



REGION 418

CHICAGO LAKEFRONT

2007-2008 PARENT HANDBOOK

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Key Contacts

Our website: <http://www.ayso418.org>
Check our web site frequently for weather and game day updates

Our voice mail: 773-929-KICK

Our Fax number: 773-561-9019

Email: registrar@ayso418.org; registrar418@sbcglobal.net

AYSO National Web Site: <http://www.soccer.org>

Electronic Registration: <http://www.eayso.org>

Preface

This Handbook has been prepared to communicate the information you will need to insure that your child receives the most benefit possible from the AYSO program as implemented by Region 418. Although much of the information contained in this **2007-2008** edition of the Parent Handbook has been carried over from previous years, other information has been revised. Thus, I hope that families returning to Chicago Lakefront Region 418, as well as families joining the Region for the first time, spend a few minutes reviewing the information contained in this most recent edition of the Handbook, as well as keeping it handy for future reference. As a convenience, the Handbook is also available for downloading from the Region 418 web site, <http://www.ayso418.org>.

As the season progresses, should you have any questions, comments or constructive criticism, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of the Region's Board, any of whom will be happy to assist you or take your comments.

This season promises to be extremely exciting for Region 418. In addition to the adoption of the small sided game concept for our youngest players mentioned above, in the summer of 2006 the AYSO National games will be held just north of Chicago in Libertyville. The AYSO National Games is a biannual tournament that brings together some of the best youth soccer players from AYSO regions around the country, including several teams from Region 418. Whether your child is playing in the National Games or not, I hope that the Region's families will take the opportunity to attend the Games and see some of the best youth soccer played in the United States.

I would also like to personally request that parents of players volunteer to assist carrying out the Region's responsibilities. Last season, over 2,500 children participated in our program. Particularly acute is the Region's need for trained referees to work during the season. This year, we will play over 130 games weekly, totally over 2,200 regular games during the Fall and Spring seasons. Each of these games requires a trained referee, with the upper division games requiring a head and two assistant referees. Please consider becoming a trained referee, and experience the Region's games from the field. Additionally, encourage your children 12 years old and older to become youth referees in the Region. In addition to providing a valuable service to the Region, time spent refereeing may be eligible for community service requirements. Experience gained refereeing AYSO games can lead to refereeing club and/or travel team games, where youth referees are paid.

Whether a returning family or participating for the first time, welcome to AYSO Region 418. I look forward to another exciting, fun and successful season for Chicago's youth.

See you on the fields!

Rich Castella

AYSO Region 418 Regional Commissioner

Introduction

Welcome to Region 418 of the American Youth Soccer Organization!

You have joined a program in which many of your neighbors and your child's school friends participate. You are now part of a recognized sport and education program which also helps build community among players and parents alike.

Our program is entirely composed of parent volunteers. They devote many hours of their personal time so that all children receive the benefit of the game and of the AYSO program. NONE of the coaches, game officials, administrators or board members whom you will meet is paid staff. Region 418 is justly proud that our program, entirely volunteer run, rivals programs of other organizations and commercial ventures. We can only retain that quality and grow to meet our community's needs if every family volunteers to help Region 418 in some capacity.

You are encouraged to volunteer in whatever way you can and wherever your interests lie; there are many opportunities available. There are many jobs which need doing in addition to coaching or officiating and the duties can be shared with another person. The volunteer jobs require different time commitments and skills.

AYSO sets national standards for training and certification for all volunteers and provides preparatory classes or clinics frequently throughout the year at no cost to the volunteer. Our web site has a listing of the positions and what they entail and lists current dates and locations for training classes, many of which are offered within Region 418. Coaches and referees receive training leading to certification by AYSO; coach and referee certifications are recognized by other major soccer organizations. *Please note*, a parent can only volunteer himself or herself and cannot "sign up" another person for a volunteer job.

Region 418 protects its members. Coaches, parents and spectators are subject to disciplinary action by a referee or the Regional Board for violating our basic rules of conduct requiring respect for all our volunteers and players.

Your child will grow with AYSO and so can you. Please consider the opportunity for yourself to develop and enhance your own skills, explore new interests and make new friends by volunteering in Region 418. **REMEMBER, OUR PLAYER PROGRAM IS ONLY AS STRONG AS THE STRENGTH OF OUR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM!**

AYSO REGION 418

Registration

Registration is held thrice a year, last weekend in April, first weekend in May and the third week in May. It is an open registration for both new and returning players. A returning player is a child who is playing the current year and registering for the next playing year. A new player is a child who is new to the program or a former player. Coaches, assistant coaches, and referees and other volunteers are also registered on that day.

All children who are registered on those days will be placed on teams, with boys and girls playing in separate divisions. Registration involves: 1) using our national, web-based software “eAYSO,” found at <http://www.eyso.org>, to pre-register a child or a volunteer; and 2) coming in person with the required documentation to one of our registration dates to complete the registration process. Registration cannot be done purely “on line” or by mail. We have computer facilities and technical support at our May registration events for parents who are otherwise unable to access eAYSO or to print the required forms.

Complete information about Region 418’s registration process and instructions for using eAYSO can be found on our web site, <http://www.ayso418.org>.

Players are registered for a full season beginning in the fall session and continuing in the ensuing Spring. We are currently registering players for the Fall 2007/Spring 2008 season. Except for our U05 Division, players remain on their assigned teams for both fall and spring sessions.

The program consists of both games and practices. Registered players are expected to attend all games and practices.

Application to adjunctive programs (National Games) is handled separately from general registration. Membership and participation in the core program is a preliminary requirement for inclusion in our adjunctive programs.

Age Requirements for the Fall 2007/Spring 2008 Season

Minimum age for players is 4.4 years by July 31 of our registration year to participate in the next full season program.

	<u>Division</u>	<u>Approximate Age</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>
(1)	U19	16-18	8/01/1988-7/31/1991
(2)	U16	14-15	8/01/1991-7/31/1993
(3)	U14	12-13	8/01/1993-7/31/1995
(4)	U12	10-11	8/01/1995-7/31/1997
(5)	U10	8-9	8/01/1997- 1/31/1999
(6)	U8	6-7	8/01/1999- 1/31/2001
(7)	U6	5	8/01/2001- 1/31/2002
(8)	U5	4	8/01/2002- 1/31/2003

Registration Policies

- All players must be formally registered via a signed player application.
- A player can only be registered by parents or legal guardians.
- Volunteers must also register by submitting a Volunteer Registration form.
- New team assignments are made by computer each season.
- AYSO intends the soccer program to encourage our children to make new friends and learn to work cooperatively with them. Hence, we do not accept requests to place children on specific teams or with specific children.

National AYSO policy stipulates that players be placed on teams according to the age guidelines outlined above, and not by school grade. As the age divisions consist of a two year spread, a child in all likelihood will be among the younger players during the first year in a division, and then will be one of the older players in that same age division the following season. We ask parents not to ask for an exception to divisional placement except as outlined below.

Age Policy Exception

AYSO, and Region 418, use a July 31 age standard for placing players in divisions. However, the Chicago Public Schools use an August 31 age standard in determining school grades. To accommodate players caught between those two standards, we will, this 2007/08 season allow families of children who were born in August in an ODD numbered year to choose whether the child plays in the AYSO-assigned division or to play in the next higher division, based on the August age standard. . *Region 418 will contact the family of every player eligible for the age exception and will require a written request.* For example, a child born in August 1993 will be placed in the U10 division under the AYSO standard. If requested by the player's parent or legal guardian, that child will be assigned to the U12 division under the August age standard. *The AYSO standard will be the default standard if no response to the special mailing is received within the specified time frame.*

Team Balancing

AYSO uses several methods to balance the composition of all teams. Because of team balancing, neither the team coaches nor assistant coaches may choose players for their teams; nor may team officials add an unregistered player to their team. However, children of coaches and assistant coaches will be assigned to their parents' teams according to the divisional age guidelines discussed above.

Registration Fees

Registration fees are due when the player is registered. We accept checks, payable to "AYSO," money orders and can process credit cards online at www.eayso.org. Our registration fee covers the cost of a full soccer uniform, annual team and individual pictures, and player trophies.

