



## AMERICAN YOUTH SOCCER ORGANIZATION

### MOTION

Title: National Policy Statements Article 9.2: Training and Certification Item No. _____
Meeting Date: April 19, 2024
Agenda Request By: Rick Buiteweg
Contact Person: Karen Mihara
Committee Vote (if appropriate): ____Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Does this item have a fiscal impact on the Organization? ____Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, provide detailed cost impacts/projections for consideration.
Additional Documentation Attached? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
National Policy Statements

Items must be presented 10 days in advance of the meeting to be considered for the agenda.

Motion to amend National Policy Statements Article Nine, 9.2 Training and Certification to address the SafeSport training requirement for players who will be the age of majority during the Membership Year.

RECOMMENDATION MOTION LANGUAGE (Bold/Underlined):

#### **9.2 Training and Certification**

- A. In AYSO, all board members referees and coaches are required to be registered in the current AYSO Membership Year, as well as possess the appropriate training and certification.
1. For the protection of players, volunteers and AYSO, all volunteers are required to complete the current version of AYSO's Safe Haven along with the appropriate job training, in order to be trained and certified for the volunteer position(s) held. This includes age-specific coach training for coaches.
  2. AYSO board members, coaches and referees are also required to take the federally required SafeSport Training, state required Concussion Awareness and Sudden Cardiac Arrest trainings.

- B. All athletes turning 18 years old (or age of majority) who still meet the threshold for Regular Contact or authority with minors, must complete the SafeSport Core training and must comply with the U.S. Soccer MAAPP, including its abuse prevention policies, absent the Close-In-Age exception, which may apply to the enforcement of abuse prevention policies but not to the Education and Training requirement set forth in this policy and the MAAPP (found in US Soccer Policy 212-3 (5) (A)).
1. Additionally, US Soccer defines the close-in-age exception as less than four years (19-year-old with a 16-year-old). This can be found in the MAAPP policy, Part IV, Close-in-age exception.
  2. It is recommended that all AYSO players reaching 18 years old ~~during a membership year shall~~ be required to complete SafeSport Training. Region CVPAs should track the completion of SafeSport and any participation in Region, Area, or Section play shall only be allowed if SafeSport is completed.

#### BACKGROUND:

The AYSO Participant Safety Council reviewed the U.S. Soccer Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy ("MAAPP"), finding that 18/19 year old players on a team with minor players are required to take SafeSport training.

The original wording supported the preference of administrators to have minors, turning 18 years old/age of majority during the playing season, complete the training before the season starts when they are regularly confirming compliance and to avoid disruption to the playing seasons.

This modification is recommended because SafeSport does not allow minors to take their course.

#### DISCUSSION: