



Presents the  
*Just for Kicks*  
*Newsletter*

May 2009



# ALERT!

You are  
entering  
an



By entering this **kids zone**, you agree to the following:

- Kids are #1
- Fun—not winning—is everything
- Fans only cheer, and only coaches coach
- No yelling in anger
- Respect the volunteer referees
- No swearing
- No smoking
- Leave no trash behind
- Set a proper example for our children

If you can agree to the above, we welcome you.  
**IF NOT, WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE LEAVE NOW.**

**AYSO—it's for the kids!**



# San Bruno AYSO Region 249



## 2009 Board Members

Commissioner.....	Trish Estelita
Commissioner.....	Manny Cotla
Treasurer.....	John Marinos
Safety Director.....	Jose Carpio
Coach Administrator.....	Larry Dillard
Coach Instructor.....	Ken Anderson
Referee Administrator.....	Walter Carrasco
Referee Instructor.....	Mike Baldonado
Registrar.....	Lynne Baldonado
Asst. Registrar.....	Sylvia Cuellar
CVPA.....	Maria Dillard
Auditor.....	Rich Medina
U16/U19 Coordinator.....	Carlos DeLeon
U14 Coordinator.....	Joaquin Rodriguez, Jr.
U12 Girls Coordinator.....	James Estelita
U12 Boys Coordinator.....	Tom Kucsak
U10 Girls Coordinator.....	Scott Luciano
U10 Boys Coordinator.....	Ernesto Castillo
U8 Girls Coordinator.....	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
U8 Boys Coordinator.....	Jeanette Dunkin
U6 Coordinator.....	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
U5 Coordinator.....	Greg Pierce
VIP Coordinator.....	Sylvia Cuellar
Field Director.....	Greg Pierce
Sponsorships.....	Joy Deinla
Secretary.....	Matthias Schoener
Publications.....	Dan Lann
Public Relations.....	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
Purchaser.....	Shane Rollins
Scheduler.....	Larry Dillard
Food Services.....	Michelle Shelton
Sportsmanship.....	Gus Sinks
Web Master.....	Gino Escalante
Summer Kicks.....	Santiago Hernandez

### Committee Chairs

Fireworks.....	Lynnette Orcholski
Soccerfest.....	Carlos DeLeon
Cultural Exchange.....	Heidi Pierce
Turkey Tournament.....	Michelle Shelton & Greg Pierce
Dinner/Dance.....	Manny Cotla



# Calendar

## Thru November

### May

- 5th Registration 6:45 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.
- 16th Registration 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., Park & Rec.
- 19th Registration 6:45 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.
- 21st Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.

### June

- 7th Registration 1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M., Park & Rec.
- 9th, 11th, 16th, 18th, 23rd and 25th:  
Summer Kicks, 6 to 7:30 P.M.
- 15th Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.

### July

- June 28th thru July 4th AYSO Fireworks Booth:  
House of George, 292 El Camino Real, San Bruno
- 16th Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.
- 27th thru 31st Summer Soccer Day Camp

### August

- 17th thru 21st Summer Soccer Day Camp
- 20th Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.
- 28th Soccerfest Parade, Capuchino High School
- 29th Soccerfest Player BBQ and Opening Games

### September

- 17th Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.

### October

- 24th Halloween Costume Dinner/Dance  
San Bruno Senior Center, Time to be announced.
- 15th Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.

### November

- 19th Board Meeting 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M., Park & Rec.

**KEEP ABREAST OF THE LATEST NEWS**

**[www.sanbrunoayso.org/](http://www.sanbrunoayso.org/)**

# COMMISSIONERS' LETTER

Our fall 2009 season is about to get underway starting with registrations. We expect upwards of 1,300 players, ranging in ages 4 through 18, on over 100 teams, to play soccer every Saturday through mid-November, on the Crestmoor and Parkside soccer fields in San Bruno, and for our under-12 and older age group teams, on soccer fields in other Northern Peninsula communities. Forty players also participate in our league's VIP soccer program, giving children throughout San Mateo County with physical or mental disabilities the chance to play soccer on Saturdays during the season. In addition, approximately 90 players under 5 years of age will play soccer every Monday night through mid-October at the Crestmoor soccer fields.