Our player enrollment fee is \$140 per player for the entire season. Of that amount \$60 is earmarked to the Region's Field Improvement Fund, which will help in renovating the fields on which our children play. Wait listed players who join us during the spring half season will be charged \$140 for that eight week season.

Financial Assistance and fee waivers are available for families for whom the registration fee is a hardship. Region 418 does not intend for fees to bar any youngster from participating in our program. Please contact the Registrar or Regional Commissioner about scholarships.

No registration discounts are given in exchange for volunteer activity.

Player Withdrawal and Fee Refunds

A parent who needs to withdraw a registered player from AYSO is asked to notify the Registrar as soon as possible. This not only means an earlier refund but also will permit the placement of a wait listed player to a team.

Parents may use the Player Withdrawal form printed at the end of this handbook, our website or any written and signed notification to both inform of withdrawal and request a fee refund. *Please note that all requests for refunds should be accompanied by proof of completed payment.*

Region 418 refunds player fees according to the following schedule:

- If refund is requested before August 1, the player fee is refunded in full.
- If refund request is made after August 1 but before a team uniform is distributed and before the first game is played, a full refund is made minus the national registration fee and insurance fee component paid to AYSO National.
- If player refund request is made after the first game has been played, 50% refund is provided if the uniform is returned. \$25 will be deducted from the refund if the uniform is not returned.
- If player refund is requested after the conclusion of the fall session, no refund is made.
- If a player who has newly joined for the spring game series withdraws the request should be made no later than after the second game of the spring session to receive a refund (fee minus the national registration fee).

Region 418 reserves the right to modify the refund policy as may be indicated by individual circumstance or at any time.

Region 418 also reserves the right to discuss the advisability of player withdrawal with the parents of a child who consistently or frequently is absent from games or practices.

Player Wait List

The Wait List policies apply to new and returning players.

Any player who has not been registered at our formal registration events may be placed on our wait list when it opens.

Region 418 wait lists players in the summer to fill remaining slots for the new season beginning in September, and again in late winter to fill team slots for our spring session. Our web site, <http://www.ayso418.org> will have updated wait list information and instructions prior to the opening of the wait list period.

Wait listing involves pre-registering the player using the on-line eAYSO system, followed by bringing the printed applications and requisite identification and payment to one of the publicized wait list registration sessions. Players will be placed first come, first served basis. Because the number of openings in each age division varies, *Region 418 cannot guarantee team placement for any child on the wait list.*

Player and Game Safety

Arrive early to scheduled games so that your child has time to warm up and stretch before his or her game.

In colder weather players may wear warm garments UNDER their jerseys and shorts. Whenever possible, sweatpants, worn under the shorts, should be the same color as the shorts. *The uniform must be visible at all times during game time.*

Shin guards are required at all practices and games and are to be worn underneath the soccer socks with no part of the shin guard exposed. Referees and coaches will tell a player to sit out the game or practice until the player is wearing shin guards in the proper manner.

Players are not permitted to wear any jewelry, including ear rings, friendship or other string bracelets, hard hair barrettes or baseball caps or any other hard-brimmed headgear during games or practices. Referees and coaches will tell the player to sit out the game or practice if they choose not to remove the jewelry or other items. Please keep your player's soccer schedule in mind if your child wishes to have ears pierced. Removed jewelry and other items should be kept by a parent; Region 418 discourages coaches from holding these items. *Under no circumstances is a coach or other Region volunteer responsible for jewelry or other player items given to the coach or volunteer to hold.*

An exception is made for religious tokens which must be worn or Medical Alert medallions. These items are allowable but must be securely taped down.

For the safety of the child involved and other players with whom the child may come into contact, players wearing casts or splints will not be permitted to participate in games or practices.

Soccer shoes are recommended, but not required. Sandals or baseball style cleats are not permissible, nor are shoes with removable cleats which have exposed nails when the cleat is removed – these shoe types are dangerous.

All purpose athletic shoes or “gym shoes” are allowed although most children will nudge their parents for “real soccer” shoes. Referees and coaches will request any player not wearing appropriate footwear to sit out of a game or practice until correct footwear can be provided (see the “Player Equipment” section for information about the Region 418 shoe bank).

