



Unified Instructor Program

AYSO's Mission:

To develop and deliver quality youth soccer programs which promote a fun, family environment based on our philosophies:

- Everyone Plays
- Balanced Teams
- Open Registration
- Positive Coaching
- Good Sportsmanship

AYSO Education is dedicated to supporting the over all mission of AYSO by developing volunteers and trainers who build the culture of AYSO and support its vision.

AYSO's Instructor Program has been unified into one training program to—

- protect volunteers and children,
- improve consistency,
- protect AYSO resources (people's time, talent, and money), and
- strengthen and support the AYSO Team concept.

The AYSO Unified Instructor Program started in January 1998 and is gradually being implemented over 3 years. The program has five grades. Within each grade the curriculum is unified in instruction techniques as well as AYSO policies.

Grade 5 All **NEW AYSO instructors** enter as Grade 5 Instructor (= Regional Teacher). Regional Teachers use directed teaching plans to train new volunteers.

Grades 4-1 Instructors who want to teach more experienced volunteers choose a specialty

- instructor of coaches,
- instructor of managers, or
- instructor of officials,

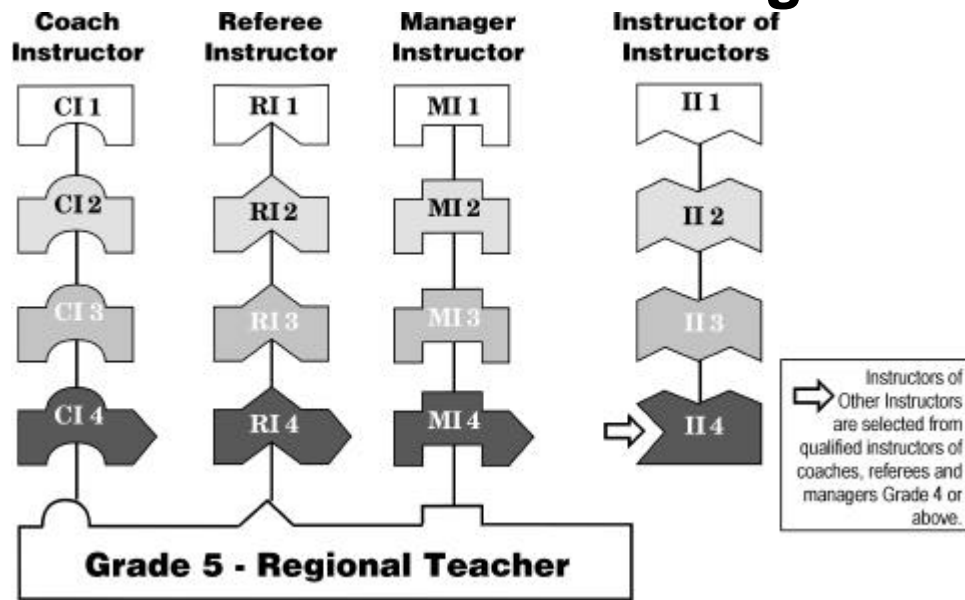
and upgrade systematically to Grades 4, 3, 2, 1. They must meet each grade's prerequisites and complete the competency-based course.

Grades 4-1 Instructors who want to teach other AYSO instructors also upgrade systematically to Grades 4, 3, 2, 1. They must meet each grade's prerequisites and complete the competency-based program.

Transition **AYSO instructors trained prior** to January 1, 1998 may enter the unified program by completing a short **TRANSITION** course which matches their previous AYSO instructor level. After the identified transition, these instructors may upgrade systematically. Until the end of 2000, AYSO instructors may continue to lead any course(s) they are authorized to lead in the old instructor program and are encouraged to transition into the unified program.

The Unified Instructor Program is a work in progress. More details about the grades are shown inside to help instructors, administrators, and interested AYSO participants understand how this program can be used to support and deliver quality AYSO programs for kids.

The AYSO Instructor Program



For Grades 4 through 1 there are core instruction competencies specific to each level. Additionally there are discipline specific competencies at each level (CI, RI, MI, or II). An instructor needs both the core instructional competency and the discipline specific competency to be qualified at any instructor grade.

Each instructor must have both competencies and experience in a lower grade before moving to a higher grade. Thus, a Grade 3 Coach Instructor has both Grade 3 core instructional competencies and Grade 3 coach specific competencies. This instructor can train to move up to Grade 2 Coach Instructor.

