



# PASS AREA AYSO

Region 1/N/641

Spring Select Program Regional Guidelines

Membership Year 2016-2017



## Introduction

Spring Select is a separate, competitive season from the Fall Primary Program and Spring Co-ed Program for teams comprised of players selected by a region designated coach. Spring Select is an opportunity for a player to improve his/her skills in the competitive environment of Area 1N Spring Select League and large AYSO sanctioned tournaments. A limited number of teams are formed in divisions U10-U19 depending on coach availability, qualification and interest, as well as available volunteer support. Spring Select teams are typically formed in November/December preceding the Spring Select season, which normally runs from March through early June. In some cases, the region designated coach will hold an open try-out in order to identify potential players for his/her roster. Alternately, a coach may select players based on his/her personal criteria from a list of pre-nominated players.

The core philosophies of AYSO and the overall goal of maintaining a child-friendly environment are maintained during the Spring Select Season; however, Spring Select differs from the regular fall season program in the following ways:

- The number of players able to participate is limited by available coaches and support staff (i.e. Referees, Team Managers, Program Administrators, etc.)
- Spring Select is a program in which **players are invited** by coaches to participate on his/her team.
- **Applicants are not guaranteed placement** and may be disqualified for multiple reasons, including but not limited to skill level, attitude, and prior behavior(s).
- A greater commitment by the players and parents is required as play includes regular and sometimes extensive travel.
- The cost of participation in Spring Select is significantly higher as travel and lodging costs are often incurred in addition to custom uniforms, and various registration, referee and tournament entry fees. **Player fees for this season will be \$140 per player.**
- Unlike Fall Primary season, **a coach is able to drop a player** that does not fulfill his/her commitment to the team. Missing too many practices or games, being disruptive or disrespectful, etc., can be grounds for removal from a team (no player shall be removed solely based upon his/her performance or lack thereof).

Parents should be cautioned that a player's participation in another sport during the Spring Select **season is highly discouraged** and many coaches will not select a player if he/she is playing multiple sports at the same time. Additionally, parents should understand that Spring Select soccer is essentially



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All-Star level play and **to be selected is an honor**. Participants should recognize that they are making a commitment to a team and the commitment should not be entered into casually.

## I. Coach Selection

- A. Prerequisites for applying to coach Spring Select are as follows:
- Head coaches and assistant coaches must (1) Have coached in the Fall 2016 Primary season in the division for which he/she is applying; (2) Be an AYSO registered volunteer; (3) Be Safe Haven Certified; and (4) Be a certified coach at level required for his/her division. Any applicant that has not met these requirements shall be disqualified prior to further discussion of candidate qualification.
- B. Spring Select Coaches will be selected from a pool of candidates meeting the prerequisites by the Spring Select Coach Selection Committee which shall consist of, at a minimum, the Regional Commissioner, Spring Select Coordinator, Regional Coach Administrator and Regional Referee Administrator based upon but not limited to the following criteria:
- Additional AYSO Certification and/or training;
  - Field Reputation and Disciplinary History;
  - Respective Division Coordinator endorsement;
  - Participation as a Referee in Pass Area AYSO Region 641;
  - **Participation as volunteer in other positions in Pass Area AYSO Region 641;**
  - Adherence to Good Sportsmanship and Positive Coaching Philosophies in word and deed;
  - Significant Contribution to AYSO and in particular Pass Area AYSO Region 641 in other volunteer positions;
  - Whether the coach's associated player is a first or second year player in his or her respective division.
- C. A coach's regular season record shall not be the focus of the Spring Select Committee.
- D. Coaching selections made by the Spring Select Committee and **with the approval of the Regional Commissioner** are final and are not open to lobbying, debate, and/or rebuttal. The Regional Commissioner shall reserve the ultimate right of approval or disqualification of a Spring Select coaching candidate.
- E. In divisions that can support more than one Spring Select team, more than one coach may be selected. In cases where there are multiple teams Pass Area AYSO Region 641 adheres to the AYSO Philosophy of Balanced Teams; **there shall be no "A" team and "B" team. Any attempt by coaches to circumvent the AYSO Philosophy of Balanced Teams shall be grounds for disqualification.**
- F. When equally qualified persons have applied the Spring Select Committee may choose to alternate appointments to allow players to be exposed to different coaches and coaching styles.