Spectators are to stand clear of the goal lines and *must* stay behind the orange colored spectator lines. No one is permitted to stand at or behind the goals. To comply with player safety issues, please comply with all requests issued by field marshals or referees.

Health and Injuries

The eAYSO player registration screen has an area in which parents should include medical information about which the coach needs to know. Information about allergies or respiratory concerns, such as asthma, should be included. Contact your child’s coach about any other specific issues about which he or she should be made aware.

If your child has a chronic health condition possibly requiring medication immediately before, during or after a game or practice and is too young to self-administer the treatment, a parent or designated caregiver must be present during all practices and games. Coaches are not permitted to administer any medication to players (including inhalers or medicines/injectibles to treat allergic reactions).

Referees will stop a game when a child appears to be injured. Games will be halted more frequently in younger divisions and always in any division if/when a player appears to have difficulty rising and leaving the field unaided. When a game is halted, only the coaches are to go onto the field to assist the player. Our coaches are trained to help the injured player safely off the field and can recognize if the child should not be moved. Coaches will call 911 in the latter event or when any injury seems serious. If the injured player’s parents are not present, they will be notified as quickly as possible. At each practice or game, coaches carry forms containing contact information and permission to provide players on the team with medical treatment as needed on the field or at a local hospital.

Insurance

AYSO has an accident reimbursement program covering all registered players and volunteers for injuries occurring at practices or games. The AYSO insurance coverage is secondary to health insurance already in effect for the registered player or volunteer. The AYSO insurance becomes primary if the registered player or volunteer does not have health insurance.

AYSO’s Safe Haven program, incorporating specific training and orientation of volunteers and background screening for sex offenders, provides coverage to Safe Haven-trained volunteers who are working within their prescribed job guidelines if a claim is filed.

Parent Orientation – A Brief Primer

Every AYSO Region adheres to core philosophies, summarized below:

Open Registration	Any child who wishes to play may register. AYSO is not limited to any specific group of people.
Everyone Plays	All assigned players are entitled to play at least half the game, provided they arrive on time and are present for the entire game.
Balanced Teams	To the extent possible, all teams in each two-year age division are created equal, with similar composition of experienced versus inexperienced players, and older versus younger players in that age division. Region 418 does this by means of computerized calculations based on coach-provided player ratings and review by experienced Division Administrators.
Positive Coaching	AYSO's program is heavily based on child development principles. We encourage our players to learn and grow in both sports and social skills. To this end, coaching and communications are to be direct and honest, while also being supportive and encouraging. Disparagement of any player or his efforts, in any form, is not tolerated.
Good Sportsmanship	Our players are taught to respect each other, their opponents, coaches, game officials and other volunteers, and parents. Coaches and game officials are to demonstrate positive and honest sporting behavior both on and off the field.

Kid's Zone®

Our program is for and about kids. When coming to games or practices, parents in Region 418 enter a Kids Zone®. In this zone our focus is positive and we expect our parents and players to accept the following responsibilities

Parent Responsibilities

- Set a good example by complying with AYSO policies and procedures.
- Treat players and volunteers with respect. Do not argue with coaches or referees. Remember that everyone involved in the Region is a volunteer doing his or her best.
- Cheer all plays, even if made by the opposing team.

- Please refrain from coaching from the sideline, as it is confusing to the player, may contradict instructions issued by the coach and undermines the coach's position with players.
- Support the team as a whole rather than an individual player.
- Volunteer. We are all responsible for making our Region 418 program work. Assist your coach as your coach requires.
- Players are expected to attend all games and practices barring illness or a special conflicting event. Notify the coach as soon as you know your child will miss a practice or game. Players cannot join Region 418 to play only games or only attend practices.
- Bring your child to practice and games on time. Pick up your child promptly when practice is over.

Player Responsibilities

- Treat all players, game officials, coaches and other parent volunteers with respect. Do not argue with or complain to coaches and referees concerning game calls or coaching instructions.
- Cheer all plays. Be a good sport. Resist the urge to retaliate when you feel you have been wronged.
- Be on time and ready to participate at practices and games.