A Grade 3 Coach Instructor may not, however, become a Grade 3 Referee Instructor, unless he or she has qualified as a Grade 4 Referee Instructor, has the appropriate referee instruction experience, and gains Grade 3 referee specific competencies.

Grade 5 Instructor (Regional Teacher)

A local teacher is important because it gives the region the ability to train new volunteers when it is convenient. Regional Teachers are taught to ensure that AYSO philosophy and policies, AYSO programs, AYSO Team, and child and volunteer protection are explained.

Consistency across AYSO improves as Regional Teachers use materials specified for each course. AYSO teaching plans direct Regional Teachers in the content and order of each course.

Regions are encouraged to have more than one volunteer (coach, referee, board member, and others) trained as Regional Teachers. These instructors can support each other, teach disciplines they know, and invite local experts as guest speakers.

Prerequisites (to get in the course):

- Agree to teach AYSO volunteers in the region.

Criteria (to become Grade 5):

- Complete the short Regional Teacher Course
- Pass the quizzes.

Recertification (to stay Grade 5):

- Teach for AYSO once per year.
- Keep a record of AYSO teaching.
- Reregister once a year.
- Maintain a good reputation as instructor and role model in the region.

Authorized to Lead

- U-6, U-8, and U-10 Coaching Courses
- 'Old' Youth Coach Course (until 12/31/00)
- U-8 Referee Course
- Assistant and Regional Referee Courses (Encouraged to "Teach What You Know")
- AYSO Team
- Annual Regional Update

Plus Certification Courses when qualified

- Board and Staff Introductory Certification (BASIC) (MUST be certified in BASIC before teaching it)
- Safe Haven Coach Certification Course (MUST be Youth Coach or higher, AND MUST be certified in Safe Haven Coach before teaching it.)
- Safe Haven Referee Certification Course (MUST be Regional Referee or higher, AND MUST be certified in Safe Haven Referee before teaching it.)

Coach, Referee, Manager Instructors

Grade 4

All Grade 4 Instructors meet the following program specifications. Additionally, instructors meet specifics for their chosen discipline (specialty).

Prerequisites

- Be a Regional Teacher at least one year.
- Teach any AYSO classes in at least 2 courses.
- Apply with recommendations from RC who vouches for this instructor's commitment to AYSO programs and activity in AYSO instruction.

Criteria

- Complete Grade 4 Instructor Course.
- Attend all classes in sequence at the same course.
- Participate in all presentations.
- Pass all quizzes.
- Demonstrate at least G4 presentation skills

Candidates who do not complete the competency criteria are given an individual implementation plan to guide them to finish the criteria within 18 months.

Recertification

- Teach a full instructional load, consisting of a minimum of TWO (2) qualifying activities.
 1. One instructional activity must be in the discipline for which the G4 instructor is recertifying. See the appropriate discipline below.
 2. The second activity may be any course, program, workshop, or in-service developed or approved by AYSO Education
- Submit a report of courses taught and reregister once a year.
- Maintain a good reputation as instructor and role model.

Authorized to Lead

Any courses a Grade 5 Instructor can lead, and the discipline course specified for Grade 4 Instructors.

Coach Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Be an AYSO Youth Coach or higher.
- Be an AYSO coach for at least one year .

Criteria

- Demonstrate adequate AYSO coaching knowledge and soccer skills to lead a Youth (U-12) Coach Course.
- Pass the coach exam with 80% or better.

Recertification

- Serve as lead or co-instructor in an AYSO U-10 or Youth (U-12) Coach Course,
- or**
- co-instructor in a higher level AYSO coaching course which has been authorized by the appropriate section or national coaching staff.

Authorized to Lead

Youth (U-12) Coach Course

Referee Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be at least 16 years old.
- Be an AYSO Area Referee or higher.
- Be an AYSO referee for at least one year.

Criteria

- Demonstrate adequate AYSO officiating knowledge and skills to lead an Area Referee Course
- Pass the Area Referee exam with 90% or better.

Recertification

- Serve as lead or co-instructor in an AYSO Referee, Regional Referee, or Area Referee Course,
- or**
- co-instructor in a higher level AYSO referee course which has been authorized by the appropriate area, section or national referee staff.

Authorized to Lead

Area Referee Course

Manager Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be at least 18 years old.
- Be an AYSO regional board or staff member for at least one year.
- Have attended ARM 1, ARM 2, or previous RAMP training .

