

## Spring Select Season Guidelines – Region 206

**SPRING SELECT Season:** This secondary season is an opportunity for those players, whose skills are above the average soccer player, a chance to come together with other players of similar skill level. This opportunity is narrow in nature and is designed to give players a chance to compete against higher level competition and hone their skill sets.

**Structure of the Spring Select Season:** In keeping with the design and development of each division, certain guidelines are used to maintain the integrity and competitive nature of this secondary season.

**Roster Size:** Roster sizes will follow National Guidelines with the \*exception being in U12.

**U10:** Maximum roster size 10 players.

**U12:** Maximum roster size 12 players. \*13 will be allowed to accommodate tournaments playing 11 v 11. AYSO tournaments will not make an exception...plan accordingly

**U14:** Maximum roster size 15 players.

**U16 & U19:** Maximum roster size 18 players.

### **Playing Time:**

All Spring Select teams will follow the National Guidelines that each player must play ½ of each game. Playing time above this will be determined by the coach of each team.

### **Team Formation:**

- In any division with 4-7 teams, **(1)** Travel Team may be selected.
- In any division with 8 + teams, **(2)** Travel Teams may be selected
- Players can only play in the age division they played in during the regular season.
- Those players that had been requested to play up a division will be eligible to participate in the Spring Select division their birthdate allows.

No more than 2 teams will be formed in any division. Only U10 and above will be eligible to participate in this Secondary Season.

**U10 / U12** are divisions designed to teach players the basic skills of soccer and as such, development of players is of primary concern. To this end:

- When forming multiple teams in U10, both coaches will collaborate to identify those players whose skills are above average. Those players identified will then be evenly distributed between the 2 teams and the focus will be to develop solid, basic skills; ie... dribbling, passing, shooting, trapping, etc...
- When forming multiple teams in U12, one team will be **primarily** composed of players moving to U14 the next regular season, and the other team will be composed **primarily** of players returning to U12 the next regular season. *This provides the opportunity to send players to U14 better prepared and improve the quality of play in the U12 divisions.*
- When selecting players for multiple teams, coaches will have right of first refusal over any player that played on their regular season team. *\*see below*

Forming multiple teams requires good teamwork and a willingness to put the best interest of the players over any personal desires. Showing an inability to compromise and find solutions may result in revocation of your selection as a Spring Select coach.

**U14 thru U19** are divisions where the tactics of soccer are introduced and developed. U14 is used to “clean-up” technical skills needed to perform more complicated movements of the ball and begin the process of introducing the tactical component of the game of soccer. U16 and U19 are focused on the tactics and set pieces of soccer. Given that the competition at this level in the Spring Select season is very high, the need for a team of skilled and motivated players is necessary to be competitive. To this end:

- Singular team formation must be maintained to bring together the most skilled players in the division to be competitive and provide players a real opportunity to grow their already above average skills.
- Any consideration for multiple teams will need Board approval and must be tempered with the understanding that putting average skilled players on competitive teams not only makes the team weaker but does nothing to motivate average skilled players to continue, nor does it provide incentive to highly skilled players to continue their association with AYSO.\*(see explanation below of this process)

The higher the division, the more selective the process must become to maintain the competitiveness of the team and to identify and promote the skill development of those players who have already shown above average abilities.

\* **Second team formation; U12 higher:**

In U12 and higher divisions, where the number of teams allows for only 1 Spring Select team, and a coach feels that there is enough talent or interest to create a second team, the following guidelines will be followed:

- Coach must be certified by the criterion set forth in the “Coach Selection” section and must have board approval.
- Coach will be contacted by the Regional Commissioner or Coach Administrator after the final roster has been submitted for the original team in that division.
- Coach will be provided the list of players already committed to the original team and the coach will then determine if they feel a second team can be formed.
- Coach will have 10 days from the date they received the original list to have a final roster to the registrar for clearance and a final roster will be generated.
- This team is then subject to all the guidelines set forth in this document.

\*\* In divisions with multiple teams, players that are asked to join one team and decline may not then be considered for the other team. Any issues that players have with a particular coach must be brought to the board for final disposition. **Players will not dictate which team they play for.**

## **AYSO National Games**

The National Games are held every 2 years. If through the lottery system, our region is chosen to participate, those divisions that are chosen will have the coach chosen by the board and team formation will occur much earlier, to allow for planning and fundraising.

## **Coach Selection**

The selection process for coaches begins with all interested coaches submitting an application, having it to the Coach Administrator by the specified date, and then Board approval. *Coaches are selected each secondary season and no coach should have an expectation of being automatically chosen simply because they coached the prior secondary season.*

Criterion used by the Board for selecting coaches to a Spring Select division team is based on:

- Coach being Safe Haven Certified
- Successfully coached during the current Fall Season
  - Success being defined as:
    - Strict adherence to the 6 philosophies
    - Development of all players on the team
    - Demonstrating a solid understanding of KIDS ZONE
- Coach being certified in the division they are applying for
  - Greater consideration will be given to coaches who are certified above the level they are applying for.
- *Successful* prior coaching of a Spring Select Team
  - Success being defined as:
    - Strict adherence to the 5 philosophies
    - All funds properly managed
    - Following all Regional/National guidelines
- By accepting a position as a Head Coach for a Region 206 Spring Select Team, the coach understands that he/she is making a commitment to being at EVERY game their team plays in a tournament or insuring that a qualified Assistant Coach will be in attendance. Qualified means trained to the appropriate level per AYSO National Guidelines. Assistant coaches must also be Safe Haven certified and have a current volunteer form on file. He/she also understands that the coach is ultimately responsible for the team organization, finances, recognition of sponsors, etc.