How We Do Things in Region 418

Team Basics

Teams are composed of a set number of players depending on division, and are coached by a head and an assistant coach. Teams are expected to each have a team parent, or manager, whose duties include scheduling the traditional snack among the players' parents, and assisting the team coaches in communicating with players' parents.

In the U6 and U8 divisions, each team is also strongly encouraged to provide a team parent who is agreeable to attend the basic course in refereeing offered by the Region. Upon successful completion of the refereeing course, the parent referee will assist the team by refereeing at least a portion of the team's games. Referee uniforms and equipment are provided by the Region free of charge to the referee upon the successful completion of the referee training course.

In the U10 and above divisions, referees are assigned to referee games by the Regional Referee Administrator and his or her staff.

Game Basics

The procedures described below are applicable to all age divisions with some modification, described below, for our U06 division.

Region 418's season consists of two sessions, Fall and the following Spring, respectively. Each session consists of seven or eight games held on (except for holidays) consecutive Saturdays. The Region's games are in Lincoln Park between Lawrence Avenue (4800 North) on the south and Foster Avenue (5200 North) on the north both east and west of Lake Shore Drive. The fall session typically begins the Saturday after Labor Day and continues into the first week of November. The spring session typically begins the second or third week in April and continues into the first or second week of June.

Games are scheduled to start at 8:00 a.m. and are played throughout the day, with the last game being played in the mid- or late afternoon, depending on the division. Team schedules and game locations are posted on our web site (<http://www.ayso418.org>) you should also receive a team schedule from your child's coach. Once published, game times are not changed. Teams are not permitted to "swap" their game schedule. Because of the number of games scheduled, games must start and end on time.

The Region 418 web site also has a field map to assist in locating specific fields on which your child's games are played. Generally, U6, U8 and some U10 games are played to the west of Lake Shore Drive, while the remaining U10 games and U12 games and up are played to the east of Lake Shore Drive.

Game times for each team vary. Each team should expect to play early morning games, late afternoon games, and middle of the day games.

Teams take turns with goal duty, taking home the field goals at the end of the game day and bringing them back in time for the first game the next Saturday. Team families are expected to help their coach take down, put up and transport the goals when it is that team's turn for goal duty.

Players are expected to arrive at their games 15 to 30 minutes before the game to meet with their coach and warm up. Please notify your child's coach if he or she is ill or unable to attend the game as, absent such notice, the coach and team are counting on the participation of your child.

Team Practice

In addition to the weekly Saturday games, all teams hold at least one practice per week. Our U06, U08 and U10 divisions normally practice once weekly. Teams in older divisions, beginning with U12, may hold two practices weekly. Practice time and location are chosen by the team coaches, after consultation with team families as to the best times. The final decision concerning practice time and location is made by the coach. Deference is given to the coaches' needs and schedules in view of the time and effort the coaches are making in volunteering. Practice scheduling is done very early in the fall, often immediately after team assignment notifications have gone out.

NOTE U06 Division:

In March 2005, the Board of Region 418 voted to adopt the “small-sided” game concept for the Region’s U6 division. This concept was adopted to make the experience of the Region’s young players more fun, rewarding and developmentally appropriate. U06 team size, the number of players on the pitch, game duration and practice requirements are affected by this policy. U06 teams will hold their practice on Saturday in the half hour before their scheduled game, rather than on a different day and the game itself will be of twenty minutes duration.

We ask parents to be flexible so that your child can attend practice with the team to which he or she has been assigned. We ask that you consider juggling other activities so that your child can attend practice.

NOTE U05 Division:

In March 2006, the Board created the U5 Division for our youngest players. Like the U06 Division, the U05 Division’s practices are held on Saturday, and are immediately followed by a game. Also like the U06 Division, U05 players must be accompanied by an adult to assist the player in performing practice activities. The U05 practices will be held in a “Jamboree” format, consisting of a group of players led by an experienced professional coach/trainer. Following practice, the U05 players are split into teams for their games. The composition of U05 teams is not set, and is expected to change every week.

