

Indio Alliance Program Operations

DEFINITION

Indio Alliance is committed to the purpose of Region 's813 program in supporting the AYSO player development pathway to the highest levels of play. The Alliance program is primarily intended to be a volunteer-run program that allows for paid trainers.

The Indio Alliance program will operate in the best interest of Region 813 with an emphasis on the player pathway and creating a positive learning environment for our players and coaches. The program will serve as an entry point for players into external competition circuits.

Indio Alliance teams are composed of players registered within AYSO, while also registered with US Youth Soccer or US Club Soccer. Indio Alliance teams, coaches, and players have all the advantages of being part of AYSO and playing in external gaming circuits.

Indio Alliance teams consist of players who are selected through *open* tryouts and who want to play at a more competitive level within the AYSO philosophies.

Indio Alliance shall operate under the guidelines and directives that fall under the authority of the AYSO ALLIANCE Operating Procedures in order to establish and maintain the agreed level of AYSO programming standards and quality.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Indio Alliance program is to:

- Promote AYSO's ***Vision*** to provide world-class youth soccer programs that enrich children's lives.
- Protect our primary program through completion of a true player pathway.
- Provide an opportunity for players who wish to commit and play at a more competitive level.
- Retain and regain players, volunteers, and families in AYSO.
- Expand the existing programs with additional opportunities for different levels of play, creating an industry leading long-term player development model.
- Development and promotion of players to AYSO Alliance.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Consistent development programs.
- Age-appropriate implementation of the four pillars of soccer (technical, tactical, physical, and psychosocial).
- Competitive training and playing environment at all ages.
- Elimination of parental agendas from the development process.
- Application of appropriate year-round programs (indoor, futsal, camps, clinics, etc.).

The objective of the Indio Alliance program is to create the right environment for *all* levels of soccer, including the elite player, enabling each player to reach their true potential. Goals and

Objectives will be accomplished by utilizing and respecting the AYSO philosophies:

AYSO Philosophies

EVERYONE PLAYS®

- Our goal is for kids and adults to play soccer, so we mandate that every player on every team must play at least 50 percent of every game.

BALANCED TEAMS

Each year, we form new CORE teams as evenly balanced as possible_because it is fair and more fun when teams of equal ability play.

- Each year, we form new teams as evenly balanced as possible, including the distribution of Alliance players, to provide a stronger learning experience for all teams. This balance ensures that teams compete against others with similar skill levels, allowing players to face fair challenges while still fostering growth. By integrating Alliance players, we not only maintain a competitive environment but also give each player the opportunity to experience playing with a wide variety of teammates of different skill levels. This approach helps players develop in a dynamic and supportive environment, enhancing their technical, tactical, and teamwork skills while preparing them for diverse playing styles and game situations.

OPEN REGISTRATION

Our program is open to all children who want to register and play soccer. Interest and enthusiasm are the only criteria for playing.

- If you want to play soccer, AYSO welcomes you and gives all youth and adults the opportunity to register and play.
 - Alliance is a tryout-based program and all eligible players (as defined below under Player Eligibility) will be given proper notice and opportunity to try out for an Indio Alliance team.

POSITIVE COACHING

Encouragement of player effort provides for greater enjoyment by the players and ultimately leads to better-skilled and better-motivated players.

- A coach can be one of the most influential people in a player's life, so AYSO requires them to create a positive experience for every player in AYSO. Additionally, encouraging players' effort leads to greater enjoyment, improved skills and stronger motivation in players.

GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP

We strive to create a positive environment based on mutual respect rather than a win-at-all-costs attitude, and our programs are designed to instill good sportsmanship in every facet of AYSO.

- Indio Alliance Coaches, Players, and Volunteers/Parents will be representing AYSO in a competitive venue; consequently, the program expects and will enforce a high standard of conduct and behaviors for all participants.

PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

We believe that all players should be able to develop their soccer skills and knowledge to the best of their abilities, both individually and as members of a team, in order to maximize their enjoyment of the game.

The Indio Alliance program gives players a chance to develop their soccer skills through competitive play under the direction of some of our most experienced and best-trained coaches. Players are given the platform to maximize their development and potential *within* AYSO.

STRUCTURE & OPERATIONS

The Indio Alliance program will operate under the guidance of the ALLIANCE Operating Procedures to establish and maintain an agreed level of AYSO programming standards and quality. The following operating procedures are intended to mirror ALLIANCE Operating Procedures and have been tailored to Region 813's specific needs, expectations, and program vision; and have been developed and approved by the Regional Board.

Coaches

Alliance is a privilege. Coaches that get promoted to Alliance are playing Club soccer while getting all the benefits and cost savings of AYSO, using regional home fields at a major discount, and getting shared practice space for a bargain compared to for-profit clubs. Alliance is not a program where coaches and families can abandon the volunteer structure of AYSO and dodge supporting the Core. AYSO Region 813 & Indio Alliance wants to promote only the most exceptional coaches and teams to Alliance, and let them be the most positive representatives of AYSO 813 in the Club circuit.

Coach Selection

Simply submitting a request to coach an Indio Alliance team or being the parent of a player with Club level potential is not sufficient to become an Alliance coach; nor having previous Club level experience as a coach. AYSO 813 considers an interested individual's character, qualifications, experience, and positive volunteer contributions to the Region and Core program(s).

