



# The Kicker

SARATOGA AYSO, Region 27

April 2009

## From the commissioner

Spring Soccer Season has begun! Please keep the below message in mind as we move to our Fall 2009 season! Registration info on page 3.

Our league is a 100% volunteer effort here in Saratoga. No one gets paid. The great success of Saratoga Soccer is only possible because every family pitches in to do their part to help make the league run. I know that 16 hours is often hard to work into our busy lives, but with our combined efforts, all our kids will have a great program. Some volunteer jobs, such as being a coach or referee, require additional time, training and dedication. If you have the interest to be more involved, we have complete training for Coaches and Referees.

The most difficult part of having a successful program is having enough field space for practices and games. We are reliant on our neighborhood schools, city parks and churches to provide the space we use. Please support our efforts in obtaining and securing much needed field space.

In an effort to simplify the registration process, AYSO has instituted a process of electronic paperwork. When you come to registration with your printed forms, you only need to select a volunteer job and pay the fee. This greatly improves the accuracy and readability of the information on the forms. Also, once you have entered your data into the system, it simplifies registration paperwork for future seasons.

Please visit [www.eayso.org](http://www.eayso.org) and complete both a Volunteer and Player application; bring a completed print-out of both to registration. Two copies, please. You are not officially registered until you attend registration and turn in your paperwork, select a volunteer position and make payment. We accept checks and cash only.

As many of you know, AYSO is based on 5 philosophies: Everyone Plays, Balanced Teams, Open Registration, Positive Coaching and Good Sportsmanship. AYSO is an organization of inclusion. AYSO and the programs we run do not allow discrimination; we do not subscribe to ethnic stereotypes. All players and parents have equal opportunity to play and participate. It does not matter what school or church you attend, what country you were born in, or where you live, you are welcome as part of the AYSO family. To learn more about the AYSO philosophies, please look in the Policy Handbook, found on the web.

Finally, there are a significant number of new families or families with young kids that have never heard of Saratoga Soccer, especially in the Under-5, Under-6 and Under-8 divisions. We also have a VIP league for children whose physical or developmental challenges make it difficult to successfully participate on mainstream teams. We have a place for every child to play soccer regardless of past experience, where it is fun, positive and exciting to play. Please help spread the word!

Mark Chapman

Regional Commissioner

Saratoga Soccer

# PLAYSOCCER

**You must use [www.eayso.org](http://www.eayso.org) for registration  
of all players and adults**

**See below**

## Fall 2009 Registration Dates



May 2            9:30-12:30pm  
May 9            9:30-12:30pm  
May 30          10-12pm

Argonaut Elementary School  
Multi-purpose Room  
13200 Shadow Mtn. Ave  
Saratoga CA

### **Registration process!**

Before you are able to enter the registration process, you **MUST** bring  
**2 copies** of the  
**eAYSO Adult Volunteer Application**  
**And**  
**1 copy of the eAYSO Player Form**

You obtain the above forms by pre-registering on-line with National AYSO's eAYSO database  
[www.eayso.org/](http://www.eayso.org/)

The job selection portion of the Adult/Parent Volunteer Application and on the Player Form is not confirmed until your presence at registration.

**The name on the Adult/Parent Volunteer Application is the person that MUST come to registration with Photo ID**

**For more information, please visit**  
**[www.saratogasoccer.org/](http://www.saratogasoccer.org/)**

Please feel free to e-mail the Regional Registrar  
at registrar@saratogasoccer.org

# **AYSO 27 SARATOGA JOB DESCRIPTION**

## **YOUTH SOCCER COACH**

### **Summary**

AYSO Region 27 is offering the chance for our youth to become Youth Soccer Coaches for the upcoming Fall and Spring Soccer seasons. This is an amazing opportunity to learn from the region's soccer coaches and help coach other youth soccer players. You will be able to shadow and help coaches, demonstrate soccer skills to younger players, and help players develop their skills. You will have great training and development opportunities as a Youth Soccer Coach so that you could develop into a head coach yourself.

### **Responsibilities**

- Attend team practices and games to assist the Head & Assistant Coaches
- Help develop youth soccer players in AYSO Saratoga under instruction from the coaches
- Be available for the Spring Season which runs for 9 weeks
- Be available for the Fall Season which runs for 11 weeks

### **Training**

- All successful applicants will need to take a day's training before they begin as a Youth Soccer Coach. This includes Safe Haven and U5 – U10 AYSO training from the region's coaching team. The training will typically be on a Saturday in Saratoga and run for 5 hours
- Youth coaches receive on going training from US Soccer Coaching, the professional training organization in AYSO 27, including attending coaches clinics with all other coaches and any specialist events.

### **Benefits**

- Great experience to be involved in youth soccer coaching and help many younger players
- Expert soccer training from AYSO 27 professional training organization
- Coaching hours go toward your high school community hours
- Saratoga Coaches t-shirt and soccer equipment
- Access to the region's coaches folder with hundreds of coaching games
- Future possibility as a AYSO Head Coach or professional soccer coach

### **Qualifications and Requirements**

- Must be age 12 and over
- Must be available at least 1 evening a week and for Saturday games during the season
- Want to have fun!



## Youth Referee Program

After watching a competitive soccer game, were you confused by a call made by the referee and your child had to explain it to you? Does your child talk about the offside law and how a team can make it work to their benefit? Well, your child is beginning to understand more about the game of soccer and how the referee plays an essential part of the game. Perhaps it's time for your child to formally learn more about the game from the referee point of view and actually be one of the officials for some youth soccer games. This coming spring and fall season, Saratoga Soccer will begin its fifth season of the Player Referee Organization (PRO) program. The program is open to all soccer players 12 years and older. The youth referees do not need to be a registered soccer player to participate.

The program consists of a one-day training class. The class will be similar to the regular adult regional referee class but geared towards youths already familiar with the game of soccer. The class will cover the Laws of the Game, referee mechanics, foul recognition, and referee teamwork. The training will continue on the field throughout the season. Youth referees will be assigned games appropriate for their age, experience, and skill level. There will be an adult referee at all the games as a mentor who will give them feedback and to assist with any special situations. As they gain experience and proficiency, they are eligible to move up to more challenging games.

**Some of the benefits of being a youth referee include:**

- **Build self-confidence and better able to meet new challenges**
- **Foster leadership and critical thinking skills**
- **Increased knowledge of the Laws of the Game will help become better players by understanding the finer points of the game.**
- **Make new friends with people who share the same interests**
- **For some, a way to fulfill community service requirements**

Our region also benefits by having an increased pool of qualified referees for the many games we host. AYSO is for kids to have fun and for learning. This program is also designed with these objectives as its top goals.

To signup, all you need to do is go to our web site and register your and/or your child's email address at <http://www.saratogasoccer.org/main/email.html>. (check the "Youth" box under Referees.) All further communication about this program, the class, and scheduling will be sent to this youth referee email list.

Send email to [youthrefadmin@saratogasoccer.org](mailto:youthrefadmin@saratogasoccer.org) if have any questions or need further information.

Saratoga AYSO, Region 27  
Ram Kunda

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### **Sponsorship opportunities with AYSO**

Saratoga AYSO soccer offers two types of sponsorship. Both types enable AYSO to provide scholarships to children that might otherwise be unable to play soccer, fund improvements to our fields and fulfill your family volunteer requirement. The first level is a League Sponsor for a \$250 donation. The second is a Corporate Sponsor for a donation of \$400. At the Corporate level you will have a banner displayed at Congress Springs Park and a thank you on our website. Your banner will be seen by the families of over 1200 children who play soccer in our league each week.

Please email [sponsors@saratogasoccer.org](mailto:sponsors@saratogasoccer.org) for more details.

## Welcome New Board Members

Safety Commissioner- Rajiv Thareja  
Special Programs Commissioner- Nitya Somayaji  
Regional Coach Administrator- Sarang Kirpekar  
Youth Coach Coordinator- Alex Saunders  
Communications Chair- Heather Brady

### Our Thanks and Gratitude to our Out-going Board Members

The league would like to thank Manny Cappello for his years of service to AYSO Saratoga Soccer. He held the position of Head League Commissioner for over 6 years. We also thank Phillip Costello for his service to the league as our Safety Director. We thank Mike Kay for his years working to put together our summer camp program. We thank Gary Hovey for his years as the Coach Administrator. We thank Howard Miller for his years as our Regional Commissioner.

We thank all our volunteer who so tirelessly give of their time to our kids. This league is completely run by volunteers and all 870 do a great job!

## NOTE CHANGES FOR 2009

New Program format for U12 Boys & Girls. We will play 9v9 on game days instead of 11v11. This will allow the player to have more touches on the ball.