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- G. When no qualified candidate has applied or in cases where all candidates have been disqualified the Spring Select Committee may at their discretion do the following:
- Contact a candidate in the interest of fielding a team in the division;
  - Opt for no team participation in the affected division.
- H. Approved Spring Select coaches shall be notified of selection in writing (including email and fax; NOT text message). Likewise, all eliminated candidates shall be notified in writing (including email and fax; NOT text message) when disqualified.
- I. SELECTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPRING SELECT IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.**

### II. Teams

- A. Teams will be formed by Spring Select coaches from players who played the 2016 regular season within his/her respective division in the following manner:
- Coach selects players based upon his/her criteria and notes from try-outs (if held) a list of alternates is included in case there are declines of invitation;
  - Coach forwards list of players to Spring Select Committee for review and approval or questions;
  - If there are questions by the Spring Select Committee on the make-up of the roster, the coach will respond to the committee as appropriate. If there are no questions the roster is forwarded to the Regional Commissioner for review and approval;
  - Regional Commissioner either approves roster or sends back for adjustments;
  - When all adjustments are made and final approval is given the coach may notify his/her players (notification must be in written form);
  - If there are declines of invitations the coach shall notify the Spring Select Committee of the decline and shall proceed to contact an approved alternate in the appropriate manner.
  - **Coaches who communicate roster selections prior to completing the above process shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including removal as coach.**
- B. If two or more Spring Select teams are formed, the teams shall be formed in accordance with the AYSO Philosophy of Balanced Teams. With the assistance of the Spring Coordinator the head coaches of the respective teams shall collectively determine a fair and balanced procedure for player selection. If the coaches cannot come to an agreement regarding the fair and balanced selection of players the Spring Coordinator, with approval from the Regional Commissioner, shall determine a method.
- C. **No player shall be issued an invitation to play prior to completion of their team's fall season (including the team's Winter Tournament play). Coaching candidates that prematurely recruit or contact players and their families prior to try-outs and/or the official selection process shall be considered tampering with or distracting players on opposing teams moving into or**



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**participating in Winter Tournament. Such activities shall be subject to disciplinary action by the Spring Select committee up to and including disqualification as a coaching candidate.**

### III. Player Eligibility

- A. All players must have played **at least fifty percent (50%)** of all regularly scheduled fall 2016
- B. season games (players must play in at least 2 quarters of each game), excluding those games missed for injury or illness.
- C. A player competing in neighboring AYSO regions may be eligible after (1) All eligible players in the region have been contacted and participation declined, and; (2) An exception is made in writing by the Spring Coordinator to allow player to play, and; (3) Full release in writing is given by the player's home region Regional Commissioner, and; (4) Full release in writing is given by Pass Area AYSO's Regional Commissioner, and; (5) Full Release in writing is given by the Area 1/N Spring Select Coordinator, and;(6) Full release in writing is given by the Area 1/N Area Director.
- D. **In cases where there are two Spring Select teams, any player that has declined an invitation to play for one Spring Select team becomes ineligible for Spring Select play and may not play for the other Spring Select team in Area 1/N Spring Select play without special exception made by the Spring Coordinator and confirmed by the Regional Commissioner.**
- E. All players wishing to participate in Spring Select are required to have a parent or guardians attend the Spring Select parents' informational meeting and orientation. Divisional try-out dates will be disclosed at the end of the meeting.
- F. The Regional Commissioner of Pass Area AYSO Region 641 retains the right to review all team rosters and **disqualify any participant from Spring Select participation due to recurring behavioral problems or major negative incidents associated with the player and/or his/her family.** It should be noted that the following shall be considered behavioral problems and major negative incidents:
  - Historic undermining of head coaches by parents, guardians and/or associated family members;
  - Continual criticism and/or berating of volunteer referees;
  - Sideline or match-day coaching;
  - Ejections by referees or Regional Staff;
  - Violations of Kids Zone Policies and AYSO Parents' Pledge, including non-adherence to the NO PETS guideline at AYSO activities.
- G. Invitations to players shall be issued in writing (including email and fax; NOT text message) and presented to the potential player's parent or guardian. The name(s) of any player(s) declining an invitation will be presented to the Spring Coordinator before their roster can be finalized.