Interested Individuals MUST:

- Submit a formal COACH (Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager) Application / Review Request to the Regional Board (AYSO 813) via Google Forms at least 30 days before the next scheduled Board meeting .
- Coaches must be **majority** approved by the Regional Board.
- Alliance Coaches (HC, AC, and Manager) are **required** to be dual-certified in both AYSO and USSF. There are many instances of training where the coach will take the same class twice, once for each association. These are **mandatory**; AYSO training covers the coach for AYSO events, practices, and matches, and USSF training covers CALSouth and CSL fixtures.

- Coaches that are part of another club are **NOT** be eligible to participate in the Alliance program as it is a conflict of interest that may result in player poaching; with the exception of an external recreational league.
- Required AYSO Certifications: **(Mandatory prior to applying for a Review Request)**
 - Safe Haven
 - AYSO's Summary of the Laws of the Game
 - CDC Concussion Awareness - Online
 - Sudden Cardiac Arrest - Online
 - Stewards of the Game - Online
 - SafeSport
 - Risk Status (Sterling Volunteers background)
 - LiveScan
- Required AYSO Coaching Training *(by player birth year)*:

| Alliance AYSO Coaching Certs For Fall 2025 / Spring 2026 | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 2016 | equivalent to U10 | U12 Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2015 | equivalent to U11 | U12 Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2014 | equivalent to U12 | U12 Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2013 | equivalent to U13 | Intermediate Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2012 | equivalent to U14 | Intermediate Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2011 | equivalent to U15 | Advanced Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2010 | equivalent to U16 | Advanced Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2009 | equivalent to U17 | Advanced Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2008 | equivalent to U18 | Advanced Coach <i>(or better)</i> |
| 2007 | equivalent to U19 | Advanced Coach <i>(or better)</i> |

- Required USSF Certifications *(Ideally completed before Admission, but can be obtained up until August 30th prior to the Fall season)*
 - SafeSport
 - LiveScan (via CALSouth)
 - Minimum USSF Grassroots or Grade “D” coach license or better
 - And any other required USSF safety certifications.

Coaches are responsible for paying for any of these certifications, unless the Region offers to reimburse them.

Coach Expectations & Training Level

- Coaches must meet ALL Indio Alliance Coach Requirements (see specifics above).
- Agree to all Indio Alliance standards/expectations to ensure quality programming and AYSO Region 813 representation by signing the Indio Alliance Coach agreement contract.
- Indio Alliance Coaches (HC and AC) MUST:

- ❖ Coaches must have the required State licensing and AYSO Area Requirements. (Equivalent AYSO Certifications are preferred).
- ❖ Adhere to the AYSO Vision, Mission, and AYSO Philosophies, in particular, **Positive Coaching, Good Sportsmanship, and Player Development**. Have the AYSO basic coaching registration criteria (expected of all AYSO volunteers).
- ❖ Fill out a Volunteer form with e-signature online at local ALLIANCE registration portal annually.
- ❖ Coaches are required to take SafeSport training and meet all other AYSO volunteer requirements.
- ❖ Have and maintain a current State Association Risk Management Disclosure, or applicable equivalent as requested by the State association. This will ensure that coaches can get State Association Coaches Cards and be allowed to be on the sidelines during games and tournaments. Failure to complete this prior to the first competitive game will result in suspension from coaching until all requirements are complete.
- ❖ Coaches must be licensed to the requirements of the CA state associations or applicable gaming circuit.
- ❖ Head Coach and Assistant Coach must maintain AYSO certification at the age level that they are working with.
- ❖ Be an Indio Alliance volunteer-in-good-standing in compliance with the Region's Core Giveback requirements/expectations

Primary Program Giveback (Core/Region Giveback)

Alliance Coaches and families will not abandon the volunteer structure of AYSO and dodge supporting the Core. ALL Alliance Coaches (HC, AC, Manager) and teams (players, parents) must ***agree and participate*** in the Region's Core Giveback program. Suggestions include but are not limited to:

- Coach education and certification.
- Referee Program participation.
- Tournament support.
- EPIC program support.
- General volunteer support (e.g. player evaluations,
- Other areas if needed as determined by the ALLIANCE program.

Coach Agreement & Volunteer Deposit Policy

To maintain the integrity, volunteer spirit, and operational success of AYSO Region 813, all Alliance coaches are required to adhere to the following policy effective immediately:

Volunteer Deposit Requirement

Each Alliance team must submit a **\$500 Volunteer & Conduct Deposit** at the beginning of each

season. This deposit serves two primary purposes:

1. **Volunteer Accountability** – Encourages active participation from coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers in supporting the region's core functions.
2. **Behavioral Standards** – Reinforces a culture of respect, sportsmanship, and alignment with AYSO values.

Volunteer Obligation

To be eligible for a refund of the deposit, each team (including the head coach, assistant coach, and team manager) must collectively complete a minimum of **10 volunteer duties** throughout the season. Examples of qualifying duties include:

- Refereeing matches (youth or core)
- Painting fields/field setup and takedown
- Assisting with registration or events
- Participating in coaching clinics or training support
- Serving on tournament or scheduling committees

Volunteer duties must be logged and verified by the Region 813 Board or designated volunteer coordinator.

