

THE AYS EQUALIZER

A (maybe) quarterly newsletter brought to you by Abington Youth Soccer

WINTER 2019/2020

State of the Program



Another successful Fall season is complete. The program continues to see growth, especially at our younger age groups. This growth will also be evident this Spring as we had record numbers at both the Girls and Boys Grade 3/4 tryouts a couple weeks ago.

New Board positions were voted on at our Annual meeting in October and we now have a full 15 person Board for the first time in recent memory. As we approach the Winter things slow down a little, but we are currently planning our Winter Training and Spring Development Sessions (see calendar below). The Board will be reviewing Parent and Coach surveys over the next couple of months so we can start to plan for next Fall, registration is only 6 months away!

Program Calendar



Highlights for the Winter and Spring are below.

Jan-Mar: Indoor Soccer for Grades 1 - 8 (targeted towards Spring travel players)

Feb-March: Winter Training for Grades K - 8, looking at Sunday nights in the AHS gym again

April-June: Spring Travel for Grades 1 - 12

April-May: Spring Development for Age 3 - Grade 2

Mid June: Tryouts for Fall Travel

Refs and Rules



We are fortunate to have a very large group of Junior Referees that work during our Fall Rec season for Grade K-6 games. We will be looking to increase our referee training during the Spring and Summer to better educate and prepare these refs for the challenges of calling a game. We also hope to work with a couple Referee Mentors more closely so that the Junior Refs can get immediate feedback and support after a game.

Our Certified Referees, who are used for all Travel games, will be getting recertified over the Winter in preparation for the Spring Season. During these classes they will learn about rule changes and gain more knowledge of the sometimes overwhelming IFAB Laws of the Game. AYS reimburses all referees and coaches who take these courses. To become a Certified Referee you must be 14 years old, but you can take the course at 13 years old if you turn 14 prior to the start of the Spring season in April.

For more information and a course schedule please visit massref.net

Coach's Corner



Coach education is something that the AYS Board is very passionate about. Several of us have seen first hand the benefits of the structured approach that is emphasized by the US Soccer Grassroots program. Mass Youth Soccer provides a season worth of lesson plans to help coaches setup and efficiently run practice.

Coach education is one of several factors AYS uses to select our Travel coaches. AYS gladly reimburses coaches for any class they take. If you are interested in learning more please visit :

http://www.mayouthsoccer.org/coaches/coach_education/

Sponsor Shout Out



Special thanks to McLaughlin Chevrolet in Whitman for submitting AYS for a Chevy Youth Sports Sponsorship. They reached out to us after the tragedy Abington experienced in October. The \$1000 Sponsorship has not been earmarked for anything specific yet, but we will be sure to do something special with the money.

Visit them at McLaughlinchevy.com

Have questions or ideas for a future newsletter topic? Email us at abingtonyouthsoccer@gmail.com.

Have a better name for our newsletter? Submit your ideas and you could win a free Fall Registration!

Abington Youth Soccer
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