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The Spring Coordinator will note all players declining invitation and shall inform all interested parties (coaches, Spring Select Committee, etc.; NOT curious parents) of a player's ineligibility.

### **H. SELECTION FOR PARTICIPATION IN SPRING SELECT IS A PRIVILEGE, NOT A RIGHT.**

#### **IV. Finances**

- A. A Spring Select league fee shall be charged for every player to cover the costs of the program (see fee breakdown). Fees shall be collected by the coach and remitted to the Pass Area AYSO Region 641 Treasurer no later than January 16, 2017.
- B. Each team shall appoint a team treasurer to monitor team finances. **The team treasurer must not be the coach or the spouse of the coach or live in the same household as the coach.**
- C. The team treasurer or coach will make team deposits to the Spring Treasurer who will then deposit those funds into the Pass Area AYSO Spring Select Account. **All team finances must be channeled through this account NO exceptions.**
- D. Spring Select teams may charge a maximum additional amount of \$120.00 per player fee over and above the required league fee (which does not include travel expenses for teams choosing to enter tournaments outside the local area.)
- E. No players may be given a scholarship (fee waived by the team) without the advance consent of the Spring Coordinator and must be in full disclosure to the other team parents.
- F. Deposits and check requests will be made by the team treasurer or coach in accordance with the rules set out by the Spring Treasurer (see attached Treasurer Guidelines.)
- G. Checks will not be issued by the Spring Treasurer if sufficient funds are not available in the team account.**
- H. Each team will be advanced one tournament fee (not including referee deposit) to be paid back by March 1, 2017.
- I. The Spring Treasurer will make accessible to each team treasurer and coach an overall accounting of the team's account for reconciliation on at least a monthly basis.
- J. A full accounting of all team finances must be presented to each family and to the Spring Coordinator within two weeks following the final tournament of the season and must be presented to any parent requesting such information within forty-eight (48) hours of request during the season. All unused personal funds deposited will be refunded by check at the end of the season.
- K. All unused funds deposited in the form of sponsor donation requiring a regional receipt will not be refunded to the team at the end of the season.**

#### **V. Sponsorships**



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- A. No team shall solicit donation of funds and/or goods and services from a Fall Season sponsor. **It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to get approval from the Spring Select Coordinator prior to contacting a sponsor.**
- B. No team shall solicit the donation funds and /or goods and services from an AYSO National Sponsor or a Pass Area Region 641 regional sponsor, vendor or service provider. **It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to get approval from the Spring Select Coordinator prior to contacting a sponsor or service provider.**
- C. No team shall solicit the donation of funds and/or goods and services from a sponsor that has donated to another team. **It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to get approval from the Spring Select Coordinator prior to contacting a sponsor.**
- D. No single team shall create a conflict of interest by soliciting the donation of funds and/or goods and services from competing businesses. **It is the responsibility of the Head Coach to get approval from the Spring Select Coordinator prior to contacting a sponsor.**
- E. The Spring Select coach and Team Manager are responsible to ensure that sponsors are appropriately recognized by the team.

### VI. Fundraising

- A. All fundraisers **MUST** be approved by the Spring Coordinator and the Regional Commissioner and may not start until the roster and budget are approved.
- B. All funds generated **MUST** be processed through the Pass Area AYSO Region 641 Treasurer to comply with National AYSO guidelines.
- C. No team may raise more than \$3,500.00 no matter the source (i.e. family donation, sponsorship, and fundraising) without the express written consent of the Spring Coordinator and the Regional Commissioner.
- D. All funds belong to Pass Area AYSO Region 641 until disbursed to the Spring Select Team.

### VII. Scope of Play

- A. Spring Select teams are required to play in the Area 1/N Spring Select league, but may also play in tournaments as long as the tournaments do not conflict with their Area 1/N Spring Select schedule, **no exceptions**. Area 1/ N may or may not allow requested off dates during league play. **Game forfeiture during league play will result in sanctions being placed on the team, up to and including team disbandment.**

### VIII. Tournament Play



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- A. Tentative tournament schedules must be turned into the Spring Coordinator by January 31. It is strongly suggested that teams within the same division discuss their schedules to avoid conflicts associated with drawing on the limited pool of volunteers.
- B. The Regional Commissioner or his designee is the only person who may sign rosters, ID cards, and forms requiring his/her signature. No blank rosters will be signed. Any forgery of signatures will result in sanctions being placed on the team, up to and including disbandment.
- C. Only regional checks requested from the Spring Treasurer may be used to enter tournaments. No personal checks may be used.
- D. Referee deposits must be returned to the Spring Treasurer for credit. Lost or stolen checks will result in a \$35.00 stop payment fee to be charged against that team's account.

### IX. Coaches

- A. Coaching will be conducted in accordance with the AYSO national philosophy and Positive, Instruction, Encouraging (PIE) coaching and conduct themselves and the team in accordance with all AYSO national and regional rules.
- B. Coaches will have in their possession at all AYSO functions, "wet signature" signed copies of each players medical release forms.
- C. Coaches will conduct themselves in a manner representative of the City of Beaumont and Pass Area AYSO Region 641. **Any Coach being ejected or receiving complaints from league or tournament officials for his/her sideline conduct, the inability to controls his/her teams sideline conduct, or failure to follow Pass Area AYSO Region 641 conduct standards is subject to immediate removal from his/her coaching position.**
- D. In the event of a coach's removal from his/her position, the Spring Coordinator at his/her discretion and that of the Regional Commissioner can assign a qualified coach or disband the team if a qualified replacement cannot be located.

### X. Spectators

- A. Spectators will conduct themselves in accordance with the AYSO national philosophy and Positive, Instructional, and Encouraging (PIE) and conduct themselves in accordance with all AYSO national and regional rules.
- B. Disruptive or unruly behavior may result in a parent or spectator being banned from all future matches involving that team. Any parent or spectator that refuses to respect any such ban associated with his/her behavior and/or engages in violent, threatening and/or intimidating behavior towards players, parents, other spectators or AYSO Volunteers shall result in Law Enforcement being contacted for his/her removal. Any behavior that meets the above criteria



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shall be grounds for the removal from the program any player associated with the parent or spectator in question.

### XI. Players

- A. Players will conduct themselves in a manner representative of the City of Beaumont and Pass Area AYSO Region 641.
- B. Red cards will result in suspension of that player for at least the next scheduled, played game. If the player is sent off in the last match of a tournament, the suspension will be served at the next tournament or Spring Select match scheduled. Additional game(s) suspension may be added at the discretion of the Spring Coordinator, Regional Commissioner and/or Area 1/N Staff.
- C. **Excessive or continual yellow and red cards issued a player will not be tolerated.** Players may be suspended or removed from the program for excessive and/or continual cautions (yellow cards) or send-offs (red cards).
- D. **Any player being ejected for violent conduct is subject to suspension for the remainder of the season and is subject to permanent removal from the program.**

### XII. Player Drops and Refunds

- A. Any player who drops from the Spring Select Program prior to January 22, 2017 shall be entitled to a complete refund of any paid Spring Select League Fees.
- B. **Any player who drops from the Spring Select Program after January 22, 2017 shall not be entitled to any refund of any paid Spring Select League Fees.**
- C. Any player/family who participates in fundraising or sponsorship activities associated with his/her Spring Select team or Pass Area AYSO Region 641 agrees that all funds collected through these activities belong to Pass Area AYSO Region 641 and are not subject to return or refund.

### XIII. Miscellaneous

- A. **Violation of any of these Spring Guidelines may result in sanctions being placed on the team. These include but are not limited to suspension or removal from the program.**
- B. **Any and all of these guidelines may be changed, amended, or suspended at the discretion of the Regional Commissioner.**