Remember, the U05 Division is not expected to teach any development skills. It is designed to allow young children to discover the game of soccer at their own pace and, most importantly, to have fun!

If your child absolutely is unable to attend the practice schedule of his assigned team, it is imperative to notify the coach of this as soon as possible so that the coach can communicate to his or her Division Administrator who can then try to find another team for your child with practices pose no conflict. The later such notification is provided, the more difficult it is to arrange a team assignment change.

Region 418 reserves the right to request player withdrawal if a player is unable to attend team practices.

Game Cancellation

Soccer is played in cool and wet weather. Most often our games will be held.

Come to the field for a scheduled game unless: a) your coach or team parent notifies you of a cancellation; and/or b) you see a cancellation notice on our web site (<http://www.ayso418.org>) or hear a cancellation message on our voice mail (773-929-KICK). Region 418 cancels games for only two reasons: (a) player safety – if fields are too wet, slippery or muddy to play safely; or (b) in the event of hail, freezing rain, or electrical storms. In order to protect the fields, we cooperate

with Chicago Park District requests to suspend games – continued playing on very wet fields injures the grass and subsoil, creates holes and craters, and adversely affects overall field quality.

Games are canceled only as necessary. It is very possible that games in certain hours or on certain fields are cancelled while games earlier or later or games on other fields take place. Please do not make your own decision about whether your child's game is cancelled. Contact your child's coach, check our web site, or call our voice mail which will be updated as soon as possible with game/weather reports in the event of game cancellations.

Practice Cancellation

Coaches will notify their team members if inclement weather necessitates canceling scheduled practices. Again, assume practice is being held unless you are notified otherwise.

Player Equipment

As previously stated, the region provides each player with a complete uniform which is the player's to keep. Please safeguard the uniform and save wearing it for the Saturday games (uniforms are not worn to practice). Players are expected to be in full uniform (including correct socks) at each game.

If a uniform or any of its components is misplaced, a player must obtain a replacement at the family's expense. Inform your child's coach if replacement components are needed. The Region's Uniform Manager will order a replacement and arrange to deliver it to you. The cost for replacing misplaced uniform components is the family's responsibility, and payment is due upon delivery.

Shin guards, provided by the player, are required at practices and games, and are to be worn under uniform socks.

As indicated earlier, soccer shoes are recommended, but not required. All purpose athletic shoes or "gym shoes" are allowed although most children will often nudge their parents for "real" soccer shoes.

Region 418 runs a shoe bank which contains outgrown shoes donated by our families. Any player is welcome to check out the shoe bank, take a pair of shoes that fit and, in return, donate, if possible, his or her cleaned, outgrown shoes. Our shoe bank accommodates our younger players and rarely has shoes to fit older players. The shoe bank is located at the support tent near the fields on the east side of Lake Shore Drive.

If you are able to purchase a soccer ball for your child, he or she will have a greater opportunity to learn and improve soccer skills and techniques. Soccer balls come in three sizes and although it is tempting to use a hand-me-down ball, it is developmentally important that a player use the correct size for his or her age group.

Follow the chart below to obtain the correct ball for your player:

<u>Ball Size</u>	<u>Division</u>
#3	U6 and U8
#4	U10 and U12
#5	U14 and older

Shin guards, soccer shoes and balls are generally available at any retail or resale sporting goods store as well as at dedicated soccer equipment stores. Proper equipment is also sometimes available at larger department stores. Because of the size of the Region, discount programs with select area retailers may be available to the Region's participants. If you have questions about equipment, ask your player's coach for assistance.

Parking at the Margate Field House

As indicated above, younger division games are held on the west side of Lake Shore Drive, north and south of the Margate field house. There is very limited parking adjacent to the field house which fills up quickly with AYSO and other park patrons. We strongly suggest that families park on the east side of Lake Shore Drive where parking spaces are abundant. Under no circumstances should an AYSO family park on the fields or along the driveway leading to the field house. Chicago Police are vigilant in ticketing violators

Support Tents

The region places two support tents each Saturday, one on the east and one on the west side fields. Precise locations of the support tents are noted on the field map available on the Region's web site. Game cards are available there for coaches and completed cards should be deposited at these tents. First aid supplies are also available. During most hours, a board member, executive officer or senior referee will be present at the east side tent to respond to parent and visitor questions and needs.