Conduct Policy

To protect the reputation and positive environment of Region 813, the following disciplinary policy applies:

- **First Infraction (Behavioral or Sportsmanship Violation):**
The \$500 deposit will be **forfeited** to AYSO Region 813.
- **Second Infraction (Behavioral or Sportsmanship Violation):**
The head coach will be **removed from the Alliance program** for a minimum of 3 Seasons, pending review.

Infractions may include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal or physical misconduct toward referees, players, parents, or league officials
- Repeated failure to follow AYSO game-day protocols
- Undermining of region policies or refusal to complete assigned duties

Forfeiture of Deposit

If a team fails to complete the **minimum 10 volunteer duties** by the end of the season or commits a qualifying infraction, the \$500 deposit will be **forfeited** and transferred to the **AYSO Region 813 general fund** to support regional operations and volunteer development.

Policy Acknowledgement

By accepting an Alliance coaching position, each coach agrees to the terms outlined above. Non-compliance with this policy may affect future eligibility for participation in AYSO Region 813's

Alliance program.

Rejected Applications

Rejected applicants will receive a written explanation of the factors leading to the Regional Board's decision for denial; these may include but are **not limited to**:

- Coaching License/Certification issues/missing
- Prior or ongoing misconduct
- Lack of qualifying coaching experience
- Already serving as an Alliance head coach
- Non compliance with Indio Alliance Coaching Expectations (listed above)
- Non compliance with Primary Program Give Back expectations (listed above)
- Issues with Volunteer Deposit
- Non compliance with Volunteer Obligations
- Prior negative Due Process

Applicants to take the feedback into consideration and reapply **after a period of six (6) months** from the date of notification.

Head Coach's Responsibilities

- The team's head coach is ultimately responsible for all team activities and is directly accountable to their Indio Alliance Director. However, a Head Coach can assign duties to others within his team's management and structure.

The team's head coach will be responsible for:

- o Training times, place, and games (including scrimmages).
- o Timely communication with all team parents.
- o Tournament play, organize transportation, and lodging .
- o Disciplinary action, as needed.
- o Proper and required paperwork.
- o Ensuring that EACH PLAYER WILL play a minimum of one-half of each game (injuries and disciplinary action exempt).
- o Ensuring AYSO volunteer to player ratio is adhered to at all times.
- o All coaches will dress in a professional manner (Indio Alliance branded apparel) at all matches, training sessions, and other Indio Alliance-related events.

Coach Suspension & Termination

Coach Misconduct Reporting and Sanctions

- AYSO ALLIANCE Directors retain the right to discipline a player or coach above those sanctions set by the local State Association or gaming circuit.
- Alliance Director retains the right to suspend any approved coach from any AYSO ALLIANCE Team.
- An Indio Alliance Coach may be **suspended** by the Alliance Director for cause. The term "cause" shall include, but not be limited to, failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the Indio Alliance program operations documents and/or AYSO's policies

and procedures [e.g. payment of fees, parent/spectator misconduct, participation in “giving back” expectations]

- Coach suspension may include, but not be limited to, [e.g. restricted access to park fields for practice, revocation of fundraiser(s) approval, demerit toward team reapproval, etc.]
- Coach suspension periods _____ [week, days?]
- Coach suspensions shall be communicated to the Coach via ____ within ____ time by the Indio Alliance Director and/or Alliance Administrator.
- Coach suspensions may be lifted once corrective measures have been made or completion of the suspension period.
- The term “Coach Suspension” includes Head Coach, Assistant Coach, and Manager.
- The penalty for poaching will result in the removal of the Alliance coach from the Region 813 Alliance program contingent reapproval by the Regional Board.
- An Indio Alliance Coach will be immediately terminated for “poaching”.
- An Indio Alliance Coach may be **terminated** with a majority vote of the Regional Board for cause. The term “cause” shall include, but not be limited to, failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the Indio Alliance Program Operations documents and/or AYSO’s policies and procedures AFTER an opportunity for corrective measures has been communicated/offered by the Indio Alliance Director and Alliance Administrator

OR frequent/blatant failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the Indio Alliance Program Operations documents and/or AYSO’s policies.

Poaching & Tampering

Poaching or tampering refers to any attempt by a coach, team official, or representative to encourage, solicit, or otherwise influence a player who is currently rostered on another AYSO team (including Select, Core, Alliance, or other club teams) to leave that team or organization for their own benefit or to join another team, without the prior knowledge and consent of the player's current coach and/or the Alliance Director, Alliance President, or Regional Commissioner.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Direct communication with players or their families regarding switching teams or programs.
- Offering incentives such as increased playing time, positions, or travel opportunities.
- Contacting players or parents before the conclusion of the player's current season or commitment.
- Attempting to recruit players from other AYSO teams during sanctioned events, games, or training sessions.

The following is additionally in place:

- The State Association or playing circuit rules on player recruitment or “poaching” will be in effect.
- There will be no signing players from the Core program until *all* the games are completed in regular season and the Core season is complete.
- There will be no poaching from other Indio Alliance teams.
- Coaches, parents, and players will ALL be adhere to the terms of this stipulation.