Beginning later this summer, if you walk around our busiest practice fields (Crestmoor, Parkside, Grundy, Monte Verde, San Bruno City Park) during the week, it's really something to see the hundreds of kids out practicing with their coaches and family members in tow. I know that when my kids were younger, they enjoyed the practices as much as the games and I hope that your children look forward to getting out during the week to practice their soccer.

As we watch our children's practices and games, let's make sure we fully support them by offering encouragement and demonstrating good sportsmanship. We all serve as role models for our children, so let's make sure we are positive ones—applaud good plays by your child's team as well as the opposing team. And if a child makes a mistake, just remember that it's part of the learning process—encourage their effort and tell them that it's okay. Remember that our children are the ones playing soccer, not us. And let's fully support our coaches and referees. They're parents just like us and they volunteer their time to help make our children's youth soccer experience a positive one. They need our support too, so let's not be

sideline coaches and referees. Plus, as a parent, it's no fun to stand next to someone who behaves negatively during a game!

Let's also be reminded that everyone you see pitching in and helping out with our program during the season is a volunteer: coaches and assistant coaches, referees, team parents, people helping with field set-up and takedown, people working in the snack bar, people who help staff our information/support tent on the upper Crestmoor field, people who clean the bathrooms, people who pick up garbage and dog messes. And they do this to ensure that all of the kids who participate in our program have the best possible soccer experience, as others before them have done. So please treat our volunteers with the utmost respect, and let them know that you appreciate the role they play. And by the same token, you can let the league know where improvement is needed, or if a volunteer may not be living up to the high standards of our program. You can do so by talking to any of our league's board members or by leaving word on our 873-AYSO message center.

As the season goes on, we'll continue to work hard to ensure that our program truly benefits our players, their families and the communities we serve. We want our program to be much more than just an athletic program--we want it to promote the positive development of our youth and be a source of much family fun and pride. Please look for ways you can become more involved in our program and in supporting your children. For there's nothing more valuable to our children than our time.

*Trish Estelita*

*Manny Cotla*

**2009 San Bruno AYSO Commissioners**

# Youth Soccer!



## SAN BRUNO AYSO REGISTRATION

### REGISTRATION DATES

**TUESDAY, APRIL 21**  
(Coaches and Referees Only)  
6:45 to 9:00 P.M.

**SUNDAY/POSY PARADE**  
**JUNE 7**  
1 to 4:00 P.M.

**TUESDAY, MAY 5**  
6:45 to 9:00 P.M.

**\*NEW Participants MUST BRING**  
**a Birth Certificate**

**SATURDAY, MAY 16**  
10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

**\*Children Aged 10 and Up**  
**MUST GIVE a photo**  
**FOR USE ON AN ID CARD**

**TUESDAY, MAY 19**  
6:45 to 9:00 P.M.

**• SAN BRUNO REC CENTER •**

**PRE-REGISTER online: It's Fast and it's Easy**  
**eAYSO.org**

### EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FEES!

**\$70/child** Individual child registration

**\$65/child** each for 2 children in  
same family

**\$55/child** each for 3 children or  
more in the same family

**\$95/child** after June 7th registration

### US PROGRAM

**\$55/child** individual

**\$70** after June 7th

**REMEMBER: NEW Participants all age**  
**groups MUST BRING a Birth Certificate**

**SEASON IS SEPTEMBER THRU NOVEMBER**  
**PRACTICE STARTS IN AUGUST**



## **SOCCEFEST PARADE, SOCCER GAMES & BARBECUE KICK OFF 2009 SEASON**

### **PARADE: Friday, August 28th at CAPUCHINO HIGH SCHOOL**

Teams line up at 6:00 P.M. Parade begins at 6:30 P.M. (See Map) *Please Note: Capuchino football field and stadium are being renovated this year, so teams will march around the school's "Bus Loop."* **Don't forget to bring your Team's Banner. The Banner judging will begin at 6:00 P.M.**

**PLAYERS: Wear your uniforms** (No Cleats!) Show Lots of **Spirit! Teams** march around the "Bus Loop." **PARENTS: Drop** your child off at "D". **Parking** available in main school parking lot at "P" and along city streets. **Seat** yourselves at "S". Bring lawn chairs or a blanket to sit on.