Criteria

- Demonstrate adequate AYSO management knowledge and skills to lead a board and staff training.
- Pass the management exam with 80% or better.

Recertification

- Serve as lead or co-instructor in an AYSO Board and Staff Introductory Certification,
- or**
- co-instructor in a higher level AYSO management course which has been authorized by the appropriate section or national management staff.

Authorized to Lead

Training and certification of regional board members

Coach, Referee, Manager Instructors

Grade 3

All Grade 3 Instructors meet the following program specifications. Additionally, instructors meet specifics for their chosen discipline.

Prerequisites

- Be a Grade 4 Instructor at least one year.
- Teach any two AYSO courses as Grade 4 Instructor.
- Apply with recommendations from an area staff person who vouches for this instructor's commitment to AYSO programs and activity in AYSO instruction.

Criteria

- Complete the Grade 3 Instructor Program.
- Attend all classes in sequence at the same course.
- Participate in all activities.
- Pass all quizzes.
- Demonstrate at least G3 presentation skills.

Candidates who do not complete the competency criteria must retake the Grade 3 Instructor Course.

Recertification

- Teach and report ...
(Under Development)
- Reregister once a year.
- Maintain a good reputation as instructor and role model.

Authorized to Lead

Any courses a Grade 5 Instructor can lead, and the discipline course(s) specified for Grade 3 and Grade 4 Instructors. (See the disciplines below.)

Coach Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be a Grade 4 Coach Instructor.
- Be an AYSO Intermediate Coach or higher.
- Have led at least one Youth Coach Course.

Criteria

- Demonstrate adequate AYSO coaching knowledge and soccer skills to lead an Intermediate Coaching Course.
- Pass the coach exam with 80% or better.

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

Intermediate Coach Course and section meeting coach workshops.

Referee Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be a Grade 4 Referee Instructor.
- Be an AYSO Section Referee or higher; or Area Referee and completed the Section Referee Course and passed the Section Referee Exam.
- Have led at least one Area Referee Course.

Criteria

- Demonstrate adequate AYSO officiating knowledge and skills to lead a Section Referee Course.
- Pass the Section Referee Exam with 90% or better.

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

Section Referee Course and section meeting referee workshops.

Manager Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be a Grade 4 Management Instructor.
- Be an AYSO executive member for at least one year, or AYSO board or staff member at least two years.
- Have led at least one board and staff certification.

Criteria

- Demonstrate adequate AYSO management knowledge and skills to lead ARM1.
- Pass the management exam with 80% or better.

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

ARM 1 and section meeting management workshops.

Coach, Referee, Manager Instructors

Grade 2

All Grade 2 Instructors meet the following program specifications. Additionally, instructors meet specifics for their chosen discipline.

Prerequisites

- Be a Grade 3 Instructor at least one year.
- Teach any three AYSO courses as Grade 3 Instructor.
- Apply with recommendations from a section or area staff person who vouches for this instructor's commitment to AYSO programs and activity in AYSO instruction.

Criteria

- Complete the Grade 2 Instructor Program.
- Attend all classes in sequence at the same course.
- Participate in all activities.
- Pass all quizzes.

- Demonstrate at least G2 presentation skills.

- Mentor TBD

Recertification

- Teach and report ...
(Under Development)
- Reregister once a year.
- Maintain a good reputation as instructor and role model.

Authorized to Lead

The discipline course specified for Grade 2 instructors and any courses a Grade 3 instructor in this discipline can lead. (See the disciplines below.)

Coach Instructors

Prerequisites

Under Development

Criteria

Under Development

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

Advanced Coach Course

Referee Instructors

Prerequisites

Under Development

Criteria

Under Development

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

National 2 Referee Course.

Manager Instructors

Prerequisites

Under Development

Criteria

Under Development

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

ARM 2

Area Staff Training

Grade 1

All Grade 1 Instructors meet the following program specifications. Additionally, instructors meet specifics for their chosen discipline.

Prerequisites

Under Development

Competency criteria

Under Development

Recertification

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

Any courses in the instructor's discipline and anything a Grade 5 Instructor may lead. (See the disciplines below.)

Coach Instructors

Prerequisites (TBD)

Criteria (TBD)

Recertification (TBD)

Authorized to Lead

National Coach Course

Referee Instructors

Prerequisites (TBD)

Criteria (TBD)

Recertification (TBD)

Authorized to Lead

National 1 Referee Course.

