



American
Youth
Soccer
Organization



Region 399 (includes residents of
Elmhurst, Villa Park, Bensenville, Oak
Brook and Oakbrook Terrace)

February 26, 2009

To all parents of Elmhurst AYSO Kindergarten & 1st Grade Players:

Greetings from the AYSO Region 399 Board of Directors! We have an urgent request of you that should greatly improve your child's soccer experience for this and many seasons to come. We need Referee volunteers!

A question often asked is: "Why do some games have a referee and some do not?" The answer is that **every AYSO 1st grade game and above should be overseen by a trained referee.** Like every position in AYSO, referees are parents (or older youth) who volunteer their time to ensure each game is a safe, fair and fun learning experience for the players.

Unfortunately, the number of volunteers within our region has fallen dramatically. This past fall, our **66** U7 and U8 (1st and 2nd grade) AYSO teams had **14** assigned volunteer referees. We are far short of the referees we need. We need **your** help to address this critical need.



Serving as a soccer referee, especially at the 1st and 2nd grade level, can be an enjoyable and rewarding experience. Since you are most likely already committed to be at your child's game anyway, we're not asking for any additional time out of your Saturday schedule!

The Region 399 Board considers it so important to have referees for all games during these formative years that it has resolved for the upcoming fall 2009 season, **all U7 and U8 teams must have a trained referee volunteer, or the team will be disbanded.** The best way to ensure your player does not face an unfortunate situation is to step up and fill this important role yourself.

A **three hour training course** is all that is required to prepare you for these introductory level games. For your convenience, we are offering the following training times at the Community Bank of Elmhurst at Butterfield and Spring Roads:

8:30 am or 12:30 pm	Saturday March 21, 2009
Thursday evenings	as needed

Please select a time and respond to Vince or Mark at the e-mail addresses listed below.

Thank you (it's for the kids!),

For Region 399:

Marc Mitchell, Referee Administrator

Vince Hradil, Assistant Referee Administrator (hradilv@yahoo.com)

Mark Murray, Director of Referee Instruction (marksev@sbcglobal.net)