



NEWS

Last Chance to Register for Fall-Spring 2002/2003

\$50 per player until 30 June

Download forms from www.ayso160.org

OR

July 11

5:30 – 8:30 pm

Publix Community Room

Whitesburg Dr. at Airport Road

\$65 per player

Ages 4 1/2 - 18 by July 31, 2002

**New players must bring a copy of the
birth certificate**

All registrations received by July 15, will be placed on a team. In order to form teams in time to start by 12 August, registrations received after this date will be placed on a waiting list for openings exist and if enough coaches and referees have volunteered to support the teams. Starting July 1, registration is \$65 per player. We do not have family discounts.

A limited number of scholarships are available for hardship situations. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, contribute to the scholarship funds, or sponsor a hardship player, please contact Cathy Farless at 539-5201.

Coach Equipment Turn-In

Many of our teams have not turned in their equipment. Each Spring we collect the team equipment and then determine how much we will need for the next season. If you still have equipment, please turn it in during Registration July 11 at Publix. OR drop these by 1505 Sun Valley Road (Blossomwood) and just leave it on the front porch. Items to be turned in: Coach notebook, Large blue or black athletic bag (team bag), any unused uniforms, cones, goalkeeper jerseys, and practice jerseys provided by AYSO. If you have an unused game ball, please turn that in, but otherwise keep the balls, mesh ball bags, and coach jerseys. If you still have not turned in your player evaluations, please mail the form ASAP to 15009 Leafmore Drive – 35803 or email to johnspacecadet@aol.com.

MLS Soccer Camp



Once again, our summer camp will be provided by MLS Soccer Camps.

July 22-26, John Hunt Park

Ages 5-6: \$72 - 8:30 – 9:30 am
or 9:30-11 am

Ages 7-18: \$117 - 8 am - Noon
or 4-8pm

Each child will receive a ball and T-shirt. All campers must wear shin guards and bring a water bottle.

We have attached the registration form with this Newsletter. Make copies if registering more than 1 child. OR you may download the form from our website at www.ayso160.org. For more information, contact our camp coordinator, Loyd Doering, 881-6342, or email at loyd@netsavr.com. To be sure of a place at camp, get your forms in by 15 July.

We have a limited number of scholarships for hardship situations. Contact Cathy Farless (539-5201 or email at cathy.farless@comcast.net), for more information.

We need at least 1 parent to stay each camp session to assist the coaches with handling first aid, water breaks, and bathroom breaks. Please sign up for 1 day during your child's camp session by noting this on the form (list preferred day) or contact Loyd Doering.

Looking for a few good men and women

Every year we ask each family to help with the soccer program. Everyone should be able to find a job. We have developed several positions that take only a few hours once or twice during the season, but which really help us to have a quality soccer program. Teams will earn points for volunteer service toward our "Setting the Pace" awards. Also, U10 and above teams must earn a minimum number of points to qualify for post season tournaments. A volunteer preference form is included with this newsletter. If you have not already volunteered, use this form to select a job and mail to the address on the form – or email your selection to cathy.farless@comcast.net.

You can add to your team's total points even before the season begins by helping us to get ready. Some of the jobs that we need to have done before the season are as follows:

1. Wash, count, and bag the team pennies/practice jerseys (by June 29)
2. Wash, sort, and inventory goalkeeper jerseys (by June 29)
3. Build first aid kits (by Aug 6)
4. Pack the team notebooks (8 August – 7-9pm)
5. Pack team bags (8 August – 7-9pm)
6. Solicit businesses for items for coach and referee appreciation bags (by 1 Aug)

If you are willing to help with the above, contact Cathy Farless ASAP at 539-5201 or cathy.farless@comcast.net

Of course, the 2 most important are the coaches and referees. Without these, we cannot have teams or play games. While the number of volunteers greatly increased last year, we still had teams that did not have the minimum set of volunteers - assistant coaches, team managers, and referees – leaving the coach to have to do everything.

Our biggest shortage has been referees. It is very important that every team have 2 volunteers to help with officiating. Every year we wear our referees out doing more than their fair share – or our games are played without neutral officials – or any officials. We have worked to make it much easier to be an official, but we still need a big increase in our referee staff to keep the games fair, fun and safe.

Other than coaches and referees, two other positions are key to the success of our organization: the Team Manager and the Division Coordinator. Many people move from other soccer organizations to AYSO because they want a more organized program and these people keep the Region humming by allowing coaches to stay focused on teaching soccer skills.

The Team Manager (a politically correct term for Team Mom – allowing Dads to take the job) is the coach's executive assistant who is responsible for team paper work (setting up the game cards, putting together a team list for each family), scheduling for game drinks and snacks, organizing the teams social life (team parties, end of game celebrations), helping the coach notify families of game or practice changes (maybe even set up a telephone tree), distributing information to the families, and collecting team info for the Division coordinator. With a good Team Manager, the coaches can coach, the parents can cheer, and most importantly – the kids have lots of fun. Our goal is to have a coach, assistant coach, and Team

Manager identified for each team before the coaches get their rosters on August 10.

For the last 2 years we have fully staffed the Division Coordinator positions and found that these people are the glue that keeps the Region working smoothly. A Division Coordinator is responsible for communications between the board and their 6-8 assigned teams in their child's age group. They distribute information, schedules, and equipment and collect information from the teams. Most of their work is done during their child's practice time. Before the fall season, Division Coordinators help at the Coaches' meeting and are encouraged to help with team formation and game scheduling. They are a part of the Regional Board and serve as a voice for their teams at Board meetings. The sooner we have these people identified, the better we will be able to serve the coaches, players, and their families.

This year we have a few special projects that need volunteers to help plan and coordinate: Kid's Zone, opening day or other special regional events, tournament planning, volunteer appreciation events, organizing concessions for the tournaments, team pictures, trophy/medal selection and ordering, and regional publicity. These jobs will give you a chance to see how the region works and add quality to our program while the regional management focuses on the things to keep the region operating smoothly. These jobs are not on our volunteer list, so if you are interested, write in "Special Projects" or contact Cathy at 539-5201.

Region 160 Board of Directors – Fall/Spring 2001/2002

Regional Commissioner	Cathy Farless	539-5201
Registrar	Lisa Collins	882-6479
Referee Administrator	David Rawlings	881-8560
Coach Administrator	John Hanson	882-6686
Treasurer	Christy Hastings	882-6545
Safety Director	Loyd Doering	881-6342
Game Sch. & Secretary	Jim Biard	883-9118
Ref Scheduler	Kim Whitt	880-0512
Uniforms	Linda Hanson	882-6686
Newsletters	Debbie Schaffer	882-9871
Web Site	Karen Gauthier	543-3039
Ref Assessor	Daphne Brown	536-5401
MLS Camp Coordinator	Loyd Doering	881-6342
Special Projects	Donel Hayes	650-0012
Volunteer Appreciation	Celia Moore	536-8098

Child and Volunteer Protection Advocate *Open*
Equipment Manager *Open*
Fields Manager *Open*
Division Coordinators *Several open*

Note that we have several positions open. If you are interesting in serving on the board, or assisting with one of the current positions, please contact Cathy Farless at 539-5201 or cathy.farless@comcast.net

New Tournament Participation Rules

This year, a team must meet a minimum set of requirements or achieve a minimum number of "Setting the Pace" points in order to be able to participate in the Area or State tournament. A team must have a coach, assistant coach, referees, and 100% of the team families signing the Kid's Zone contract. Also, the coach and assistant coach must have taken Coach Safe Haven and the team earned have at least 1 point for jobs supporting the league. See the article on "Setting the Pace" for more information.

Upcoming Coach Training

Want to get your team off to a great start next fall? Start with yourself and your assistant coach... take some of the free coach training we will be offering:

Saturday, Aug 17	8 - 10 am	U6 Coaching
	10:30 am - 1:00 pm	U8 Coaching
	10:30 am - 1:30 pm	U10 Coaching
	2:00 - 7:00 pm	U12 Coaching
Saturday, Aug 24	afternoon	Coaching Tips from a Professional Coach
Fri-Sun, Aug 2-4		Advanced Coaching
TBD		Intermediate Coaching

****Calling all coaches and assistant coaches! ****

Have you taken the Coach Safe Haven course? If not, all coaches at all levels need to attend the Coach's Safe Haven class. You only need to take this once.

