



AYSO Executive Board Meeting

October 6, 2026 @ 7pm PDT

I. Call to Order – 7:11pm PDT

Members in attendance: Patrick Shopbell, Kirtan Tom, Stephen Raynor, Bruce Hancock, Shant Kamanjian, Brandi Lane, Shanti Rao, Luke Powers, Harry Plotkin, Ron Johnson, Matthew Goldman, Andy Thompson, Samir Sing, Cara Fields, Bret Nicely, Yliana Johansen, Tony D'Angelo, Gus Razo, Federico Calchi Novati, Palo Calchi Novati, Jonathan Gardner, Nan Sameath, Tona Rodriguez, Joshua Shaw, Rolf Mauermann and Christina Scott

II. Updates

- National Board has a proposal to eliminate two philosophies including “balanced teams,” and “everyone plays.” The idea is that we have compared ourselves for too long with club and we should be the “place to be” for recreational soccer. So, our mission statement would include these two philosophies in the mission statement instead. National Board of Directors will approve. We can submit concerns if interested.
- We use “Affinity” to correct certificate or adjust birthdates. It is being replaced with Playmetrics. They will do trainings for AC, Registrar and Treasurer, but it won't roll out until April and will be used fully in 2027-2028.
- Some is being paid for social media for AYSO Region 2, and it was questioned if we see a benefit to this.
- All coaches must be CPR trained in the next three months and next year they will need to be AED trained too. Anyone who coaches in winter or spring will need to be trained. There is a high school online program that is only \$10, so we are considering using that training for both coaches and assistant coaches.
 - We may need to track compliance ourselves since we are losing Affinity.
 - The bigger challenge will be having an AED on every field next year.
- Men's AYSO 19U came to talk with the board regarding racism protocols and policies.
 - The three players stated that they have all witnessed acts of racism being thrown around during games and tournaments.
 - Often these actions have been brushed aside or unacknowledged by the players, who are less likely to report them to referees or coaches.

- The players recommend a zero tolerance policy and adult/teammate support. The team should establish that they will NOT continue playing against opponents who engage in racist comments.
- Coaches need to be clear from the beginning that there is a zero tolerance policy and retaliation is not to be tolerated.
- The “on field response” when a referee or coach does not act, will be to stop play until the transgression is addressed. Team should not “forfeit” game if they step forward to stand against racism.
- Policy primarily intended for upper division, specifically area play. Point was raised that it might be good to start in upper division, but could be expanded to apply at all levels.
- If the referee didn’t hear the racial slur and cannot issue a red card, the team will take action by stopping the game. The challenge will be to know how the referees are being trained to deal with this (red card vs. yellow card). Should this also be expanded to physical threats and or sexual slurs (“c*nt”)?
- Seems like we should be addressing this with referees in the region to get a clear line on how it should be handled. Seems to be starting in 14U and probably starts even earlier.
 - Train coaches
 - Train referees
 - Train players
 - Train team managers and parents
- Players noted that it is essential that there are clear policies beyond “prohibiting abusive, offensive, and insulting language” and actions that players can take when these situations arise to protect players.
- Suggested that we reach out to other RC’s to let them know that Region 13 will be taking the action to stop the game if racism occurs, also mentioned that this should be conveyed to the captains, so everyone is on board.
- Currently no combined rules in AYSO policies...need to address this!
 - Need to have clear language as to what specifically is “abusive, offensive and/or insulting” language.
 - **Consider “racist and sexist” comments, plus threats of violence!**
 - Need to have a clear policy as to what happens when this speech occurs.
 - Also need to state what would allow game to restart, if players have decided to take action and stand together against hate speech.
- Fall Season Update
 - Last weekend was canceled due to heat. Mind want to consider changing the heat policy to include “at the RC’s discretion.”
 - Silent Saturday Reflections

- Some kids in 10U said “It felt like recess” and it “was the best game ever” suggesting that they really enjoyed playing.
 - Some younger kids felt “lost” which led to some frustration from parents and coaches.
 - Need to be very clear WHY this is developmentally helpful and that it is a national AYSO policy.
 - Perhaps this was too early in the season, maybe week 5-7. Possibly this might want to happen more frequently, BUT only one quarter, so that it doesn’t affect the entire game.
 - One new center referee said they deliberately chose “Silent Saturday” so they wouldn’t receive any commentary from parents!
 - Some 10U girls misunderstood that they had to stay silent too!
- Breast Cancer Awareness – Victory Park Field 3 will wear pink jerseys in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness. May also have orange jerseys for Halloween at the end of the month.
- G10 EXTRA is hosting a 9:45am game this Saturday against Palisades. Patrick will do something special (balloon arch, cookies, cake) to welcome the teams.
 - EXTRA program is running well with wins against other leagues. Off to a good start!
- Only one parent has been suspended thus far (week #3) no coach suspensions!
- Matthew explained that sportsmanship points are assigned after every game.
 - If no data is reported, then fully points are awarded.
 - There is an algorithm to determine how many points are lost if there is any unsportsmanship behaviors reported (sometimes, always, etc.).
 - We will start tracking if coaches are yellow or red carded.
 - All penalty cards and goals are recorded as well and it will be useful for All Star evaluations.
 - Will be updating incident reports too!
- Next program is up and running, but due to heat cancelation, it has only been going for one week. There is some concern that there are some adult pick-up games on the baseball field, which may be held against AYSO.
 - Sunday soccer lab is averaging about 30-40 kids.
 - Age distribution is primarily younger kids 6U-10U.
- Picture day is on Halloween (November 7th is make up picture day).
 - Might consider bubbles
 - Might consider giving special socks OR letting kids wear their own socks.
 - LDS typically invites AYSO Region 13 to Trunk or Treat – can we get the dates?!
 - Possibly orange soccer balls

