



Plus Program Overview

In addition to the fall intra-region league, AYSO Region 177 offers the following inter-region opportunities for players.

AYSO Plus is the most competitive AYSO program in Area K. Designed to give AYSO players an opportunity to participate in a more competitive level of soccer play without the substantial increase in cost, time commitment, and travel required of club soccer. The AYSO Plus program is run during the fall season with a season ending playoff or tournament. Teams may also participate in a pre and other post season tournaments. Region 177 teams compete against other AYSO Plus teams from Area K – Northwest Orange County (www.ayso11k.org), Area L – South Orange County (www.ayso11l.org), and Area Q – Central Orange County (www.ayso11q.org). Our region will select one team per gender and age group, based on tryouts and enough qualified participants and coaches. To participate in this program, interested players must participate in at least one of the two AYSO Plus tryouts, which usually take place on a weekend in May or June. At the tryouts each player will be evaluated on their ball handling skills, offensive and defensive ability, speed and stamina, game sense, and attitude, by a group of independent evaluators (there is usually a tryout specifically for goal keeper at these sessions as well). These evaluators will pick a majority of the roster for the team, with the coach selecting the last few remaining players to determine the team's roster size.

Coaches must be certified as at least an Advanced Coach and Regional Referee prior to the start of the season.

All players registered for the coming AYSO Fall season are welcome to tryout, and will receive an invitation with information about the tryout sessions, so be sure to register prior to May. Even if a player should not qualify for the AYSO Plus program based on the observations of the evaluators, they are still eligible for the fall soccer program in Region 177.

Practices and games will start at the same time of year as the regular season. The only additional time commitment is in traveling to the other regions for games. Plus Team players are not eligible for All-Stars, but the team can stay together and compete in Winter tournaments during the usual All-Star season, which usually finishes by the end of February.

Tryout Process

Attendance at one tryout date is mandatory. Attendance at both tryout dates is strongly encouraged to give judges a better idea of the player's talent.

When players arrive, they will need to check in and receive a numbered jersey for the tryout. The numbered jersey will be given back at the end of the tryout and picked up at the next tryout date. It is very important that the player makes sure they have the same number for both tryouts.

Once the players have arrived, they may warm up by passing with another player or by shooting on goal if a goal is available.

Before the players begin their tryout, a coach or judge will have a brief talk with the players to let them know what is expected. The players will have an opportunity to ask questions before the tryout begins.

Once the players get started, the Regional Commissioner or board member will have a brief discussion with the parents on what they should expect. There will also be a time for parents to ask questions at the end of the discussion.

A coach and/or judge will warm the players up and then the judges will run the players through some drills. After the drills, there will be a scrimmage where players will be rotated in and out to see how they participate in a game situation.

The judges will be looking at these attributes of the players: knowledge of the game, attitude during drills and scrimmage, listening skills, control of the ball while dribbling and receiving the ball, passing, and shooting.

After the tryout there will be another brief discussion with the players.

After the final discussion, the players will be asked to turn the jerseys in before they leave.

After the final tryout, the teams will be formed and a phone call will be made to each player letting them know if they made the team.

During the tryout, parents will be asked to stay away from the players while they are participating.

For U12 Division, judges will select the first 10 players on the roster.

For U10 Division, judges will select the first 6 players on the roster.

Plus Team Information

If a child plays on the Plus team, he or she will not be eligible to play All Stars.

The Plus teams will start practicing in August. With league play and tournaments, the total duration of the season is August through February or March.

During league play, the Plus teams will play Regions in Areas 11K, 11L and 11Q. Long Beach is the farthest north and Mission Viejo is the farthest south. Travel will be to cities in between and around Long Beach and Mission Viejo.

The Plus Program provides teams with a higher level of competition than a regular fall intra-league team. The team is together for a longer period of time with pre and post-season tournaments.

The Plus team is comparable competitively, to the All Star team. The differences are that the Plus team does not play two weeks of Area Playoffs and the Plus team is together longer, allowing the team more time to bond.

If you have any questions about this program, please contact the PlusCoordinator@aysol77.org.