Dear Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to the 2019 AYSO Fall Soccer Season. As you know, AYSO soccer is a completely volunteer organization … that includes me, the coaches and the refs. Missed calls will happen, mistakes will be made. AYSO is committed to providing a “child safe” program, where children can develop good sportsmanship and team play in a safe, fair, and fun environment. Please model what we are trying to teach … positive behavior, fun for all. How you behave at a soccer game or practice shows a child more than any words you might say. Here are some things you need to know:

1.) GAME SCHEDULES – Game schedules will be posted at [www.hesperiaayso.org](http://www.hesperiaayso.org). Please make sure you let the coach know at least 48 hours in advance if you are not going to make a game or a practice. Please note that if we have the first or last game of the day our team has field set up/tear down. On set up days we will need all families to report to the bin at least 1 hour prior to game time. If we have last game please be prepared to stay 15 minutes after the game for tear down.

2.) SHIN GUARDS/JEWELRY/NAILS – Shin guards are required at ALL practices and games. NO jewelry (including earrings) is to be worn on the field. Religious necklaces and medical alert bracelets are the exception and must be taped to the body. Players may wear soft headbands and ponytail ties only. Nails must be clipped short. Acrylic nails may need to be taped over if they look dangerous. Referees have final say about fingernails.

3.) SNACKS – Each family is asked to bring snack for all players for at least one game during the season. Snack consists of: Half-time snack fruit (examples: oranges cut into sections, grapes, peeled cuties all individually bagged for sanitation), an after game snack and drink for each team member (examples yogurt, granola bar, trail mix with a small Gatorade all in one bag. Please try and make it healthy). Please no candy, chips, and sugary drinks including soda. Also, if it is a VERY hot day, you may want to bring some additional water. Please, no sweets or soda during the game. Please check with me to make sure there are no food allergies before you decide on your snacks. If the date you have been assigned to bring snack doesn’t work for you or if something comes up at the last minute PLEASE call me as soon as possible.

4.) MONEY – I will need to collect money from each family for the coach’s gifts, end of the season party, banner supplies, etc. The banner money is the first item we will need to collect money for so it will be ready for Opening Day. I would like to get this from families as soon as possible. I will provide an accounting at the end of the season.

5.) T-SHIRT/Sweatshirt Orders – I will let you know how much these will cost as soon as we get a price. Please bring the amount in cash, no checks please.

6.) TRASH – Please remember that we are guests at practice fields. Guests do not throw trash on the ground, but they do pick up after themselves and are good neighbors. This applies to the parking lot, grassy areas, restrooms, and the fields. Additionally, let’s take pride in our fields and kept them clean from Day One! Thanks!

7.) DOGS – It is AYSO policy that there are to be NO DOGS on the field at any time. Soccer is an exciting, fast-paced game. This means that there are times when children fall face down in the grass. Dog feces and typical dog behavior can cause serious safety issues. Please leave all animals at home. Please make sure you communicate this to other family members as well.

8.) TOBACCO/ALCOHOL – There is NO use of tobacco products or alcoholic beverages at AYSO games or practices.

9.) SAFETY – Please know where your children are at all times and do not let them go to the restroom, etc. by themselves Safety is very important to us and we want to make sure that you have your children near you at all times. You cannot allow children to wander about the fields or go to the restroom without you.

10.) RESPECT FOR REFS – Please remember that there are no protests in AYSO soccer. You cannot change a referee’s call by screaming, yelling, or pouting. Mistakes will be made but the game must move on. This is a game and the referees are ALL VOLUNTEERS. Please treat the referees as you would like to be treated … with respect and consideration.

11.) WATER AT PRACTICE – Please remember to send your child to practice with plenty of water so that they don’t become dehydrated, particularly during hotter weather.

12.) Practice and Game Attendance – Communication with the Coach Administrator must be made as soon as a determination is made that your practice will be cancelled or a game must be rescheduled. This will allow the Regional Board to take the required actions to reschedule the game and/or adjust the light usage requirements. Please ensure that either you or the coach is communicating the necessary changes.

Likewise, encourage your player families to actively notify you and the coach if they are unable to attend a practice or a game.

Thanks!