- o Coaches and referees might dress up; AR flags could be skulls and crossbones, referee jerseys might be orange
- Trophies and medals for end of season and Rose City Cup
 - o We have volunteers from the EXTRA team to work on this
 - o 4U & 5U – get identical trophies w/o their name
 - o 6U, 7U, 8U – put AYSO 2026, team name, and player's name
 - o 10U, 12U, 14U – agreed tonight that team that wins each pool in the standings, then each player on the team gets a trophy; the top overall pool will go onto Area play
 - o Everyone comes out of the Rose City Cup with a medal (2nd, 3rd, 4th, plus a participant team for all other teams). Will get trophies for 1st place Rose City Cup Winners. Will also get a actual large cup that will have team names added each year.
 - o Need to review the rules for which team goes to the Area playoffs.
- Spring Season
 - o Jonathan will do Grad Series
 - o Winter Stars needs a coordinator
 - o All Stars – need more player ratings (will send out a request for mid-season ratings). We have 38 coaches showing interest in being All Star Coaches.
 - October 25 will be the first tryout, November 7 for the second
 - We have fields established at the Rose Bowl, so we have more space this year!
 - We are purchasing new numbered pinnies
- Fields
 - o Octavia Butler has a new principal and we really need this field immediately because we are losing daylight every day!
 - Can we use their fields in the fall?
 - Can we use their fields in the spring?
 - Currently
 - o Currently there are eight teams, and it will be fifteen MORE teams by 10/21 that will need lit fields!
 - o Should we need to consider purchasing lights so we can continue using Area H? (Probably need four lights! – Need to consider where we will charge them.)
 - o Pasadena Parks and Recs is coming up with a plan to address the gophers.
 - o Rolf will attend La Canada Parks Rec Meeting on October 21 to see if we can get more fields
 - o Marshall Fundamental (14U field) - we paid \$10K for the field and the school gets nothing. Marshall wanted to charge for parking and for concessions.

Principal requests an additional \$5K for ASB, but was unwilling to remove the custodial fees.

- Can we have a banner on the field fence announcing the Region.
- Could adjust the donation amount based on the amount of field usage.
- Need to get something in writing so that the terms can't change abruptly.
- We took a vote on giving the \$5K to Marshall's ASB for field usage (Fall 26 only) – Luke made the initial motion, Harry seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously and we will talk to the principal about getting a receipt for the donation and getting a banner posted on the fence.
- We have tabled the decision to give funds to other schools
- Ultimately we need two 14U fields moving forward (perhaps we have the older kids play on Sundays at Victory Park since schools are becoming increasingly more difficult to work with). Might be able to place a bid for the La Canada fields next year.
- Upcoming Events
 - Galaxy game on October 17th
 - November 8 will be the ACFC soccer clinic (only for 8U girls)
 - Thanksgiving Tournament is getting underway.
 - Sixteen teams have registered already.
 - We need to confirm if Marshall is available for 14U games.
 - May start asking for volunteers in the next two weeks
 - Same logo will be used for the t-shirts; will need to order more shirts, medals, pins, and coins (which need a clear heads/tails distinction)
 - Can get Boy Scouts from various cities which could give us 30-50 volunteers. Scout Masters keep track of volunteer hours.
 - Would like suggestions for the holiday/end of year party ideas
 - Should we keep the senior center event to give out the volunteer awards?
 - Could we have a separate adult only event? Will adults attend without kids?
- Tournaments
 - See Google Doc submitted by Luke regarding who can go to tournaments.
 - All Star teams are assembled late in the fall, so they typically only have two weeks to practice before they would go to the Turkey Tournament.
 - Players have to commit to play year-round on a tournament team (need to be at 75% of practices). Had over 20 kids who were excited to participate on the tournament team. Strong commitment and all but one family wanted to consider after the season.
 - We know that we lose kids to club, so this is a viable alternative for parents who want year-round soccer.

- o Multiple “tournament coaches” at each level, so if there are volunteers who want to give this time (and receive training) this helps keep the volunteers engaged and keep their kid playing year round!

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm. The next meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,

Christina Scott