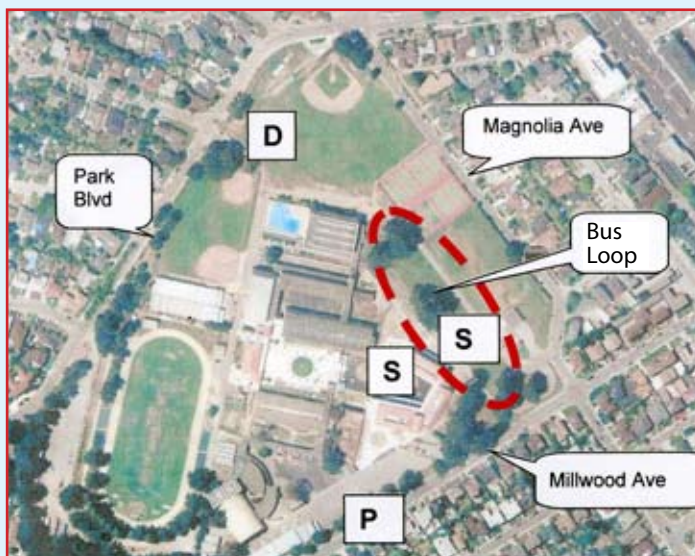
### **ADDITIONAL PARADE INFORMATION**

**PARENTS:** Drop your child off in the right field area of Cap baseball field ("D" on map) and go directly to the "Bus Loop" area for seating. Only players and coaches will be marching in the parade. **Please, no candy in parade!**

**COACHES:** Plan to arrive early. Keep your team together and line up in your age group division (look for signs) by team number.

### **SOCCKER GAMES**

**Saturday, August 29th at Crestmoor fields 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**  
**FREE BBQ for Players and Coaches**



# WHY SIDELINE SCREAMING CAN STIFLE YOUR CHILD'S GAME

*By Mike Voitalla*

Imagine you're undertaking a fairly difficult task: assembling a piece of furniture with hieroglyphic instructions, filling out IRS Form 4562 on April 14, or standing on the highest rungs of a ladder painting the crown moulding in your living room with 14-foot ceilings. Think it would help if someone yelled at you during the process? Of course not.

Yet when a child tries to control a bouncing ball in a crowd of other kids, adults often believe it's perfectly acceptable to scream "advice." The shouting at America's soccer fields is so epidemic one wonders if adults ever reflect on their behavior. Adults who would never shout at children while they're enjoying the playground, drawing in a coloring book, or rearranging their dollhouse, loudly instruct from the sidelines without hesitation.

When adults scream from the sidelines they're not just invading the children's playtime, they're preventing children from learning the game of soccer in a natural manner. The shouting is detrimental to the children's development as soccer players and at worst can turn them off to the sport entirely.

If parents want to help their children become better soccer players, they can offer to kick the ball around with them in the backyard. But sideline instructions deny children a chance to make their own decisions, it stifles their creative instincts, and all too often the instructions are misguided.

When a player has the ball there are generally three options: dribble, pass or shoot. In the long-term, the great players are the ones who choose wisely most of the time. But if, when they're first learning the sport, that decision is being made for them with a scream from the sideline, how can we expect them to develop the soccer instincts they'll need to make the split-second decisions that are so much a part of the game?

"We don't want to turn the children into parrots waiting for someone to tell them what to do," says John Ouellette, AYSO National Coach. "Soccer is a free-flowing game for children to enjoy and learn from playing. As an organization, we discourage sideline instruction not just from parents but also from coaches."

During the first stage of soccer development it is essential that the children are allowed to discover the game on their own terms. High-level coaches constantly complain that players come through the ranks dependent on instructions because they've been bossed around in the early stages -- being told where to run and when to pass. They also cite a dearth of truly creative players -- the ones with the ability to make the unpredictable moves -- blaming the lack of freedom children are afforded during their early years.

Much of the sideline screaming comes from ignorance about the stages of development. While most parents would know that addition and subtraction must be mastered before algebra is introduced, at the soccer field they often expect children to perform maneuvers they are simply not capable of.

AYSO Hall of Famer Sigi Schmid is a former youth coach who coached UCLA to an NCAA title before entering the MLS ranks and winning a crown with the Los Angeles Galaxy. He stresses that coaches and parents must appreciate how young players learn the game.

Schmid says, "The first thing is, 'It's me and the ball.' The second is, 'It's me and the ball and where's the opponent?' Then it's, 'It's me and the ball, and where's the opponent, where's my teammate?' He's taking on more information. That's how he develops."