Lost and Found

Should you find an item on the field (typically a jacket or coat) please bring it to one of the support tents. Lost and found items are consolidated at the east side support tent. Please check to locate items that may have left behind on a Saturday. At the end of the season, all unclaimed items are donated to charity.

Please note if the item has a name and phone number written in it, we will call to return the item to you.

Communications – Publications and How to Reach Us

Unless declined, all registered AYSO players will receive copies of "Soccer Now," the periodical published by AYSO. Region 418 publishes a periodic newsletter sent to registered players and their families.

Our primary and most successful mode of communicating is via our web site; <http://www.ayso418.org> and we urge our families to check the web site frequently. On our web site you will find the email addresses of executive officers, Division Administrators and others whom you are invited to contact with your questions.

AYSO will never publish player information or coach contact information on our web site or otherwise. Privacy and safety of Region families are important to us. Your child's coaches or the Division Administrator for the applicable division will provide you with the contact information preferred by the coaches of your child's team. Teams are encouraged to privately compile contact information of the teams' families for communicating among the team members.

Additionally we offer voice mail, **773-929-KICK**, which offers brief summaries of current information and is a place to leave messages if our web site information does not answer your question or meet your situation.

Please notify us of any change in your contact information: mail address, e-mail address and telephone numbers. AYSO and Region 418 do not sell our membership data. We ask you to keep us current so that we may keep you updated on regional events and information affecting our players.

Periodically we will email notices as well as hand out fliers on the field. Information concerning special events is also posted on message boards through the game sites when necessary.

Special Events and Activities in Addition to Our Weekly Games

Picture Day

AYSO Picture Day (Photo Day) is held on one of our spring session Saturdays, typically the last Saturday in April. Photographs are taken by professional photographers and their crews. A make-up photo session of limited time duration is also provided for teams and/or players that missed the standard photo session. Specific information concerning Picture Day and the make-up day will be communicated by coaches.

AYSO provides each player with an individual and a team photo. Parents have an opportunity to order copies and other photo-gift items at their expense. The pictures are distributed on Trophy Day which takes place on the last Saturday of the spring session.

Trophy Day

Trophy Day is held on the last Saturday of our spring session at the close of our playing season. Each player receives a trophy which is distributed by the coach, along with the player and team pictures. Many teams use this opportunity to hold an end of season celebration.

End of Season Tournament

Region 418 holds a round robin Soccer Festival on the last weekend of the spring session. The tournament extends over Saturday into Sunday of that weekend. Divisions U10 and higher participate in the tournament (U06 and U08 divisions conclude their seasons on the last Saturday of the season).

In the tournament, teams play preliminary matches all day Saturday and on Sunday morning. Semi-final and final games are played on Sunday afternoon.

Coaches distribute the tournament schedule and rules a few weeks before the tournament.

Key Contacts

Our website: <http://www.ayso418.org>

Check our web site frequently for weather and game day updates

Our voice mail: 773-929-KICK

Our Fax number: 773-561-9019

Email: registrar@ayso418.org; registrar418@sbcglobal.net

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AYSO LAKEFRONT REGION #418

PLAYER WITHDRAWAL AND REFUND REQUEST

We will not process refunds without a Refund Request Form. Complete and sign the form, one form per child. Print legibly. Include a copy of the cleared check, bank statement showing payment cleared or copy of the credit card statement showing that payment to AYSO was processed. Refund will not be paid without/until such proof of successful payment is provided.

Date of Request: _____

My son/daughter _____ is withdrawing from AYSO Region 418's 2007/08 program.

Requesting Parent

Address to which the refund should be mailed

Parent's daytime phone number: _____

Parent's home/evening phone number: _____

_____ I am returning an unused uniform; do not deduct from my refund.

_____ I do not want a refund and choose to donate my player fee to AYSO.

Please use the money for: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Mail this form to:

Registrar
AYSO Region 418
4507 N. Ravenswood, Suite 101
Chicago IL 60640

NOTES: