



AYSO Region 177 Registration Update: Buddy Requests

In past seasons, Region 177 has made a best effort to allow for "Buddy Requests". These requests were intended to allow at the younger ages friends to be on a similar team and at the older divisions to express an interest to be drafted by a particular coach.

The Board of Directors for Region 177 looked at this practice as part of the 2011 Fall season and are making the following changes:

1. A U05 coach may submit an entire team that they have contacted which will include friends and potentially family. This is the introductory level to AYSO and we want to foster a good experience at this level for all.
2. At the U05/U06 level, a coach can request an assistant coach and one additional player/family. We will do all that we can to make this happen, but there are no guarantees.
3. At the U05/U06 level, one friend can request to be on a team with a friend, but this needs to be reciprocated. Again, we will do all that we can to make this happen, and we will not allow for "Daisy chains". There are no guarantees that any of these requests will be granted.
4. U08 and above divisions, we **will not accept** any Buddy Requests, though coaches can continue to request an Assistant Coach, however these pairings need to be approved by the board.

The reasons for the changes above are that although it made a lot of people happy, it also made a lot of people unhappy. Additionally, it created a lot of work for the VOLUNTEERS who run this program and sometimes we were not able to deliver on the request contributing to additional discontent. It is the decision of the board to reduce and/or eliminate the practice of allowing Buddy Requests as noted above because it is the right thing to do and it is aligned to the AYSO Philosophies of Everyone Plays and Open Registration.

Regards,

James C. Lang
Regional Commissioner
AYSO Region 177