The screams from the sideline interfere with this process -- besides often being misguided and counterproductive.

## TO TAKE A FEW EXAMPLES

· **“PASS IT! PASS IT!”** Discouraging dribbling in the early years is like telling toddlers to shut up when they're learning to speak. Young players should be encouraged to dribble -- because dribbling is the first step to mastering all ball skills -- and there are far better ways to introduce a passing game when children are ready to comprehend teamwork. The passing game enters soccer at the later stages and one will notice that the children themselves will ask each other for the ball.

· **SPREAD OUT!** Just because the first years of youth soccer look chaotic doesn't mean the children aren't learning. In fact, it's perfectly fine that they all chase the ball in a swarm. Sooner or later they'll figure out how to take advantage of time and space. They'll comprehend positioning by exploring the field, not by being treated like chess pieces.

· **SHOOT! SHOOT! SHOOT!** This usually comes from an ear-piercing parent-coach chorus as a child dribbles toward the goal and I have little doubt that were it eliminated from the soccer fields of America we'd see more goals in the youth game.

Even the youngest, most novice player knows they are supposed to shoot the ball to score. And can it possibly help a child perform the difficult task of striking the ball while running as fast as they can by being screamed at during the process?

Moreover, the “shoot” scream encourages players to pull the trigger earlier than they should. How do great players score on breakaways? They usually wait until they get close to the goalkeeper. It's much harder for the keeper to save a shot from four yards away than from 15. There's also the option of rounding the keeper, especially when a patient attacker forces the keeper to commit.

Shooting advice I often hear from high-level players is not to rush the shot -- that players often have a little more time than they realize. As young players learn to cope with the high-pressure clear to young players which goal their team is aiming at. But what I'm talking about is the outrage that often greets a smart young player who retreats with the ball to move out of the bunch. Watch a game played by sophisticated players and you'll find that they're constantly moving the ball in all directions to find space and time.

Young players taking the ball away from the crowd are the clever ones. Will they sometimes put their team at risk? Maybe. But so what? Giving up a goal in a U-8 game isn't nearly as important as allowing young players how to figure out how to keep possession.

**“ATTACK THE BALL!” or “GO GET HIM!”** is apparently meant to encourage a defending player to charge an opponent who has the ball at their feet. But in soccer, the defender wants to jockey into a good position to keep the attacker at bay. He wants to avoid over-committing and instead needs to figure out the right time to get a chance at the ball. It's a matter of positioning and timing that players master by facing the situation over and over again -- not by taking cues from the sideline.

Perhaps the inclination to scream instructions comes from a well-intentioned desire to help children “learn.” But when does screaming at children help educate them? When a child wanders toward a busy street, moves too close to a hot oven, or starts beating on little brother -- OK, that might warrant a roar.

But does screaming at a child while you're assisting him with math homework help? Very doubtful. And certainly children should be allowed to play soccer without getting yelled at. Then they'll be able to pay attention to the best teacher of all: the game itself.

**A** San Bruno Cultural Exchange team is traveling to Germany this summer. Three cities will play host to our Girls U-14 team. The cities are Westerstade, Wertle, and Andernach. This is an exciting time for our team, coaches, parents, families, and friends. The raising of funds has been a daunting task, but come July 23 through August 12, 2009, we will be ready to play some soccer!



***The traveling group consists of 32 persons***

**Team Coach:** Joaquin Rodriguez, Jr. **Team Coordinator:** Joaquin Rodriguez, Sr.  
**Referees:** Mike Baldonado and Larry Dillard  
**Team Treasurer:** Lynette Orcholski

**Players:**

Victoria Rodriguez  
 McKenna Rabb  
 Katryna Dillard  
 Emily Estellita  
 Alyssa Caberta  
 Amy Brenner  
 Bianca Rodriguez  
 Shelby Yaeger  
 Ashley Maseda

Veronica Rodriguez  
 Carly Balmana  
 Megan Estellita  
 Susanna Martinez  
 Ashley Hoenish  
 Jeannine Koenig  
 Angelina Yaeger  
 Rebecca Kerrisk

Cultural Exchange began in 1982 with Jerry Uribe, Gene Rieland, Mike Rogers and Joaquin Rodriguez. Over the years San Bruno has hosted many soccer teams from Germany and have given them a Cultural Exchange experience with our city. There have been many personal friendships forged over the years. We wish to express our deepest thanks to everyone who has helped us to achieve our goal. We're going to Germany!

