making sure your Region website is set up to take volunteer & player registrations, properly display your programs, show your schedules, etc. But your Region's website is so much more than that – it is the digital face of your Region in your community. How do we think about creating a powerful, motivating, and useful place for parents and families shopping around for soccer for their kids? This workshop will explore the types of content you want to include, how to create it, what's great for search engine optimization and how to use the Sports Connect platform features to customize the templates to your liking. Create the Region website of your dreams! Familiarity with your Region website is useful, but technical knowledge is not necessary.



### **Active Shooter / Active Threat Preparedness While At the Fields**

This course is put on by a former HPD Officer and instructor and is not for AYSOU credit but for general knowledge.

### **New! AYSO + MOJO: The Premium Mobile App with White-Glove Onboarding**

Meet MOJO – the mobile app with customized features for AYSO. It handles all your necessary team communication needs but does so much more. With MOJO, your coaches have access to AYSO session plans that they can build and customize plus scheduling and schedule change management right from the app. Parents can customize their player's profile, track progress, keep up on all team announcements and offer real-time feedback. Best of all? MOJO will do all the setup work for you at no cost. Send your team rosters, training and game schedules to MOJO and MOJO will configure it all for you so your volunteers and families can start using the tools with zero setup time!

### **Association Platform Directed Q&A (Regional Commissioners & CVPA Systems)**

This workshop is for any volunteer who needs support using the Association Platform to manage volunteer compliance, verify birth certificates, activate teams, print medical release forms, and more. Please view the slides and videos for 'Association Platform' and 'CVPA Process' prior to this session in the AYSOU Document Library. This session will not be an overview of the system, but rather a chance to discuss questions and issues you may have.

### **Registrar Guided Q&As**

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.

### **New! Avoiding Landmines**

Presented by AYSO Office staff, this course will guide Regional Board Members through the minefield of policies, procedures, and guidelines, to ensure your Region is effectively compliant with AYSO and U.S. Soccer requirements, focusing on participant safety and protecting the players, volunteers, the Region, and the Organization. Learn about *the rules and tools* available, and when and how to effectively use them when reacting to incidents requiring rapid management response.

### **Treasurer Guided Q&As**

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.

### **Leadership Forum with NBOD Members and Section Directors**

An open session on National Updates to discuss AYSO with senior leadership. ALL EXPO ATTENDEES WELCOME!

**New! Safety First: Playing It Safe!**

This interactive workshop provides an opportunity for attendees to discuss best practices for building a Region’s Safety Plan to fulfill the role of the Safety Director and to ensure the safety and risk management of the Region’s soccer program. This is an opportunity to create the “safe, fair, fun environment” or safe haven that all AYSO participants can enjoy.

**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 due process, the right to be heard and appeal protection.

**EPIC Volunteer Training (2½ hours) – CERTIFICATION**

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

**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 help volunteers work through challenging situations before they escalate to the point of needing Due Process.

**Dispute Resolution Review**

After taking the Dispute Resolution Course, this workshop allows attendees to review scenarios dealing with difficult people and common difficult situations which if left to smolder, can turn “sunny Saturdays” into “manic Mondays.” Attendees practice recognizing potentially explosive situations and how to deal with them before they flare up.

**Divvy/QuickBooks Directed Q&A**

This workshop is for anyone working with Section/Area/Regional finances, especially treasurers, Regional Commissioners, and Auditors that need support using Divvy-Bill Spend and QuickBooks. Divvy-Bill Spend helps your Regional volunteers have the ability to make purchases for the S/A/R with ease.

QuickBooks is used for creating and using budgets as well as recording all transactions to make your end of year reporting to the AYSO office seamless and automatic. View the Divvy-Bill Spend and QuickBooks presentations and videos before this session in the AYSOU Document Library. This workshop will not be an overview of the system, but rather a chance to discuss questions and issues you may have.