Failure to comply with the above “poaching” rules will cause the Alliance team to be disbanded, the Coach immediately terminated & placed Alliance ineligible for future seasons contingent Regional Board reapproval.

Permissible Communication

Coaches or team officials may only engage with players or families from other teams regarding tryouts, openings, or team changes if:

- The player's current season has ended; and
- There has been no prior solicitation during the season; and
- Any communication is transparent and conducted with notification to the appropriate Regional staff.

Reporting

Suspected incidents of poaching or tampering should be reported in writing to the Alliance Director, Alliance President, or Regional Commissioner. All reports will be reviewed confidentially and investigated promptly.

AYSO Notes

- There must be a coach, assistant coach or team chaperone of the same sex as the players at *ALL* team activities.
- The chaperone ratio should be 8 to 1 on any out of town tournaments or events.
- Safe Haven/CVPA guidelines apply to Indio Alliance teams at all times.
- All AYSO policies and procedures for Dispute Resolution and Due Process shall apply to all coaches and volunteers within the Indio Alliance program.

Trainers and Contracts

- It is encouraged that all ALLIANCE coaches strive to develop a year-round coaching program for their ALLIANCE teams; however, supplemental training programs may be offered.
- AYSO has existing agreements with many trainer/camp providers. Please contact the AYSO Office for the current list.
- Should an Alliance program desire to utilize a different organization, the provider must complete the AYSO "Paid Services Agreement" which are signed by the AYSO Executive Director.
- Any Trainer agreements/contracts must be approved by the Indio Alliance Director, and the AYSO Office. All requirements (work permits, insurance, and qualifications) fall in line with AYSO National standards. The AYSO Office will perform regular vendor checks to ensure compliance with National standards.
- Agreement template and process can be found on AYSOVOLUNTEERS.ORG

Teams

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and let them be the most positive representatives of AYSO 813 in the Club circuit.

Team Formation

The Regional Board holds ultimate decision making power when creating a team in Alliance. AYSO Region 813 & Indio Alliance will only form the most exceptional teams (coaches, players, and parents) to Alliance, and let them be the most **positive** representatives of AYSO Region 813 in the Club circuit. Our region holds leadership by example in the highest regard and does not take the Alliance program lightly.

Interested parties MUST:

- Submit a formal TEAM application to the Regional Board (AYSO 813) via Google Forms at least 30 days before the next scheduled Board meeting.
- Teams must be **majority** approved by the Regional Board.
- Once approved by the Executive Board, the Indio Alliance Administrator, Director, President, and Registrar will assist in formalizing the program in compliance with expected standards and expectations.

Team Expectations

Once a team is given approval, the Head Coach will work with the Alliance executive members [Administrator/Director/President/Treasurer/Registrar] to coordinate compliance and prepare for enrollment into the club circuit. Enrollment into club circuits **WILL NOT** be formalized until all certifications/verifications have been posted. ALL Indio Alliance teams will be expected to:

- Pay the Indio ALLIANCE Team Fee(s) [please see Fees section] within the time frame specified for each.
- Indio Alliance Teams **MUST** have one Head Coach and one Assistant Coach, and team Manager. Two additional assistant coaches may be added to the coaching staff at the discretion of the head coach.
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- ALL Indio Alliance teams shall wear the same color/style of uniform within that _____ (season, uniform period, calendar year, etc.) and will bear the Indio Alliance logo on the chest. Uniform colors in the ALLIANCE program may differ from program to program.
- Alliance uniforms are to be used for Alliance sponsored activities within the playing circuit. They are not to be utilized to play in external recreational leagues not sanctioned by CalSouth.

Club and AYSO Leagues

Newly-created Alliance teams are eligible to register for Club and AYSO leagues, tournaments, and fixtures. All Alliance players and coaches will be registered with CALSouth and AYSO Alliance, giving the flexibility to apply for Club or AYSO leagues.

Alliance teams are State Cup eligible. There is a “Play Level Guide” to determine State Cup flights for each team. (For example, here is a [direct link to the 2025 “Play Level Guide”](#)). With the exception of

the Section 1 fee for CALSouth and CSL registration, teams will be responsible for collecting any money related to applying for tournaments or leagues. Strict bookkeeping is required, and Regional Treasurer should cut checks for teams. Parents and Coaches should expect to play a full year commitment to their Alliance team when registering and applying.

Team Limits

- In alignment with US Soccer standards and AYSO Philosophies, Indio Alliance teams are limited to a maximum roster on game day of:
 - o 12 players for 10U (Playing 7v7)
 - o 16 players for 11U (Playing 9v9)
 - o 16 players for 12U (Playing 9v9)
 - o 18 players for 12U-14U (Playing 11v11)
 - o 18 players for 15U-19U (Playing 11v11)
- Indio ALLIANCE may NOT create too many teams in a single division, where that would negatively impact the region's Core program. The standard for compliance is roughly 25% of the players in a two-year age group. ***GRACE PERIOD: This will be enforced in full starting January 2026.**
- Rosters may be further limited by small-sided game rules. Roster size should take into consideration the requirement to achieve the one-half game play per player per game (Everyone Plays).
- If multiple teams exist within an ALLIANCE for the same age/gender:
- There may be multiple teams in certain age groups and this may include “A/B/C” team formations, which could be labeled ALLIANCE Blue, Red or White. Each coach will pick the best team they can. How the teams perform and ultimately, the level at which they play, will depend on the talent of the players and the coaching they receive.