***Joaquin Rodriguez, Sr. – Cultural Exchange Coordinator***



WE ARE GOING TO



GERMANY



**CHANCES ARE YOU WILL BE  
BUYING FIREWORKS THIS  
4TH OF JULY**

Why Not Help To Support **Your** AYSO  
**Travel Teams** At The Same Time?

PLEASE Come To Our Booth Located At:

**THE HOUSE OF GEORGE PARKING LOT  
292 El Camino Real, San Bruno**

**OPEN JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup> THRU JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>**

*For All Your Fireworks Needs!*

**We Are Not Affiliated With Any Other Booth!**

*Please Come To Our Booth and Please Tell Your  
Friends and Family To Do The Same*

**VISA**  
and  
**MASTERCARD**  
accepted



# COACH'S CORNER

**MAY 2009 – Larry Dillard**

For all you COACHES, my first thought is to thank you for your generosity. Without all 170+ of you there wouldn't have been a season with over 1200 kids playing and practicing soccer throughout the week. This program works due to your dedication to the families in our community and your observance of AYSO's philosophies. I'm glad to see that as coaches, you are representing the ideal that while we play the game to win, winning is not everything. Honoring the game which includes respect for other players, coaches and the referees is paramount. As coaches we need to extend a big thank you to all the wonderful volunteer referees who dedicate their time to be out on the field with our kids. It's important to recognize the referees, because without them, there would be no game, just practice. As a coach and referee I know that they do their best to call a fair match in a positive way for our kids, and they deserve our respect and gratitude for their effort.

As we approach the Fall 2009 Soccer Season it is important to remember that we are all volunteers in Region 249; coaches, referees, team parents, board members and that we are here to support our youth soccer players in a positive, instructive, and encouraging atmosphere. The regional board and other AYSO volunteers are here to assist with this effort, but it can't be done without you, our coaches. Even in this turbulent economic climate, it's important that we provide this type of environment and provide this opportunity to our kids. While it may be difficult to make the time commitment, we need you, the coaches to confirm that you'll be able to help. The earlier you can confirm as a coach, the more kids we can register in that age group. Just imagine what you can offer (and possibly gain) by focusing effort on our children to help them learn about team work, soccer skills, leadership, winning and losing and at the same time strengthening our community. Volunteer as a coach this season and be a role model for the AYSO philosophies; **Everyone Plays - Balanced Teams - Open Registration - Positive Coaching - Good Sportsmanship.**

The board and I are here to support you as a coach. Please contact me via the regional website <http://www.sanbrunoayso.org/>, by emailing to [CoachAdmin@SanBrunoAYSO.org](mailto:CoachAdmin@SanBrunoAYSO.org) or calling (650) 873-AYSO (2976) select 4 to leave a message for the coach administrator. "No experience is needed." We look forward to providing you with training, drills, supplies, assistance and anything else you need to succeed as an AYSO Soccer Coach.

# FOR NEW REFEREES (And Referee Wannabes) – 2009

What is an



Referee?

We all want our youth soccer matches to be played in a safe, fun and fair environment. Making that happen is what being an AYSO referee is all about.

Like a judge keeping the courtroom fair, or a playground monitor keeping the playground safe, the referee is there to ensure fun by ensuring fairness and safety. And "**safe, fun and fair**" doesn't just apply to our young players - it applies to the grownups as well. As an AYSO referee, you are the best guarantee that the games are a kick not only for the teams, but for the coaches, the spectators, and for you, too!

**Refereeing is all about fun for everyone!**

Becoming a referee might seem intimidating, but AYSO Region 249 makes it easy. **The AYSO National Referee Program (NRP)** is the best referee training available in youth soccer, and it eases you into the role of referee through a step-by-step approach. Courses are broken down into short one- to two-hour "modules" that you can take over time or in a single weekend. Then, once you get a few games under your belt, you can keep taking more modules to increase both your knowledge of the "rules" and your confidence as a referee. And because the focus is on the kids, referee training is more than memorizing the rules of soccer (the Laws of the Game); you learn the "spirit" of the game from the inside out.

