

# AYSO PHILOSOPHY

## VISION STATEMENT

*To provide world class youth soccer programs that enrich children's lives*

## MISSION STATEMENT

*To develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs, which promote a fun, family environment based on the following five AYSO Philosophies:*

### Everyone Plays

Our program's goal is for kids to play soccer-so we mandate that every player on every team must play at least half of every game.

### Balanced Teams

Each year we form new teams as evenly balanced as possible-because it is fair and more fun when teams of equal ability play.

### Open Registration

Our program is open to all children between 4 1/2 and 19 years of age who want to register and play soccer. Interest and enthusiasm are the only criteria for playing.

### Positive Coaching

Encouragement of player effort provides for greater enjoyment by the players and ultimately leads to better-skilled and better-motivated players.

### Good Sportsmanship

We strive to create a positive environment based on mutual respect rather than a win-at-all-costs attitude, and our program is designed to instill good sportsmanship in every facet of AYSO.

### The AYSO Coach Pledge

#### *In my words and action, I pledge to:*

- Enthusiastically support and practice the AYSO Philosophies of: **Positive Coaching, Good Sportsmanship, Everyone Plays, Balanced Teams, and Open Registration.**
- Stay informed about sound principles of coaching and child development.
- Respect the game and know the Laws of the Game.
- Emphasize to my players that they must abide by the Laws of the Game at all times.
- Develop a true respect for the judgment of all referees.
- Develop a team respect for the ability of our opponents.
- Ensure a safe environment for my players.
- Never yell at or ridicule a player.
- Always set a good example.
- Remember that soccer is a game and all games should be fun.

### The AYSO Player Pledge

#### *In my words and action, I pledge to:*

- Play for the sake of playing a game, not just to please a parent or coach.
- Always give my best effort and work as hard for my teammates as I do for myself.
- Treat all players as I would like to be treated.
- Be a team player and not show off or hog the ball.
- Be a good sport and acknowledge good plays whether they are made by my team or my opponents.
- Abide by the Laws of the Game.
- Cooperate with my coaches, teammates, opponents and the referee.
- Never argue with or complain about referee calls or decisions.
- Control my temper when I feel I have been wronged.
- Remember that the object of the game is to win, but the goal is to enjoy myself.

### The AYSO Parent Pledge

#### *In my words and action, I pledge to:*

- Attend and participate in team parent meetings.
- Be on time or early when dropping off or picking up my child for a practice or game.
- Ensure my child is supported and encouraged by family or loved ones at games.
- Encourage my child to have fun and keep sport in its proper perspective.
- Define winning for my child as doing his/her very best.
- Endeavor to learn the Laws of the Game (rules) of soccer and support the efforts of referees.
- Honor the game and show respect for all involved including coaches, players, opponents, spectators and referees.
- Applaud and encourage players from both teams and not yell out instructions.
- Not make negative comments about the game, coaches, referees or players in my child's presence.
- Encourage others to refrain from negative or abusive sideline behavior.