Notes for high school players:

- Teams at the 14U division may add additional player(s) if they have a player (s) who will also be playing for their high school.
- 15U-19U teams may have up to 22 players on the roster if they have a player (s) who will also be playing for their high school. However, they will only be able to “suit” up to 18 players in a game and will have to abide by all playing circuits, tournament restrictions and or any High School association requirements.

Training Sessions

- Training fields/times will be coordinated through host Regions’ Field Scheduler. Pending level of play and in conjunction with Indio Alliance player development guidelines, each team will be allowed 3 to 6 hours of training per week not to exceed 120 minutes in length per session.
- Scrimmages (especially with other AYSO entities) are recommended and encouraged (however, these should be considered in the team’s allocated training time).
- Other voluntary soccer related activities – such as additional soccer training, free-play or summer camps – do not count as practice time. However, an adequate off season and recovery period for all age groups is strongly recommended.

Forfeits and Abandoning the League

In Club soccer, there are fines for forfeited matches. Each team will be fined \$200 that is paid to the Coast Soccer League. Also teams will be fined \$200 if a match is suspended due to coach send-offs and from violent conduct, abusive/offensive/insulting behavior, or any conduct (coaches or spectators) that the referees considered warranting concluding the match prematurely.

All Fall season games must be played; **anticipate matches every weekend from Labor Day to Thanksgiving**. Coaches, players, and other participants in the Alliance program will be expected to attend all their respective scheduled matches, as posted on the Coast Soccer League website and app, and attend any matches that have been rescheduled to an alternative date and time. CSL League Cup and rescheduled matches **may extend into December**. The CSL league often has doubleheader weekends, and teams are expected to play both matches. If a team is missing both coaches for a match, the CSL allows for substitute coaches, as long as they have their USSF and CALSouth credentials. The coaches must coordinate with the club and fellow Alliance coaches to find a substitute coach in advance of the match. If a team has many players absent, like due to illness, school event, or regional vacation, the coach must organize loan players from neighboring Alliance teams to bring a team. Long travel distance, not having enough players, or **“Playing Down” are not excuses to forfeit a match**. CSL allows up to 5 loan players, and every team should be able to get enough players to start a match, in accordance to IFAB Law 3.1.

If a team incurs excessive fees, the team will not be allowed to play until the balance is paid, even if that means incurring more forfeiture fines. Those additional fines are the responsibility of the Alliance team in question. Any team and coach that refuses to pay their forfeiture fines will be excluded from future Alliance participation.

If a team drops out of Alliance before the fall registration cut-off date their Volunteer Deposit will be given back in full.

Any team that drops out of the CSL in the last weeks prior to Opening Day or in the middle of the season, the coaches will be excluded from all future Alliance access. Naturally, the Volunteer Deposit is lost, and if the league had finished the schedule, the Coach will still be required to pay all forfeit fines and ref fees; in order for players to be released from Alliance teams. If a coach decides to abandon a team or is removed from Alliance, the team may be provided with a certified Interim Coach appointed by the Regional Board.

Refereeing

Alliance is a club, and teams will be required to pay for club referees. Team managers will need to collect money from families in advance to cover these expenses. Ref fees are posted on the CSL website, and the rates are prorated based on attendance. Club refs arrive moments before kickoff, are paid with cash at check-in, and will not let teams kick off until they are compensated. Exact change is preferred. Club refs are professionals and consider this an important service job; Extend common courtesies and treat them with respect. Paying for their services does not give coaches and spectators the right to abusively critique their calls.

Regional Referee staff are not obligated to officiate any Alliance matches. Alliance families are

required to give back to their home regions, and one way to volunteer is to referee Core matches. Regions will determine how Alliance families can contribute to the regional referee staff.

Team Suspension or Termination

- An Indio Alliance Team may be *suspended* by the Alliance Director for cause. The term “cause” shall include, but not be limited to, failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the Indio Alliance program operations documents and/or AYSO’s policies and procedures [e.g. payment of fees, parent/spectator misconduct, participation in “giving back” expectations]
- Team suspension may include, but not be limited to, [e.g. restricted access to park fields for practice, revocation of fundraiser(s) approval, demerit toward team reapproval, etc.]
- Team suspensions shall be communicated to Team Coaches via written format within 72 business hours by the Indio Alliance Director and Alliance Administrator.
- Team suspensions may be lifted once corrective measures have been made or completion of the suspension period.
- The term “Team Suspension” includes Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Manager, players, and parents.
- An Indio Alliance Team may be *terminated* with a majority vote of the Regional Board for cause. The term “cause” shall include, but not be limited to, failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the Indio Alliance program operations documents and/or AYSO’s policies and procedures AFTER an opportunity for corrective measures has been communicated/offered by the Indio Alliance Director and Alliance Administrator

OR frequent/blatant failure to comply with the provisions set forth in the Indio Alliance program operations documents and/or AYSO’s policies

- The term “Team Termination” is defined as disbanding of the Indio Alliance team in question and including, but not limited to, removal of association to the Indio Alliance program across all competitive circuits, forfeit of [e.g. Region team deposit, CSL deposit, etc.], authorization to use Indio Alliance team uniforms, banners, logos, fields, etc. (anything associated with Indio Alliance).

Players

Player Eligibility

The following guidelines shall be used to determine player eligibility:

- Players participating in tryouts must register under the Region’s tryout portal and sign the Tryout Liability Waiver form.
- If selected, a player must register under AYSO United & Region 813 Alliance (National Fee) portals and pay the respective registration fees.
- All players must be seven years old by September 1st of the upcoming season to be eligible to participate in this program.
- Once a player is old enough to play in Indio Alliance a player may play up to one year with consent of parents and coaches (i.e., a 12U player may play on a 13U team). A Coach wanting a player to play-up multiple years must get the permission of the CSL or club league and the parents of the player. This may also be subject to State association limitations that

- will take precedence.
- Age classifications for ALLIANCE teams shall be for single age groups from 10U through 19U inclusively.
- Dual full-time participation with another competitive soccer league other than Indio Alliance is not permitted.
- Only players who attended open tryouts may be selected for placement on an ALLIANCE team
- Guest players may be used in alignment with state assn., gaming circuits and tournament rules.

Player Registration

- Each ALLIANCE program shall utilize the AYSO registration system of record and the ALLIANCE program(s) for their ALLIANCE players. Players can both dual register at the Regional level and the ALLIANCE level
- The player will be responsible for paying all associated fees for the ALLIANCE program.
- AYSO Region or Area ALLIANCE Director or ALLIANCE Registrar (if applicable) is responsible for assigning the players to the correct teams through the registration system.
- After the player is verified to have an AYSO registration, the player must become dual registered with the appropriate State Association or playing circuit by working with the AYSO ALLIANCE Director or State Association registrar.
 - o Player Cards will be produced from the State Association registration.
 - o The State Association registration form will be the players Medical Release form.
 - o Concussion Awareness and/or any additional forms required by AYSO or State Assn.
 - A current color picture must be submitted ahead of time to Alliance Registrar

Guest Players

Guest players are permitted to play on the Indio Alliance team:

- For “ALLIANCE” players – the Indio Alliance Coach must get the player ID and applicable paperwork from the coach of the guest player’s team. Then, the coach must fill out and print the Guest form on the state association website.
- The Team or parent will be responsible for any state league registration fees. As long as a State association permits, an Indio Alliance player can play as a Guest player for another team (Indio Alliance team or other club). The player’s ALLIANCE Coach must supply the coach of the other team with his player’s player card. Nothing else is required. The coach of the team wanting the player should come to the Indio Alliance Coach. Exception: If the ALLIANCE team is playing in that tournament, most tournaments do not allow a guest (ALLIANCE) player to play for another team in the same tournament.

NOTE: Indio Alliance guest players (of the same age group) are only allowed for regular season and tournament play *if* playing circuit permits.

Player Discipline

- Each ALLIANCE team (players, coaches, volunteers, parents) participating in any external gaming circuit should adhere to the highest behavioral standards and accept the responsibility of representing the entire organization.

- Coaches should go over his/her expectations of the players and parents/guardians and share their expectations of themselves in the first team meeting after the team has been chosen, including the AYSO Vision, Mission, and Philosophies.
- Going over that information PRIOR to the start of the season will help avoid the need of having to invoke any of the following Team Discipline.
- Parents will also sign the player-parent agreement provided by the local ALLIANCE program.
- A player may be suspended from playing in a game OR removed from an Indio Alliance team if:
 - The player's behavior presents a significant conduct and discipline problem and is disruptive to the team.
 - The player fails to show a good faith effort to attend scheduled team practices, games, or otherwise participate in soccer-related activities.
 - The action of any player's parent who attempts to undermine the discipline of the team and/or the coach's control of the team.
 - The action of any player's parent(s) whose sideline behavior disrupts play is considered abusive or unacceptable to the officials.

Player Misconduct Reporting and Sanctions

- It is expected that players in the Indio Alliance program will hold **Good Sportsmanship** in high regard.
- Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated by Indio Alliance players.

Player Conflicts and Affiliations

Alliance players cannot roster for other CSL clubs while in Indio Alliance. Players cannot roster for another Alliance team. These are rules stated by CSL, and located in Section of their regulations. It is extremely discouraged for players to roster for any other outside clubs while rostered to an Alliance team, due to risks of injury and overuse.

Alliance players, as individuals, can register for the Core while being rostered to an Alliance team.

- Alliance players MUST be evenly drafted across all regional Core teams, no exceptions,
- The Alliance Coach cannot simultaneously be a Select team coach.
- A "superteam" of primarily Alliance players is not allowed in the Core.
 - Due to the high cost of forfeits in club leagues, Alliance players must prioritize their Alliance matches and practices over Core matches. (The only exception is in the Post-Freeze-Date Player Addition Protocol, below)

Failure to comply: the Alliance team is disbanded & Alliance ineligibility for future seasons.

Regions are discouraged from requiring *all* Alliance players to register in their Core programs. There are many reasons for this, notably, conflicts with Core and club matches, club league match change flexibility, the likelihood of assembling a core super team, availability of loaning players to the league, and risk of overuse injury to players. CSL has a minimum of two doubleheader weekends in the regular season, and, combined with CSL League cup, there are at least 3-5 more doubleheader club weekends until December 7th. The Alliance program does not want players committing to additional Core matches where they may be required to play three or more full-length soccer matches per

weekend. While individual players can choose to play Core and Alliance, regions should not blanket require all players to commit excessive athletics. If there are conflicts, the Alliance player must prioritize all their Alliance matches, both on their rostered team and if they are being loaned that day, over the Core match. Additional warning: Under no circumstances should Alliance coaches, team managers, RC's, regional schedulers, or Alliance coordinators ever contact the club league administrators and request club match changes to avoid Core match conflicts.

CSL allows for temporary "loan players." Details are located in the CSL Rules and Regulations. One of the benefits to Alliance is that any current Alliance player on a team in the CSL can be loaned (up to five maximum per game) for a match as long as that loaned player has not played in a CSL match that same day. Loan Players can be temporarily transferred between existing S1 Alliance teams, as long as those players have CALSouth ID Cards. A team should NEVER forfeit a match due to lack of players, especially with the availability of a vast number of S1 Alliance club loan players.

Suspension

- The Head Coach must document, in writing, and submit to the Indio Alliance Director the rationale for taking the disciplinary action. It must be demonstrated how the player's behavior is presenting a significant conduct and discipline problem. Or, in the case of missing team training sessions, must have documented proof that the player has missed OVER half of the scheduled training sessions (minimally – three weeks of normally scheduled training sessions must have passed).
- After reviewing the documentation provided, the Head Coach must meet with the Indio Alliance Director to verify all possible remedies have been exhausted. If, after the meeting, the Indio Alliance Director and the team's Head Coach agree, the player may be suspended from the team for a game.

Removal from Team

- The Head Coach must document, in writing, and submit to the Indio Alliance Director the rationale for taking disciplinary action. All AYSO policies and procedures for Dispute Resolution and Due Process shall apply.
- If there is a consensus, the parents (and player) will then be invited in to hear the concerns, and be allowed to respond. If the Indio Alliance Director agrees, the player may be removed from the Indio Alliance team.

ALL efforts should be made in order to work out the issue involved, and dismissal should be the last resort.

Post-Freeze-Date Player Addition Protocol

The CSL does allow for players to be added in the middle of the season, just as long as they are not currently rostered to a CSL team playing with CALSouth ID's.

Indio Alliance board recommends coaches use this option sparingly. ***Alliance top priorities are to the rostered, paid, and registered full-time Alliance players.*** Coaches should not sideline their full-time players for short-term gains or wins with temporary poached players.

However, in the rare instances where established Alliance teams are short players for a game, and the coach has exhausted all [loan player options](#) from within the Indio Alliance club, here is the process for adding new players to the roster after the CSL Freeze Date:

- *Warning:* Players who are already on a CSL roster (whether in Alliance or on a different club) can only be added to a different Alliance team through a special application to the CSL Transfer Committee. This is a rare occurrence. As a general rule, all inter-CSL player transfers cannot occur after the Freeze Date.
- All players who play on an Indio Alliance team must be registered as AYSO Alliance players in the team's home region.
- Only after the player is fully registered and paid as an AYSO Alliance player, the Alliance coach will then send all needed information and documents to the Indio Alliance Registrar, for CALSouth processing:
 - ☐ Signed RM forms by the player's guardians.
 - ☐ Spreadsheet with roster data fields completed.
 - ☐ Photo for Cal South ID card.
- Please allow 1 week for the Indio Alliance Registrar to get the player registered in CalSouth and prepare the player's ID card. Rapid turnaround times will not be available.
- After the Alliance Coach has picked up the player's physical ID card, the Alliance Coach must add the player to the team's CSL roster (with the Cal South ID number).

FEES

- A. ALLIANCE fees will be established by the local Area and Region and may vary from Area to Area. These fees *can* include ALLIANCE fees, state association player fee, state association team fee, AYSO player fee and possibly referee fees.
- B. Teams **MUST** fund themselves.
- C. Fundraising: Appropriate AYSO fundraisers should be worked through the host ALLIANCE and approved by the Regional Board.
- D. Payment can be made by parents without participation in fundraising.
- E. Donations are allowed from the player's family, individuals, or businesses. A player's family may elect to donate funds to the team; but a coach **cannot** require families to donate.

Financial Matters & Compliance

- A. All Indio Alliance programs must use the AYSO accounting program of record, and must adhere to the financial policies and procedures described in the Treasurer's Manual.
- B. All Indio Alliance Programs shall utilize the existing Region 813 bank account established. All monies from the program must be deposited into the existing account in a timely manner.
- C. An annual budget shall be prepared for each Indio Alliance Program to provide a basis for setting player membership and program fees and submitted to the AYSO Area or Section with

the oversight responsibility for the Indio Alliance program.

D. All Indio Alliance Programs must ensure the financial integrity of the Organization by complying with the obligations established by Bylaw 1.04(l) and (m), including, the timely

E. Payment of all national player registration fees prior to the commencement of the season and, as applicable throughout the season, in accordance with the registration requirements and procedures of the Organization.

F. Any suspected financial irregularity/fraud or misuse of funds must be immediately reported to the Regional Commissioner, Area Director, Section Director and Finance Department of the AYSO Office.

G. Indio Alliance financial records shall be maintained in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP.)

H. Agreements and contracts for facilities, services, etc. are to be approved and processed as required by AYSO governing documents.

I. Tournaments must be self-sustaining if operated by the local ALLIANCE. Tournaments must be sanctioned by the appropriate tournament contact within the Section.

J. Please consult the AYSO Treasurer Manual for a discussion of additional requirements and "Best Practices" for the following:

- cash handling protocols;
- submission of monthly financial reports;
- coding of income and expenses;
- audits of finances conducted by National;
- reconciliation of registered players to player registration fees received;
- refund policies;
- requirements of auditors;
- volunteer reimbursement;
- attendance at Nationally supported Section events,
- AYSO Supply Center purchases; and
- Other similar subjects.

(See Bylaw 1.04(l) and (m), together with the AYSO Treasurer Manual and the Treasurer's Position Description contained in the Reference Book, Chapter 15.)

Coach Agreement & Volunteer Deposit Policy

To maintain the integrity, volunteer spirit, and operational success of AYSO Region 813, all Alliance coaches are required to adhere to the following policy effective immediately:

***Volunteer Deposit Requirement (same as in Coaches section)**

Each Alliance team must submit a **\$500 Volunteer & Conduct Deposit** at the beginning of each season. This deposit serves two primary purposes:

3. **Volunteer Accountability** – Encourages active participation from coaches, assistant coaches, and team managers in supporting the region's core functions.
4. **Behavioral Standards** – Reinforces a culture of respect, sportsmanship, and alignment with AYSO values.

***Volunteer Obligation (same as in Coaches section)**

To be eligible for a refund of the deposit, each team (including the head coach, assistant coach, and team manager) must collectively complete a minimum of **10 volunteer duties** throughout the season. Examples of qualifying duties include:

- Refereeing matches (youth or core)
- Painting fields/field setup and takedown
- Assisting with registration or events
- Participating in coaching clinics or training support
- Serving on tournament or scheduling committees

Volunteer duties must be logged and verified by the Region 813 Board or designated volunteer coordinator.

***Conduct Policy (same as in Coaches section)**

To protect the reputation and positive environment of Region 813, the following disciplinary policy applies:

- **First Infraction (Behavioral or Sportsmanship Violation):**
The \$500 deposit will be **forfeited** to AYSO Region 813.
- **Second Infraction (Behavioral or Sportsmanship Violation):**
The head coach will be **removed from the Alliance program** for a minimum of 3 Seasons, pending review.

Infractions may include, but are not limited to:

- Verbal or physical misconduct toward referees, players, parents, or league officials
- Repeated failure to follow AYSO game-day protocols
- Undermining of region policies or refusal to complete assigned duties

***Forfeiture of Deposit (same as in Coaches section)**

If a team fails to complete the **minimum 10 volunteer duties** by the end of the season or commits a qualifying infraction, the \$500 deposit will be **forfeited** and transferred to the **AYSO Region 813 general fund** to support regional operations and volunteer development.

***Policy Acknowledgement (same as in Coaches section)**

By accepting an Alliance coaching position, each coach agrees to the terms outlined above. Non-compliance with this policy may affect future eligibility for participation in AYSO Region 813's Alliance program.

Miscellaneous

State Association Notes (Subject to local authority)

- AYSO cannot control or direct external gaming circuit decision-making or operational guidelines or standards.
- Your team schedule (for regular season games) will be on the State Association website or league of

play website.

- Games times and locations sometimes CHANGE... please review the schedule weekly.
- All teams will be required to abide by all State Association rules and guidelines, i.e., free substitutions.
- PLEASE direct all questions/comments/etc., related to the State Association or applicable gaming circuit through the Region or Area ALLIANCE Director.

Indio Alliance BRANDING

- In addition to the AYSO Traditional logo, which should be placed on the left sleeve, approved Indio Alliance programs are required to use the Indio Alliance Crest on the left chest.
- Authorized ALLIANCE programs should apply their local relevant color scheme to the logo. Up to two colors are accommodated. The gray crest interior border should be the only color that remains intact. (Examples shown below.)
- The AYSO Office will be responsible for creating official repro art, using color input from the local program.
- Please note, due to trademark laws, red, white and navy versions as per AYSO United will need to be approved by the AYSO Office.

Tournaments

- At the beginning of the soccer year (or each season), the coach should map out which tournaments the team wishes to participate in based on parent input, available funds and team objectives. The number and timing of tournaments should be considered by the coach in overall team planning (periodization) to ensure adequate rest and recovery.
- The coach or team manager should get the application for the tournament in PRIOR to the due date and consider if needed, block hotels, etc.
- For consistency, when signing up for a tournament, please use: Indio Alliance, Gender, Age Group and Coach last name, i.e., Indio Alliance, 05G, Last Name.

