

AYSO REGION 13

TOURNAMENT/ALL-STAR INFORMATION FOR PLAYERS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Welcome to the AYSO Region 13 Myles Standish Thanksgiving tournament (MST) and All-Star tryouts. We hope this document provides all the information you need. If you have questions, direct them to your division coach or the Advanced Play Coordinator. A directory of those persons is provided at <http://ayso13.org> under COACHES / Coaching Staff.

Please complete the attached questionnaire, detach it, and give it to the volunteer at the check-in table. One questionnaire for each player trying out is needed. You must fill the form out only once for all sessions.

Commitment to the Program

A key to the success of the program, teammate experience, and your child's experience is the commitment to attend all practices and games (these are not optional but are required). This commitment sometimes interferes with other activities. Please be aware of this potential conflict when deciding what is best for your son or daughter, and review the calendar on the <http://ayso1c.org> website, in order to avoid making a commitment that cannot be kept.

- **Practices:** There will typically be two practices per week during the All-Star season.
- **Games:** There will typically be two games on most weekends (including Sundays, and both the MLK and President's Day weekends). Rainouts maybe made up on week day evenings. Games will begin in the middle of January and run through February, and possibly one or two weekends in March.
- **Travel:** Local travel in the San Gabriel valley will be required.
- **Fall Season Program:** Players who are selected for All Star and/or Thanksgiving Tournament teams are required to attend their Fall Season team practices and games. The Fall Season team's schedule takes precedence.
- **Ages:** U10, U12, and U14

All Star Program

Participation on an All-Star team typically provides the players the opportunity to play at a level higher than the Fall Season. The All Star teams from Region 13 will compete against other teams from Area 1C (Alhambra, Arcadia, Boyle Heights, Glendale, San Gabriel, South El Monte, South Pasadena, and Temple City).

There are three levels of play (Sectional, Area, and Regional) for each gender and age (U10, U12, U14) in the Area 1C All Star program. Within each level Region 13 All Star teams will play All Star teams from the other Regions within Area 1C.

Sectional Team: There is one Sectional team. It is selected first and it is comprised of players with the strongest skills and ability to meet the All Star commitments. Typically this team is made up of older players. This team will have the opportunity to compete in the Section 1 playoffs should it win the Area 1C playoff at the end of the All Star Season. Should this team finish first or second they then can participate in the Tri-Section Tournament.

Area Team: There is one Area team. It is selected second and it is typically comprised of younger players who have stronger skills and have the ability to meet the All Star commitments. The Area team can participate in the Area 1C playoffs if they finish as one of the top 4 teams in Area 1C.

Regional Teams: There can be one or more Regional teams. These teams are comprised of both older and younger players and are balanced relative to each other. The play is quite competitive and provides players with a great opportunity to develop and enhance their skills.

Team Selection

Shortly after the second tryout, all coaches observing the tryouts will meet to select the Region 13 Thanksgiving tournament (MST) teams. These teams will mirror the eventual All-Star teams, in that one team in each division will be composed of the most skilled players meeting the selection criteria (Sectional equivalent). A second team will consist primarily of the most skilled younger players meeting the selection criteria (Area equivalent). Finally, one or more additional teams will be formed from the remaining players who meet the selection criteria (Regional equivalent). Only those players who indicate that they will be available for tournament play over the Thanksgiving weekend (including practices earlier that week) will be eligible for these teams. After initial selection, if there are dropouts prior to Thanksgiving, players may be moved up to higher level teams as the need arises, and players not initially selected could be chosen.

Similarly, shortly after the third tryout, all coaches observing the tryouts will meet to select the Region 13 All-Star teams. The Sectional All-Star team in each division will be composed of the most skilled players meeting the selection criteria. The Area All-Star team in each division will consist of the next most skilled players meeting the selection criteria. Finally, one or more Regional All-Star teams in each division will be formed from the remaining players who meet the selection criteria. The regional draft will happen after initial selection of the All-Star teams. If there are dropouts, players may be moved up to higher level teams as the need arises, and players not initially selected could be chosen to fill in spots.

Selection to a Thanksgiving tournament team does not guarantee that a player will ultimately be chosen for an All-Star team. At the same time, a player who is not chosen for, or who chooses not to participate in a Thanksgiving tournament team is still eligible to be considered for an All-Star team.

Selection Criteria and Process

The selection of Thanksgiving tournament and All-Star teams is a collective process with all interested coaches having input. Players are selected based on their performance during tryouts, observation of players during fall season games, the needs of individual teams, player age and roster size restrictions, input from the player's fall season coach, demonstrated commitment to the extra practices and travel required, family volunteerism, and adherence by the player and his or her family to AYSO principles and values. This last factor is very important. It is possible that a skilled player will not be selected if, in the opinion of the coaches, a player or his or her parents are divisive or disruptive to team unity.

Unfortunately, we cannot place every qualified player. There are a finite number of teams that can be formed. Further, the coaches regrettably have only a limited amount of time to evaluate many talented players. Difficult selection decisions are routine. The coaches do their best and hope that in the event a player is not selected, he or she will nonetheless continue to work hard and to participate enthusiastically in the other programs offered by Region 13.

Costs Associated with Thanksgiving Tournament Play

Slots in Region 13's Myles Standish Tournament (MST), held at the Rose Bowl fields over Thanksgiving weekend, are reserved for Region 13's Sectional, Area, and up to two Regional equivalent Thanksgiving teams in each division. One additional Regional-equivalent Thanksgiving team in each of the U10 divisions will play in the Thanksgiving tournament held by South Pasadena.

