

PARENT LETTER #1

Date _____

Dear Parents & Players:

Welcome to AYSO U_____ Team #_____

It is a privilege to coach your children. Much of our success this season will be due to each parent’s willingness to help when and where possible. There are many jobs to do on this team such as: Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Equipment Manager, Referee, Assistant Referee, and Statistician. Every parent is invited to assist and participate in practice as often as possible. Practices are always planned in advance so you will know what we are doing before you step onto the field. Please come. It’s fun!

Playing recreational soccer should be fun and is intended to help each player improve his or her skills and self-confidence. Winning on the scoreboard is terrific, but it’s not everything. My goal for this season is to

_____ and to have fun!!!

We will practice on _____ from _____ at _____ located at _____.

A roster is being provided to facilitate car-pooling and communication between team members and team parents.

Following are policies and issues each parent should keep in mind throughout the soccer season.

Player Equipment: Shin guards, Shoes, Size ___ Ball, Water Bottle, Uniform. Shin guards are required for all practices and games. Cleated or “all surface” soccer shoes are recommended, but not required. Each player must have a ball and bring it to every practice and game. Put name on ball in permanent ink. Leather, hand-stitched ball is preferred. Do not purchase plastic balls. Balls need not be expensive. Players are to bring water bottles - filled with water –for all practices and games. Uniforms with issued socks are required for games. Socks must be worn over Shin guards. Shirts must be tucked in. Long hair must be restrained with soft bands.

Good Sportsmanship, Appropriate Language and Appropriate Behavior is expected of all players, coaches, and spectators.

NO JEWELRY -- In order to practice or play soccer, all jewelry must be removed. *Medic Alert tags or bracelets must be taped to body.*

LIGHTNING – We do not practice when lightning is visible.

GAMES --Please have your player at the field, in uniform, shin guards on, with ball and water bottle, ____ minutes before game time. **Relieve bladders immediately** before arrival at field. There are no restroom facilities at fields. Pre-game warm up is very important to injury prevention!!! If you know your player will be late or will miss a particular game, please tell me as soon as possible. A note is best.

LATE OR MISSED PRACTICE: If your player will be late or will miss practice, please call me before practice. We are counting on your player's participation. Drills, scrimmages, and game line-ups are established based on the belief that your player will be there. I understand that things come up. A phone call, ASAP, is all I ask. To not call or show up at all is the worst!

APPROPRIATE CLOTHING: Practice clothes should be loose fitting like soccer uniform. Please anticipate the weather. As the weather cools, remember to send sweatshirts and warm ups to practices. For games, if weather is cold and/or wet, sweat pants, sweatshirts or turtlenecks, ear bands and gloves are appropriate under the uniform.

DROP OFF and PICK-UP: Your player's safety is important. Do not leave your player at field unless the Coach or Assistant Coach and one other adult are present. If your player is to walk home or will car pool with another player, please write me a note to that effect. If someone, other than the regular parent or carpool is to pick up your child, notify me in advance. I will ask for identification.

LATE PICK-UP: If you are detained, I will stay at the practice park for 15 minutes. If you have not arrived by that time, your player will be taken to my home, at

_____ phone #_____. At that time, I will try to reach you and/or the emergency back-ups. Should you be unavoidably detained, please do everything you can to let me know where you are and what to do. Habitual late pick-ups without prior notification may result in removal of your player from the AYSO program. **Bottom line--no player will be left at the practice or playing field.**

PROBLEMS -- If you have any questions, problems or suggestions you are welcome to call me as early as _____ and as late as _____. For problems bigger than you and me, please call the Division U ___ Commissioner at _____, the Chief Referee at 342-2976 ext. 326, the Chief Coach at 342-2976 ext. 323, or the Volunteer Coordinator at 342-2976 ext. 334.

If you have any suggestions, questions, or time to help, please call me.

Sincerely,

Coach Team # _____ Phone # _____