## **Contacting Players**

Potential players for the Spring Select team may be contacted, to gain their commitment, starting the Monday after the regular season ends. Prior to this date, no player or parent is to be approached or conversations had about their potential involvement.\*exception for National Games teams.

## **Rosters for Spring Select**

Coaches will submit a roster of all players that have committed to their team 1-2 weeks after the initial date for contact. All names will be cleared by the registrar and an official roster will be generated by the registrar.

## **Conduct**

All Spring Select Team members, coaches, parents must be aware that they represent our region wherever they may travel to play and that representation must be positive and reflective of our region's commitment to KIDS ZONE and Fair Play. Failure to do so may result in not being eligible to participate in or coach a Spring Select team in the future.

## **Items to note**

- Make sure that players and parents are aware that tournaments occur on both Saturday and Sunday and plan your roster accordingly. There is also the possibility of Friday night games at local tournaments.
- All Official AYSO Tournament rosters must be signed by the Regional Commissioner. They require a wet (original) signature for each. You will be provided with 10.
- If roster changes become necessary during the season, contact the Travel Team Coordinator. A 3 day lead time may be required to update tournament rosters, produce player's cards, etc.
- Coaches must attend all Spring Select Team Coach's meetings, even if you must miss your team practice.
- Region 206 Spring Select Teams must participate in the OPI Tournament.
- Each team must supply at least four (4) volunteers for two (2) hours each for the OPI Tournament in Tucson, in February.
- Spring Select Teams require a lot of work. Each Spring Select Team Coach should organize their efforts and let everyone know the costs and time involved well in advance.
- Each Spring Select Team Coach shall choose their own method to distribute information and do it as far in advance as possible.
- Remember - FAIL TO PLAN, PLAN TO FAIL.

## **SPRING SELECT TEAM MEETINGS**

- There will be an initial meeting for the Spring Select Team coaches.
- An initial fee of \$150.00 will be collected for each player, which is due on or before this mandatory meeting. This fee will insure that there is money in each team's account to cover uniform and first tournament costs.
- Each Spring Select Team Head Coach should also conduct a meeting with their players and parents as soon as possible to divide up team responsibilities and establish team rules and expectations.

## **FUNDING**

- Each Spring Select Team must be self-sufficient from Region 206 and is responsible for raising its own funds and tracking its expenditures.
- Each Team must collect an initial fee of \$150.00 from each player as explained above. Checks are to be made out to "AYSO Region 206".
- Plan your team's budget carefully. Include tournament fees, uniform costs, warm-ups, bags, pins, referee fees, light fees, etc.

- Spring Select Team budgets need to be submitted to the Spring Select Team Coordinator for approval prior to the first team practice. The budget must be approved prior to the raising of funds.
- Make sure your parents and sponsors know what and how much they are expected to spend. "ALL" monies are to be deposited by the Spring Select Team Treasurer into the Region's account for the team via deposit slips and checks made out to "AYSO Region 206" and delivered to the Region Treasurer.
- Checks will not be issued unless the team's account balance is adequate to cover the check. Due to registration deadlines, the Region will make an exception for those teams entering the Ft. Lowell Shootout. Payment for this tournament will be fronted by the Region and will be charged to the individual team.
- Plan ahead for expenditures. Do not call at the last minute for a check. Check requests need to be submitted to the Region Asst. Treasurer. The treasurer will set out the guidelines and time frames for getting checks
- Be aware of the registration deadlines for tournaments. They are usually at least a month before the tournament.
- The Region Asst. Treasurer will provide a financial report to all teams midway through the season. Make sure it agrees with your records.
- All Spring Select team accounts must be balanced and closed out 1 month after the last tournament for each team. Any balances less than \$100 will remain in the Spring Select account and be used for expenses for the next season.

### SPONSORS

- You are responsible for attracting sponsors, securing payment (checks made out to "AYSO Region 206"), and recognizing them for their support through thank you letters, plaques, etc.
- It is the Head Coach of the Spring Select Team that is responsible to ensure that sponsors are recognized by the team.

### FUNDRAISERS

- All fundraisers must be approved by the Regional Commissioner and may not start until the roster and budget are approved.
- All funds generated MUST be processed through the Region 206 Treasurer to comply with National AYSO guidelines.
- All funds belong to Region 206 until disbursed to the Spring Select Team.

### SPRING SELECT TEAM UNIFORMS

- Each Spring Select Team player shall wear the Region 206 Spring Select Team uniform.
- Uniforms (jerseys, shorts & socks) will be supplied by the Region, at cost, to each Spring Select Team.
- Uniforms may only be worn for tournaments and organized scrimmages, not for general practice or for school.

### TRAVEL TEAM WARMUPS

- Purchasing of warm-ups, bags, etc. must be of Region 206's colors (red, white, and/or black) and may be coordinated through Region 206's Regional Commissioner.
- Embroidery of players' names and logos is optional and the responsibility of the individual team.

### PLAYER I.D. CARDS

- You will receive player, coach, and assistant coach ID cards from the Spring Select Team Coordinator based upon the approved Travel Team roster. A one inch by one inch picture of each player and coach will be required to complete the cards. It is your responsibility to have those cards signed, if desired, and laminated.

- It is suggested that the cards be attached to a key ring for easy review at pre-tournament team check-ins and at pre-game player check-ins.

#### PLAYER MEDICAL FORMS AND BIRTH CERTIFICATES

- Medical release forms for each player must be at all practices and games. It is suggested that the Head Coach retain the original release form and the Assistant Coach retain a copy, with an original parent signature.
- Birth certificates for each player will be required at each tournament check-in.
- It is suggested that the coach develop a notebook, which contains the roster, birth certificates and medical release forms. Plastic sheet protectors may be used to place each player's information together and in the order of the roster. This will ease check-in considerably.