Playing in these tournaments requires the payment of an entrance fee per player (which varies by division and team size), a uniform deposit, and a referee deposit per player. **These fees must be paid by separate checks, payable to AYSO Region 13.** The uniform deposit will be given back upon return of the uniform at the end of the last Thanksgiving tournament match. The referee deposit will be returned if the team fulfills its referee and volunteer responsibilities.

Costs Associated with All Stars

Region 13's All-Star program is independent from the fall season and is entirely self-supporting, per AYSO National policy. Families hoping to participate should plan on expenses for registration, local travel, and (optionally) spirit clothes. The registration fee for All-Stars will be announced in an e-mail alert on <http://ayso13.org> (please see the home page under "NEWS & INFORMATION UPDATES" or check your e-mail).

Region 13 All-Star teams will be provided with uniforms, which are the players' to keep.

Players may purchase spirit clothing, such as jackets, sweatshirts, ball bags, etc. at additional cost. We, Region Tournament/All-Star Program Information and Parent/Guardian Tryout Questionnaire

13, strongly urge that names, nicknames, or other personal information not be displayed on spirit clothing.

Tournament Season

After the All-Star season, All-Star teams often stay together, or combine, and participate in various tournaments in and around Southern California. Some of the teams will stay together well into the summer months. Some of the tournaments are in the San Gabriel Valley; almost all are in Southern California between San Luis Obispo and San Diego. Each tournament has an entry fee per player, plus a referee deposit, and there may be travel/lodging expenses. Some of our more adventurous coaches have taken their teams to Northern California or out of the state altogether; Hawaii has been a summertime favorite from time to time. Check with your coach about his or her plans for your team, the fundraising opportunities, and what you can do to make the tournament season an experience to cherish. In the event an All-Star team decides to stay together for tournaments, participation is entirely optional. Players may be added to replace those who choose not to continue on the team.

Support

The Thanksgiving tournament and All-Star coaches need the support and encouragement of every person associated with the team – players, parents, siblings, the person who may help get the child to practice. Remember that AYSO Region 13 is an all-volunteer organization that needs hard-working, dedicated coaches, referees, and parents to make the program work. A thank-you, a word of encouragement, or a pat on the back will go a long way to encourage these dedicated volunteers to continue to improve their abilities so that all of the region's children benefit.

Contacts

- Area 1-C runs All-Stars. You can find contact information at <http://www.ayso1c.org> and can contact the Area Post Season Coordinator at postseason@ayso1c.org for any overall questions you may have.
- Regional Contacts can be found at <http://ayso13.org> under COACHES / "Coaching Staff". Also the regional board contacts are listed under INFO \ "Board of Directors"

Tryout Schedule

Please see the website calendar at <http://ayso13.org> for updates. For a quick summary there are usually three different tryouts; two before Thanksgiving and one after Thanksgiving. These tryouts usually occur on the first two weekends in November and the first weekend in December.

Arrive 15-20 minutes early to complete the registration process before the designated start time: the later you are, the longer your wait in line may be. Players should bring soccer cleats, shin guards, soccer ball, water (and gloves if a goalkeeper), and must be signed in by a parent or legal guardian – **NOT a family friend**. Be sure to check the regional website, <http://ayso13.org>, for possible last-minute changes due to weather, field closure, etc.

A player must attend at least one tryout to be eligible for a Thanksgiving tournament team and/or an All-Star team. If a player is interested in playing on a Thanksgiving tournament team, he/she must attend at least one of the first two tryouts. All players are encouraged to attend as many tryouts as possible. This enables each player to more fully display his or her skills and to be observed more closely by the coaches. Players are strongly encouraged to attend more than just the last tryout in December. **Please do your best to attend at least one November tryout!** More scrutiny is placed on team formation in November and there is carry over from the Thanksgiving tournament teams to All-Stars. Obviously this does not preclude your player from making a team if they only attend tryouts in December; but if a player misses the November tryouts and then missed the December tryout due to unforeseen circumstances, he/she would not be eligible to play in the All-Star program.

**Tournament/All-Star Program
Player/Parent/Guardian Tryout Questionnaire**

PLEASE ANSWER COMPLETELY, AND LEGIBLY PRINT ALL RESPONSES AND BRING TO FIRST TRYOUT

Division: BU10 GU10 BU12 GU12 BU14 GU14

Player Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Parent or Guardian:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City & ZIP Code: _____

Home & Cell Phone: _____

Email(s): _____

PLEASE CIRCLE CORRECT RESPONSE

- | | | |
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| 1. Will the player be able to participate in a Thanksgiving tournament? | Yes | No |
| 2. Will the player be able to attend mandatory Thanksgiving team practices/scrimmages? | Yes | No |
| 3. Are you willing/able to help/volunteer at the Thanksgiving Tournament? | Yes | No |
| 4. Will the player be able to play throughout the All-Star season (January-March)? | Yes | No |
| 5. Would the player be interested in playing in tournaments after the All-Star season? | Yes | No |
| 6. Will the player be able to play matches on Sundays? | Yes | No |
| 7. Will the player be able to attend 2 practices per week? | Yes | No |
| 8. Is one/more of the parents/guardians certified and willing to referee as a Referee? | Yes | No |

Referee or Assistant Referee

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| 9. Will the player have any other commitments/activities (sports, trips, clubs, etc...) that may interfere with participation in the All Star Program? Please list them below. | Yes | No |
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By signing below the player and his/her family has read, understands, and acknowledges the commitment (time, resources, & energy) that is expected of an All-Star player (including attendance at practices/games).

Player Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date