Friday, Aug 16	6 - 9 pm	Coach Safe Haven
Saturday, Aug 24	6 - 9 pm	Coach Safe Haven

REFEREE NEWS

These are the upcoming training dates for referees:

Thursday, Aug 15	6 - 10 pm	U6/U8 Referee
Friday, Aug 16	6 - 10 pm	U6/U8 Referee
		And U10 Upgrade
Saturday, Aug 17	8 - 12 am	U6/U8 Referee
		And U10 Upgrade
Monday, Aug 26	6 - 9 pm	U6/U8 Referee for Youth
Tuesday, Aug 27	6 - 9 pm	U10 Upgrade for Youth

Monday, Aug 19 or Tuesday, Aug 20 7-9pm
Referee refresher course and scheduling meeting
 (Changes in laws and procedures, scheduling, law refresher activities, mentoring)

For more information or to sign up for these classes contact David Rawlings at 881-8560 or email at dgrawlings@earthlink.net.

Setting the Pace

Last year we ran a contest called "Setting the Pace". This contest specified a set of things each team must complete – with the first teams finishing winning awards that included prizes for everyone on the team – coaches, players, and parents alike. We had great response with 17 teams winning awards. There were a few wrinkles in last year's plan that we hope to eliminate this year. This year a team will earn points for the items they complete and we will have many more ways to earn points. Points will be earned over the fall season and awards given out at the start of the Spring season. Points will be awarded for having the minimum number of team volunteers (1 coach, 1 assistant coach, 2 referees, and 1 team manager), for attending training, and for helping with jobs that support the league (See "Looking for a few good men and women"). Coaches will get the list of ways to earn points at the meeting on August 10, but you can get a head start by volunteering for positions and jobs before the season starts.

Region 160 to host the Area and State Tournaments this Year

This November, our region will host the Area (Nov 8-10) and State Tournaments (Nov 15-17) at John Hunt and Merrimack Parks. There will be many opportunities for teams to earn "Setting the Pace Points." We will need concession stand organizers and workers, field coordinators, people to help with the tournament meetings and preparing for the tournament. While there is a lot of work in hosting the tournaments, they provide an excellent opportunity for our region to earn funds to help purchase equipment and improve the fields. See the volunteer preference form for details on some of these jobs.

Tournament T-shirt and Pin Design Contest

Calling all talented players and fans....we are looking designs for the tournament T-shirt and pins. We will select one design for the Area Tournament and another for the State Tournament. The winning designers will get \$25, T-shirts and pins for their entire family (up to 6 T-shirts), and their name on the design. Designs can be turned in as jpg files to cathy.farless@comcast.net or in hardcopy to 1505 Sun Valley Road – 35801 by 31 August. Limit designs to 3 colors.

Team Photos

One of the ways the region earns money is with the team photos. We contract with 2-3 photographers for taking the team pictures. The photographers donate a percentage of the cost of the pictures to the region. The list of contracted photographers will be provided in the team information handed out at the coach meeting on 10 August. Team managers will contact the photographer and arrange for the pictures to be taken. Contacts will be negotiated in July. Photographers should contact Cathy Farless if they are interested (539-5201 /cathy.farless@comcast.net).

Region 160 Important Dates

July 1	Player fees increase to \$65/player
July 11	Registration at Publix, 5:30 – 8:30 pm, \$65/player
July 15	Last day to register for fall season
July 22-26	MLS Summer Soccer Camp, John Hunt Park
July 27	MLS Coaching Clinic, 8-12 pm
Aug 2-4	Maryville Super Camp – Coach and referee training
Aug 10	Coach meeting – Team Rosters and equipment available
Aug 12	Season begins – practices may begin
Aug 15-17	U6/U8, U10 Upgrade, and U10 Referee Training
Aug 16, 24	Coach Safe Haven
Aug 17	U6, U8, U10, U12 Coach Training
Aug 18-19	Referee Refresher and Scheduling Meeting
Aug 23	First Weekend Games
Aug 26-27	U6/U8, U10 Upgrade, and U10 Referee Training
Aug 30 – Sept 2	Labor Day Break – no games
Oct 5	Last games before Fall Break
Oct 6-12	Fall Break – no games
Oct 18-24	Regional Tournament Games
Nov 1-3	Area Tournament for U16/U19 teams
Nov 8-10	Area Tournament for U10-U14 teams
Nov 15-17	State Tournament in Huntsville

AYSO Region 160
 1505 Sun Valley Road
 Huntsville, AL 35801-2102

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