



Player Pathways – Competitive Programs

Overview of Region 878 Player Pathways

Region 878 offers three programs to support the players that want a more competitive level of play. These programs have varying levels of program structure, cost, and commitment levels. The details of the programs are defined further within the document.

Scholarship funds are not available for All-Stars, Select or Extra. There may be team-level opportunities to raise funds for some activities which can mitigate the cost of the program. Each team will determine their fundraising efforts.

All-Star Program

The All-Star program is an opportunity for players in the 10U, 12U, and 14U divisions to experience a more competitive level of play. An All-Star team is comprised of a coach, assistant coach, team managers and a maximum roster size for that division. All volunteers must have completed all volunteer requirements prior to being approved for the team. All volunteers and players must be approved by the board for inclusion on the All-Star team.

Cost

The All-Star program is an additional fee for the uniform and a tournament fee.

Commitment Level

The All-Star team is guaranteed participation in the Area 10D All-Star tournament. This tournament is typically held in Lancaster in January. Teams may qualify for the opportunity to continue All-Star play at the Section 10 tournament. This tournament is typically held in January/March in Bakersfield.

Select Program

The Select program is an opportunity for players in the 10U-19U divisions to continue the competitive program in the spring season by participating in AYSO tournaments. The 16U and 19U select season will be modified, due to C.I.F. requirements, and limited tournament availability. These tournaments allow the players the opportunity to experience playing against teams of differing skill levels and backgrounds, and to develop their own skills in return.

A Select team is comprised of a coach, assistant coach, team manager and the appropriate roster size for that division. All volunteers must have completed all volunteer requirements prior to being approved for the team. All volunteers and players must be approved by the board for inclusion on the Select team.

Cost

The base cost of the Select program will be the amount paid for All-Star participation plus additional fee for field usage and pictures. The additional cost for the program will be based on decisions made at the team-level. These fees will vary depending on the age group, the number of players, and the tournaments selected. The Select teams may opt to purchase an additional jersey to provide them “home” and “away” colors.



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The tournament fees will be collected at the team level and managed by the Team Manager with assistance from the regional Treasurer. The tournament fees will be collected for the tournament at the time of application submittal.

Commitment Level

The Select season is designed to provide the players with expanded exposure to more challenging competition. For a team to do well in this environment requires commitment from the player and the family to attend practices regularly, communicate with the team volunteers, and exhibit good team skills.

To provide the competitive level of play, the teams participate in tournaments throughout southern California and there are opportunities to participate tournaments outside of California. The decision of which tournaments to participate in are decided at the team-level. The teams typically aim to attend three-six tournaments between February-June.

Extra Program

The EXTRA program is a side-by-side program (the player cannot participate in another AYSO program concurrently) that allows players in ages 10U and above to compete in a more competitive level of play. Teams in this program travel to play other EXTRA teams in a ranked setting, with end of season playoffs, and have the option to participate in AYSO tournaments during the Spring Season. When participating in the Extra program, the guidelines are directed by the Section hosting the program. For our region, we will typically participate with Section 1 or Section 10.

Region 878 will not have an Extra program for the MY2022-2023 year.

Region 878 will look to host this program for the following year provided the administrative, team volunteer, and player interest can support the program. This determination will be made in January 2023.

All-Star Coach Eligibility and Selection

- Coaches interested in coaching an All-Star Team must complete the online Competitive Program Coach Application and submit the application to the Region Board by October 15th of the given year.
- Coaches may apply for a division other than that which they coached in fall. Teams will be given first to applicants who coached in each division during fall season. If no applications from a coach in that division are received, other applications will be reviewed.
- A coach may apply to coach multiple divisions but may only be rostered as Head Coach to one team. Coaches may be the Head Coach on one team and Assistant Coach on a second. Coaches may not be rostered to more than two All Star teams.
- Coaches interested in coaching an All-Star Team must meet the following requirements
 - Demonstrated a firm knowledge of, and commitment to, the AYSO 6 Core Philosophies
 - All applicable volunteer applications, background check, LiveScan fingerprinting must be completed.
 - All applicable training and certifications completed. This includes Safe Haven, CDC, Sudden Cardiac Arrest, SafeSport, and applicable division-specific training as outlined below.

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| 10U-12U | 14U | 16U-19U |
| 12U Coach | Intermediate Coach | Advanced Coach |



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- The Regional Board will review the applications received and will submit a virtual, closed vote to determine the head coach and the assistant coach. The following will be considered when making the determination.
 - Willingness to continue to Section All-Stars, should their team advance
 - Willingness to continue into Select Season
 - Demonstration of AYSO Philosophies and Values on the field
 - Testimony from coaches in the division regarding applicants
 - Testimony from referees with experience officiating the applicants
 - Testimony from players and parents on applicant's team

In the event a Board Member applies to coach a team, and is not the only applicant for that division, then that Board Member will abstain from the vote, and will be given no special consideration in comparison to the other Board Members.

All-Star Player Eligibility and Selection

To be eligible to participate on the All-Star Team, players must have been registered for the Fall Season and must have played in at least half of the regular season games they are eligible for. If a player has a medical reason for missed games, this must be documented with a physician's note and submitted to the regional board to maintain All-Star eligibility. Players must be in 10U division or higher in order to be eligible for All-Stars. Players may only play in the division they participated in during the Fall season.

Player selection will occur based on one of two methods to be determined prior to the first game. Selection method will either be nomination or tryout based.

Each coach will be asked to nominate players from their Core team for consideration to the All-Star team. The number of players nominated per team will be determined by the Region Board at the beginning of the season based on the division and number of teams, to provide the best possible selection of All-Star Players. When nominating players, coaches should consider the following factors:

- Player's technical skill level
- Player's tactical awareness
- Player's ability to play at a more competitive level
- Player's coachability
- Player's sportsmanship
- Player's attendance at practices and games
- Behavior of player's family/spectators
- Player behavior
- Player's ability to cooperate with teammates

All-Star and Select Rosters

- All-Star teams are typically same-gendered. In the event not enough players of one gender in an age group are eligible and interested, the Regional Board may vote to approve a coed team in that age group.
- All-Star teams will be composed of a full roster, as follows, unless not enough players express interest in the program



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- 10U – 9 players (Up to 10 players allowed at Board discretion)
- 12U – 12 players (Up to 12 players maximum)
- 14U – 14 players (Up to 15 players allowed at Board discretion)
- Rosters will be voted on by the Region Board for approval, prior to the end of season Regional Tournament.
- The Region Board will evaluate the roster for approval. In the event a Board Member is the coach for a division, or their child participated in that division, that Board Member will not participate in the vote for that division, and no special consideration will be given to that Board Member's child(ren). The evaluation will be conducted on the following aspects:
 - Player Eligibility
 - Player evaluations conducted during season
 - Any behavioral concerns identified during the season by the player or family members
- In the event a player is under consideration, but does not meet one of the conditions above, the Board may select another player.
- If there are enough players and coaches that more than one All-Star team would be able to be formed, the Board will discuss the possibility at that point. In the unlikely event that the Board approves a second All-Star team, then both teams would be “drafted” by the All-Star coaches under the supervision of a Board Member with no connection to either coach, or the division, in order to promote more balanced teams.
- Coaches will be responsible for contacting all players that participated in the try-outs to provide the status of their inclusion with the team. This must be done within 72 hours of receiving your approved roster names. The coach will then notify the registrar that the team is ready for registration. At this time, the registrar will activate the accepted players and an email will be sent to the email on the account. The family must complete the registration and payment process within 48 hours or risk their roster spot.

Select Player Eligibility

Roster Adjustments

To be eligible to continue into the Select Season, the core team must have played in the All-Star Tournament.

- Players may only be replaced if they do not wish to continue into the Select Season or due to illness/injury.
- No more than one-third of the members of the original All-Stars Roster may be replaced with non-All-Stars players for the primary Select Team Roster.
 - 10U may replace up to 3 players on the roster
 - 12U may replace up to 4 players on the roster
 - 14U may replace up to 4 players on the roster (5 players if the team was granted a 15-player roster)
- Players may be recruited from neighboring regions after the conclusion of All-Star Play, if the region does not have a Select team or that player is not on their Select team, and both Regional Commissioners approve.

Conclusion of the select season may be done at any time. The region board must be informed of the decision. If the approved Coach is no longer able to commit, and an eligible coach is unable to be found, the Select Season will end. If the number of players from the primary Select roster who are interested in continuing falls below the number of players on the field for the age group, the Select Season will end.