

Coach Certification Policy

I have reviewed the coach certification issue with NSTC, Paula, and the Area staff. It is very clear that some coaches are not properly certified in Safe Haven or at the proper age level. It may also be true that the eAYSO system may not have current information. I have received many phone calls and emails on this topic in the last twenty-four hours. I want to be clear on the policy of Area 10D regarding coach certifications.

For over four years Section 10 has directed the Areas and Regions to comply with the National Coaching Commission (NCC) guidelines for Safe Haven and age-specific coach training. Section 10 allowed the Areas and Regions to transition to proper compliance with the NCC guidelines over the past two years. This is the year of full compliance to the policy. Areas and Regions were informed of this process. It is the responsibility of the Regional Commissioner to inform their boards and coaches. This has been discussed at every Area meeting for at least the last six months.

This policy was instituted to assist and benefit the regions, coaches, and players. When the coaches receive advanced training, they improve. You can not say that the coaches will not benefit from additional training. They will be improved in the ability to manage the older players, teach additional skills, and have the players have more interesting and fun experiences at practices and games. When the players are having fun, the high attrition rates will decrease. You will maintain more players in the older divisions.

The Area policy on this matter is as follows:

- The coaches must be certified in Safe Haven and age the proper age level:
 - U16 and U19 coaches must have Advanced Coach certification.
 - U14 coaches must have Intermediate Coach certification.
 - U12 coaches must have Youth (U12) Coach certification.
 - U10 coaches must have U10 Coach certification.
 - U8 coaches must have U8 Coach certification.
 - U6 coaches must have U6 Coach certification.
 - All coaches must have Safe Haven for Coaches certification.
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- All certification information **must** be current in the eAYSO system.

If the points above are not fulfilled, the coach / team will not advance to Area or Section playoffs.

Charlie Johnson
Area 10D Director

November 3, 2004