



AYSO Executive Board Meeting

October 2, 2025 @ 7:15pm PT

I. Call to Order – 7:18pm PDT

- Members in attendance: Patrick Shopbell, Matthew Goldman, Adam Stieg, Harry Plotkin, Shanti Rao, Brandi Lane, Jonathan Gardner, Dan Jeffries, Jonelle Keylly, Michele Vallisneri, Rolf M, Shant Kamanjian, and Christina Scott

II. Discussion Topics

A. Field Permits & Scheduling Updates

- Victoria Park permits confirmed for Oct 11th & 18th
 - Initially scheduled for Marshall due to confusion in agenda
 - Jessica secured Facilitron permits showing we have access
- Matthew ready to publish updated schedules
 - Individual notification emails to affected coaches/team managers
 - Change log updates and newsletter inclusion planned
- Victory Upper unavailable until end October
 - Marshall will host two 10U fields replacing VP1 & VP2

B. Fall Season Status & Incidents

- Week 4 complete with minimal major issues
- Only 2 official letters sent to coaches for referee behavior
- Medical incidents handled thoroughly by Dan
 - All injury reports filed with AYSO National
 - Insurance information provided to families
 - Coach notifications included
- Assistant coach discovered without training/Safe Sport certification
 - Found during referee harassment incident
 - Not listed on division roster, added by team independently

C. Coach & Volunteer Compliance Issues

- Training audit reveals gaps in assistant coach certification
 - Approximately half of 10U teams missing listed ACs
 - Some volunteers added by teams without AYSO approval

- Proposed solutions:
 - Email reminder to coaches about approved volunteers only
 - Game card audit to identify unauthorized coaches
 - Individual team sheet cross-referencing
- Liability concerns for uncertified volunteers
 - Not covered by volunteer protection act
 - Personal liability exposure for coaches allowing this

D. Silent Saturday Discussion

- Concept: No coaching/spectator instruction during games
 - Only clapping allowed, coaches can instruct at breaks
 - Designed to let players communicate and play independently
- Interest expressed but concerns about timing
 - Mid-season implementation preferred over early/late season
 - Potential for friendly games vs. standings games
 - Limited to fields with only 10U/12U/14U games
- Decision: Consider for next year with scheduled friendly games

E. Referee Points & Playoff Eligibility

- Minimum 17 points achievable by all teams per Matthew's analysis
- Proposed 13-point cutoff for playoff participation
 - Teams below threshold excluded from playoffs entirely
 - Not relegated to lower brackets (unfair to other teams)
- Communication plan:
 - Email coaches currently behind on points
 - Offer assistance for recruiting referees
 - RC/referee staff to contact families directly vs. burdening coaches
- Referee points removed as tiebreaker
 - Caused gaming behavior in prior seasons
 - Sportsmanship points to be used instead

F. Picture Day Volunteer Shortage

- Multiple picture days starting day after tomorrow
- Critical volunteer shortage across all sessions
- Proposed solutions:
 - Individual emails vs. generic requests (10x more effective)
 - Target parents with appointments adjacent to volunteer slots
 - Include coaches in outreach for teams without managers
- Location confirmed at Victory Park picnic area
- Access more challenging due to new fencing

G. Girls 14U Interlock Standings

- 12 teams total across regions, everyone plays everyone once
- Decision: All interlock games count toward Region 13 standings
 - Balanced schedule makes this fair approach
 - Region 13 season winner gets automatic area playoff spot
- 5 Region 13 teams will run separate playoff bracket
 - Winner gets second area playoff spot
 - All teams participate in playoffs for additional games

H. Spring Season Planning

- All Stars registration open with ~200 kids signed up
 - 25 coaches indicated interest
 - 20% decrease from last year (18-19 teams expected vs. 23)
 - Coach selection by mid-October for late October tryouts
- Grad Series coordination with South Pasadena
 - Recommend 10-11 players per team (vs. normal 9)
 - Higher absence rates in spring season
 - Two-site format working well
- Spring Cup program decision needed
 - Area program unreliable and teams get “beaten up”
 - Recommend interlock with Arcadia/South Pasadena
 - Early decision crucial for family planning
 - Target non-All Star players for development

I. Upcoming Events & Administrative Items

- Galaxy game October 11th: 100+ tickets sold, 25 on-field experiences
- LA Canada Parks & Rec Commission meeting Oct 8th
 - Spring field permit discussions
 - Potential baseball/soccer field sharing arrangements
- Thanksgiving tournament Nov 28-30
 - Rose Bowl and Victory Park reserved
 - Registration opening soon, same pricing as last year
 - Volunteer recruitment needed for planning/execution

J. Action Items

- Matthew: Publish updated schedules and notifications for Oct 11th & 18th games
- Brandy: Email coaches about unauthorized volunteer policy, include playoff point status for struggling teams
- Matthew: Conduct game card audit to identify compliance issues
- Harry: Email intermediate refs about Boys 16U Sunday coverage needs
- Jonathan: Contact South Pasadena about Grad Series interlock

- Samir: Contact Arcadia/South Pasadena about spring season interlock, set up spring registration system

K. Closing – Meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm and the next meeting will be November 6th at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Scott