### **NEW PROGRAM FORMAT FOR ALL U5 AND U6 DIVISIONS**

#### **U5 and U6 Program:**

We will have both a girls and a boys division for both ages. We will play all games in Saratoga at Congress Springs Park. Each Division will have an hour on Saturdays in which to practice and then play.

To make the format more flexible and to better serve the kids, we will have US Soccer Coaching LLC available for most of the season to help the coaches lead the practices, organize the games and to monitor progress.

For each division, all the players will be placed on to one "team". This "team" will be split up on game day based on skills and interest. That way, every game will have equal players and balanced play, regardless of who shows up each weekend.

We will have all co-coaches instead of the usual assistant coach.

Team Reps you can plan on One large team party per division! One big team picture.

We would really like to get every kindergartner playing, so spread the word.

## Summer Soccer Camps for Boys and Girls ages 3-14

US Soccer Coaching Summer Camp Programs provide high quality coaching within a fun and stimulating environment. Delivered by professional soccer coaches, the sessions incorporate a wide range of practices that develop fundamental skills through technical development, teamwork and match play.

We are delighted to bring you the AYSO Region 27 Saratoga Summer Soccer Camp with US Soccer Coaching. Want to enjoy a fun and highly skill development based camp? Then sign up now for the AYSO Region 27 Summer Soccer Camp run by US Soccer Coaching and receive fantastic training from the US Soccer Coaching Coaches.

### Summer Camp Benefits Plus:

Program	Dates	Time	Cost	Location
Ages 3 - 5 years	August 3rd - 7th August 10th - 14th (Monday to Friday)	9:00am - 10:30am	\$75 for 1 week \$130 for both weeks	Congress Springs Park, Saratoga
Ages 6-14 years	August 3rd - 7th August 10th - 14th (Monday to Friday)	9:00am - noon	\$135 for 1 week \$230 for both weeks	Congress Springs Park, Saratoga



### You're US Soccer Coaching Coaches

Have you missed Coach Craig? Craig will be back to coordinate and manage the Summer Soccer Camps in AYSO Region 27 Saratoga this summer with his team of professional soccer coaches.



Every Camper will receive:

- Adidas Soccer Ball
- Adidas Soccer T-Shirt
- Soccer Camp Picture with a San Jose Earthquakes Player
- Technical Development in the fundamentals of soccer
- Make friends and have fun
- Be part of 'Dress Coach Day, 'World Cup Day' and so much more

To register contact Alex Saunders of US Soccer Coaching at [alex@ussoccercoaching.com](mailto:alex@ussoccercoaching.com)



Or Visit [www.ussoccercoaching.com](http://www.ussoccercoaching.com)

## Referees Corner

1. Each match is controlled by a Referee who has full authority to enforce the Laws of The Game in connection with the match to which he has been appointed.
2. Referees are the guardians of the game. They protect its spirit by making sure that the game is FAIR, SAFE and FUN.
3. Without Referee volunteers, AYSO would not be able to field a soccer league and provide the opportunity for our kids to learn teamwork, make new friends and discover the fun of playing the game.

Being a Referee can also be a very rewarding experience. It affords you:

- Wonderful light exercise
- The best seat in the house
- An appreciation for the number one team sport in the world
- The chance to be a role model for the kids
- The gratitude and respect of coaches, players and parents

Saratoga AYSO has a strong Referee support structure; with simple classes, experienced team leaders, and helpful mentors. We make it easy for you.

WE NEED YOU! IT'S FOR THE KIDS!



## Coaches Corner

I would like to thank all of our volunteer coaches who dedicated so much of their personal time to make this fall season a success.

The fall training:

Please visit our website [saratogasoccer.org](http://saratogasoccer.org) for complete details.

Mark your calendars for the training you want and RSVP to Stu Chambers at [coach@saratogasoccer.org](mailto:coach@saratogasoccer.org) to reserve your spot.

The Coach Administration team has many tools available to support our returning and novice coaches to make your coaching experience fun and rewarding! Let's all remember that the best teacher of the game is the game itself!

Please be sure to register your email address via the email link at [www.saratogasoccer.org](http://www.saratogasoccer.org) so you are up to date on the latest coaching information.

Best regards,  
Sarang Kirpekar  
Regional Coach Administrator



Saratoga AYSO  
P.O. Box 2933  
Saratoga, CA 95070



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ORGANIZATION  
US POSTAGE PAID  
SARATOGA, CA  
95070  
PERMIT # 12

## Bulletin

Always check [www.saratogasoccer.org](http://www.saratogasoccer.org) for more  
details and updated information

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Bring a Friend