## **HOW DO I BECOME AN AYSO REFEREE:**

### **What Referee Training do I need to attend?**

If your Son or Daughter is an U7 or U8 player and you plan to be their Team Referee then you need to attend: **U8 Referee Training**

If your Son or Daughter is U10, U12 or U14 player and you plan to be their Team Referee then you need to attend: **BASIC Referee Training**

### **Which Classes should I attend?**

**The Referee training is broken down in modules based on the level you are taking:**

**·U8 Referee candidates must attend Modules 1 thru 7 + Field Training(5 hours)**

**·BASIC Referee candidates must attend Modules 1 thru 13 + Field Training(7 hrs)**

## What should I do to before attending the training?

**-VOLUNTEER FORM:** All AYSO volunteers are required to submit a Volunteer Form every year. This Volunteer Form requires personal data including Drivers License number and Social Security number. It is HIGHLY recommended that the form be completed online as it hides the personal data from the printed forms.

After you completed registration, print 2 copies of the form and bring them to the training class. The online registration site is located at: [www.eayso.org](http://www.eayso.org)

Note.- After submitting the form, you will be provided with your AYSO number. Please save it, you'll need it for training and certifications.

For more information, please visit the Region 249 website [www.sanbrunoayso.org](http://www.sanbrunoayso.org), click "Season Info" (left side of page), then click on "Referee"

**-SAFE HAVEN:** All AYSO volunteers are required to complete the Safe Haven Certification for the volunteer position they are fulfilling. Safe Haven needs only to be completed one time. This training can be taken online or in a classroom. It is recommended that you complete the training online. Time required is about 1 hour.

Online courses can be found on the AYSO National site: (you must be a registered volunteer):

<http://www.aysotraining.org/courselist.html>

Select Course R001 – Safe Haven for Referees

On completion of the course, print out the completion record and bring it to the training.

## When and where is the training going to be held? (updated 8/11/2009)

If there are enough people interested in taking the training this Spring, the classroom and field sessions will be offered on Sunday, May 10, 2009, at the Crestmoor Field. The course will be repeated on Saturday, August 29, 2009, at the Crestmoor Field.

U8 Training Schedule (Sunday, May 10, 2009; Saturday, August 29, 2009)

BASIC Training Schedule (Sunday, May 10, 2009; Saturday, August 29, 2009)

**Questions? Contact our Director of Referee Instruction,  
Mike Baldonado**

**Go out and have fun! We just want the children to THINK that  
this is for them!**





## **San Bruno AYSO "Summer Kicks" Soccer to be held the last three weeks in June**

Our traditional "Summer Kicks" soccer program is a great way for our younger soccer players (from 5 to 11 years of age) to work on their soccer skills in a fun, game-oriented environment. Last year, over 150 kids participated in the program, which is held on 6 weeknights (Tuesdays and Thursdays) over the last three weeks in June. The camp will be held at the Crestmoor soccer fields in San Bruno from 6:00-7:30 in the evening on the following dates: June 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, and 25. The cost of the program is \$25 per player, with each player receiving their own soccer ball and Summer Kicks Tee-shirt. You can register your child for Summer Kicks at any of our regular May and June 2009 drop-in registration sessions at the San Bruno Recreation Center.



# **SAN BRUNO AYSO SUMMER SOCCER DAY CAMP TO BE OFFERED IN TWO ONE-WEEK SESSIONS THIS SUMMER**

Our annual AYSO/UK International Summer Soccer Day Camp program, which is held at the Crestmoor soccer fields in San Bruno, will be offered in two one week sessions this summer. The first session will be held July 27 – 31 and the second session from August 17-21. Last year, over 70 youth soccer players attended the camp. The camp offers half day (9 A.M. -12:00) and full day (9 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.) programs for soccer players from ages 4 to 16.

All camp sessions are based on individual attention to ball skills, as well as fun games to put those skills into practice and develop teamwork. Players are encouraged to express themselves in order to develop confidence and individual creativity on the field.

You can register on line for the camp by accessing the “Programs” link on the [SanBrunoAYSO.Com](http://SanBrunoAYSO.Com) Website’s Homepage. Information on the camp will also be available at our May and June registration sessions at the San Bruno Recreation Center.

