



Dear Region 159 Parent,

It is apparent to most everyone that team sports have a major impact on our society. All you need do is visit a mall on Super Bowl Sunday, during the World Series, or on any Monday night during the football season to see just how much impact it has.

This passion for sports is what motivates many of our children to participate in youth sports programs—be it soccer, football, baseball, basketball, or a variety of other athletic endeavors. As parents, we want our children to learn the positive aspects of participation in team sports—character building, teamwork, sportsmanship, and fair play.

A “win at any cost” attitude in professional sports is pervasive. Unfortunately, because many adults and children hold professional athletics in such high esteem, this “win at any cost” attitude is spilling over into our youth sports programs. Many have forgotten the reason why we want our children to participate in team sports.

In recent years, we have seen the infusion of this “win at any cost” attitude into Region 159. This attitude manifests itself in many ways, including derision of our children by coaches and parents, rants against decisions by officials on the fields, and complaints that coaches are not doing what it takes to win. This attitude is contrary to the basic tenets of AYSO. We cannot tolerate such attitudes and have developed a “zero tolerance” policy with respect to them.

In AYSO, not only do we try to instill in our children the positive virtues that team sports can provide, we must practice what we preach. The AYSO Team consists of coaches, parents, and officials—all working together to provide a positive, nurturing environment for our children’s social development.

I would like to personally solicit your support in helping make Region 159 a model for all of AYSO. You can do this by promoting a positive attitude toward the children before, while, and after they play, promoting a positive attitude toward your child’s coach, and promoting a positive attitude toward the officials on the field. Keep in mind that coaches and officials are ALL volunteers who devote many hours to the program so our children can enjoy the positive benefits of team sports.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation, and I look forward to seeing you on the soccer fields!

Director of Officials
Region 159