Manager Instructors

Prerequisites (TBD)

Criteria (TBD)

Recertification (TBD)

Authorized to Lead

Area Director Training, Section

Director Training & BOD Training

Instructors of Instructors

Grade 4

All Grade 4 Instructors meet the program specifications listed on page 3. Additionally, instructors of other instructors meet the following specifications.

Instructor of Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be a G4 Coach, Referee, or Management Instructor.
- Be at least 18 years old.
- Have led at least 2 regional courses.
- Participated in teaching at least one Regional Teacher Course led by an authorized Instructor of Instructors.
- Apply for G4II candidacy with recommendations from
 1. the RC (see generic prerequisites on previous page)
 2. a registered G4 Instructor or higher, **and**
 3. an area staff person based on knowledge of candidate's ability to function in this instructional role;**or**
2 of the 3 required recommendations and a letter of explanation to the Education Instruction Coordinator.

Criteria

- Demonstrate the understanding of and ability to model instructional techniques and methods appropriate to lead a Regional Teacher Course:
 - follow the teaching and lesson plans
 - use guided participation,
 - use overhead transparencies and other visual aids.
- Pass the instructional exam with 90 % or better.

Recertification

- Serve as lead or co-instructor in an AYSO Regional Teacher (Grade 5 Instructor) Course, **or**
- co-instructor in a higher level AYSO instructor course which has been authorized by the appropriate national instruction staff.

Authorized to Lead

- Regional Teacher (Grade 5 Instructor) Course.

Grade 3

All Grade 3 Instructors meet the program specifications listed on page 4. Additionally, instructors of other instructors meet the following specifications.

Instructor of Instructors

Prerequisites

- Be a Grade 4 Instructor of Instructors.
- Have led at least two Regional Teacher Courses.
- Have demonstrated the ability to model appropriate instruction methods and techniques while teaching AYSO classes.
- Have participated in at least one Grade 4, Grade 3, or Grade 2 Instructor Course led by an authorized G3 Instructor of Instructors or higher.
- Apply for G3II candidacy with recommendations from
 1. area staff (see generic prerequisites above.)
 2. a registered G3 Instructor or higher, **and**
 3. a section staff person, based on knowledge of candidate's ability to function in this instructional role;**or**
2 of the 3 required recommendations and a letter of explanation to the Education Instruction Coordinator.

Criteria

- Demonstrate the understanding of and ability to model instructional techniques and methods appropriate to lead a Grade 4 Instructor Course:
 - follow the teaching and lesson plans
 - use questions appropriately to guide participation,
 - use varied teaching methods appropriately, and
 - TBD
- Pass the instructional exam with 90 % or better.

Recertification

- Serve as lead or co-instructor in an AYSO Grade 5 or Grade 4 Instructor Course, **or**
- co-instructor in a higher level AYSO instructor course which has been authorized by the appropriate national instruction staff.

Authorized to Lead

Grade 4 Instructor Course

Instructors of Instructors

Grade 2

All Grade 2 Instructors meet the program specifications listed on page 5. Additionally, instructors of other instructors meet the following specifications.

Instructor of Instructors

Prerequisites

Under Development

Recertification

Under Development

Criteria

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

Grade 3 Instructor Course

Grade 1

All Grade 1 Instructors meet the program specifications listed on page 5. Additionally, instructors of other instructors meet the following specifications.

Instructor of Instructors

Prerequisites

Under Development

Recertification

Under Development

Criteria

Under Development

Authorized to Lead

Grade 2 Instructor Program

Transition Courses

AYSO instructors certified under a previous program may enter the unified instructor program by completing a short transition course. The attached diagram indicates which is the appropriate transition course.

Instructors who wish to transition must meet the minimum prerequisite criteria for the grade and discipline. Many instructors are attending a lower grade transition to understand the unified program until their final transition course is completed.

All qualified coach, referee, and management transition candidates, Grade 3 and higher, are invited by section and national staff to attend the appropriate transition course. Qualified transition candidates for the Instructor of Instructors discipline, Grade 4 and higher, are identified by national staff in collaboration with section staff.

Instructors who complete transition at the appropriate grade may then upgrade systematically within their chosen discipline as described earlier.

Transition Model to Unified Instructor Program

- Coach instructors train other coaches
- Referee instructors train other referees
- Manager instructors train other managers
- Instructor instructors train instructors of coaches referees managers and other instructors