# THE OFFSIDE LAW

*By Dan Lann*

The rules of soccer are, in the main, really quite simple. There is, however, one rule that causes the novice players and the uninitiated fans to scratch their collective heads in bemused wonderment. And in the extreme, it has been known to impel experienced players, normally mild-mannered coaches, and sophisticated fans to react with every emotion from low groans, to screams of anguish, to outright lie-on-the-ground-and-kick-their-feet temper tantrums. The rule is something innocuously named *offside*.



Over the years, countless coaches, players, and spectators have agonized over the loss of a game by their team due to a “blown” offside call by an incompetent, blind, or generally depraved referee. Tarring and feathering would be too lenient a punishment for that fool. But guess what? 99% of the time the referee has probably made the correct call.

Some sports observers contend that the offside rule is probably the most controversial call in all of sportdom. To quote the rule book: *A player in an offside position is only penalised if, at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team, he is, in the opinion of the referee, involved in active play by: Interfering with play; Or interfering with an opponent; Or gaining an advantage by being in that position.* Pretty simple, right?

Decision 2 of the Decisions of the International F.A. Board elaborates on the three elements of involvement in active play:

- *Interfering with play means playing or touching the ball passed or touched by a team-mate.*
- *Interfering with an opponent means preventing an opponent from playing or being able to play the ball by clearly obstructing the opponent's line of vision or*

*movements or making a gesture or movement which, in the opinion of the referee, deceives or distracts an opponent.*

- *Gaining an advantage by being in that position means playing a ball that rebounds to him off a post or the crossbar having been in an offside position or playing a ball that rebounds to him off an opponent having been in an offside position.*

A key phrase in the offside rule is *at the moment the ball touches or is played by one of his team*. A misunderstanding of this key phrase, or being out of position to properly judge the location of the players *at the moment the ball is played*, causes most of the arguments that ensue from this call. It's a pretty safe bet that the referee or the assistant referee (linesman) who made the call were in a better position to render a decision than someone at the other end of the field. It's a matter of perspective.

To further elaborate on the phrase, *at the moment the ball is played*, it is important to remember that a player who is onside (two opponents between him/her and the goal) at the moment the ball is headed or kicked toward him/her does not become offside if he runs behind one of the opponents while the ball is in flight. **Remember:** A player is in an offside position if he/she is ahead of the ball *at the moment the ball is played* unless:

- 1) Two or more opponents (one can be the goalkeeper) are between the player and their goal line;
- 2) The player is on his/her own side of the field;
- 3) The ball was last touched by an opponent;
- 4) The player gains control of the ball directly from a throw-in, goal kick, corner kick, or if the player is the first to play a drop-ball.

There is one other thing to consider, a player can be in an offside position but the referee might not call an offside violation since, in the referee's judgment, the player could in no way influence the play. Sometimes we witness the spectacle of two or three players being in an offside position at the same time, but since they realize it and don't touch (play) the ball they are not in violation of the rule. That one drives spectators berserk at times.

Where the offside rule is concerned, the best rule of thumb for players, coaches, and spectators alike is to accept the ruling of the referee. He or she has most likely made the correct call. And remember, the referee is boss. He or she can eject players, or coaches and can even suspend the game to prevent disorder.

There now, see how easy the offside rule is? Let's give the referees the benefit of the doubt. Remember, they are right 99% of the time.

# Halloween Dinner Dance

2009



## AYSO REGION 249 Costume Dinner Dance

**We Are Having a Fundraiser! Come Eat, Drink, and Dance, While Supporting a Great Cause. Come One, Come All, Let Loose and Celebrate!**

**Prizes For Best  
Female and Male Costumes**

**Saturday, October 24, 2009**

**Time to be Determined**

**San Bruno Senior Center**

*Get Your Tickets in September. You Won't Want to Miss This! Check our website for further updates.*

**NEWCOMERS TO  
AYSO SOCCER  
PLEASE READ!**

**This can also serve  
as a reminder to  
everyone with  
children playing  
AYSO soccer.**



Most everyone has either had a dog in their past, or has one presently. It's a pretty safe bet that most people love dogs, even those who have never owned one. BUT...Some folks are afraid of dogs, even your fuzzy, cute, harmless family pet.

You have probably deduced from the icons on this page that dogs are not allowed at the fields. Even the calmest of dogs have been known to get nervous with soccer balls flying, and kids running and shouting. So we are asking you to please keep them at home during practices and on game days.

We know that most dogs are harmless, but every player deserves to be able to play without being worried about a dog. Also, dogs have been known to make a mess occasionally. Kids should be able to fully concentrate on soccer without having to watch out for a dog's mess.

**WE LOVE YOUR DOGS  
BUT KEEP THEM AT HOME!  
THANK YOU**



# 19TH ANNUAL AYSO TURKEY TOURNAMENT



*An early shout out to all those U10, U12, and U14 players who want to play in this year's tournament....*

The *19th Annual Turkey Tournament* will be held this fall. Kids, have you heard about the tournament? If not, ask your coach about it. This is a highly successful entry level tournament that has been sponsored by San Bruno AYSO for the past eighteen years. Talk to your coach and see how many members of your team want to join in the fun.

The tournament is held over the Thanksgiving weekend. The games are played on Saturday and Sunday. We have AYSO teams from as far south as Saratoga that come and join us for this exciting event. Some of the cities other than San Bruno that have engaged in this premier tournament are: Burlingame, Brisbane, Concord, Daly City, La Honda, Millbrae, Pacifica, and San Mateo.

All U10 players will receive a participation medal. The players on U12 and U14 teams that come in 1st, 2nd, 3rd, & 4th will receive medals.

All coaches in these divisions will receive an invitation letter in their folders at the tent on the upper Crestmoor field this fall. Come see us at the tent if you have any questions.

## Join the Fun!

## San Bruno AYSO is all volunteer and we need your help.

AYSO is an all volunteer organization, and that includes San Bruno Region 249 AYSO. And remember, no one gets paid a cent for their time. San Bruno's local board works tirelessly to make the league run smoothly so that all our soccer stars can shine brightly on Saturday during the games, and at practice during the week. It takes many volunteers to schedule, coordinate, coach, officiate, monitor and facilitate over 1200 Kids, across 9 fields in 50 games each Saturday. We need your help, too. The League Board is continually on the lookout for those individuals who'd like to contribute a little more time on a regular basis to continuing the tradition of running a quality program in our region. If that's you, please inquire at the Board Tent on Saturday or in an email to the commissioner:

[Commissioner@SanBrunoAYSO.org](mailto:Commissioner@SanBrunoAYSO.org)

Don't want to commit to a board position? That's okay, we still need you. On Saturdays, after the last games of the day, we have to clean up trash, and put away the goals and nets. If you are the last game of the day at one of the fields, please help us clean up. Any litter in the area can be picked up and thrown away, the trash cans can be taken to the snack shack along with the recycling bins. Any lost and found items can also be taken to the Coach/Referee shed next to the snack shack. This little bit of help would make a big difference.





## Become a San Bruno AYSO Region 249 Sponsor and Adopt a Soccer Team!

AYSO is a nationwide non-profit organization that develops and delivers quality youth soccer programs in a safe, fun and family oriented environment.

### For \$175.00 sponsorship you will receive:

- Your business card in the San Bruno AYSO 2009 Handbook
- A plaque featuring your team photo
- Your business prominently promoted on the team's banner
- The joy and satisfaction of building positive character and growing our youth

YES, it would be great to sponsor a team!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Business: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Any special team or player you would like to sponsor?

- Any Team     
  Boys Team     
  Girls Team  
 U6 (under 6)   
  U8     
  U10     
  U12     
  U14     
  U16     
  U19

Specific Player/Coach (*please state first and last name*) \_\_\_\_\_  
*We try to match you with your preference, but we cannot always guarantee a specific team or player.*

- Instead of giving me a plaque, use the cost of the plaque for other AYSO activities.  
 I would like to make a general donation to AYSO Region 249. Please list amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I would prefer my sponsorship to remain anonymous.

Please mail your \$175 check (payable to **AYSO Region 249**), this form and your business card to:

AYSO Region 249  
ATTN: Joy Deinla – Sponsorships  
P.O. Box 581  
San Bruno, CA 94066

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at 650-799-4738 or [deinla@att.net](mailto:deinla@att.net).

[www.sanbrunoayso.org](http://www.sanbrunoayso.org)

**PLAYSOCCER. PLAYSOCCER. PLAYSOCCER. PLAYSOCCER. PLAYSOCCER. PLAYSOCCER.**