



# Team Management for the Youth Club Coach

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## Don't Wing It!

- Awareness of medical alerts, special needs, pre-existing injuries
- Epi-pens and inhalers at distinct location
- AED Unit location clearly designated and certified staff present at all times
- First Aid Kit and Ice
- Inclement weather / Lightning – area of safe refuge might be parent / guardian vehicles – adults must plan ahead

# EMERGENCY

# PLAN

## Prepare a Course of Action

- EMS accessibility to the facility or field – area clearly posted and staff designated to guide
- Medical Release Forms and Emergency Contact Information - on hand at all times
- Medical Transport with no parent guardian present – coach remains with the team, assistant coach accompanies child
- Hospital identified by name and address
- Prompt reporting of suspicious individuals, occurrences
- Cell phone accessibility and direct dial to local police department



# Safety

- Vulnerable times – early arrivals, late departures, interruptions, water breaks
- Drop-off and pick-up location – vehicular traffic?
- Inspect field surface and conditions and equipment including that of players
- Proper warm-up and cool-down
- Hydration
- Gather in shade
- Anchored or weighted goals – moved by adults only



# Soccer Goal Dangers

1979 – 2016

**39 Deaths**

**58 Injuries**

A gust of wind...a young player...an uneven playing field...In their current design, only 22 pounds of force can bring a 400-pound goal crashing down, injuring – even killing – a player.

**Prevent a Tragedy!**



# Liability and Risk Management

- Supervision, responsibility
- First to show - Last to go
- 2 -Adult Rule
- Appropriate activities, equipment, and oversight
- Immediate care and prompt reporting of injuries to include follow-up and monitor
- Concussion Awareness training and protocol
- Background checks
- Requirements for field permits and insurance



# Communication and Administration

- E-mail, phone, group text, and message apps with parents only
- Weekly themes, match times and directions, reminders – show-up time, uniforms and equipment, schedule changes, special announcements
- Coordination of details for matches with opposing team coaches, field scheduler, league officials, and referee assignor
- Documents, player passes, referee fees
- Available to address questions or concerns
- 24-hour cool-down after matches
- No other children discussed with a parent
- Remain on-topic - soccer



# Topics

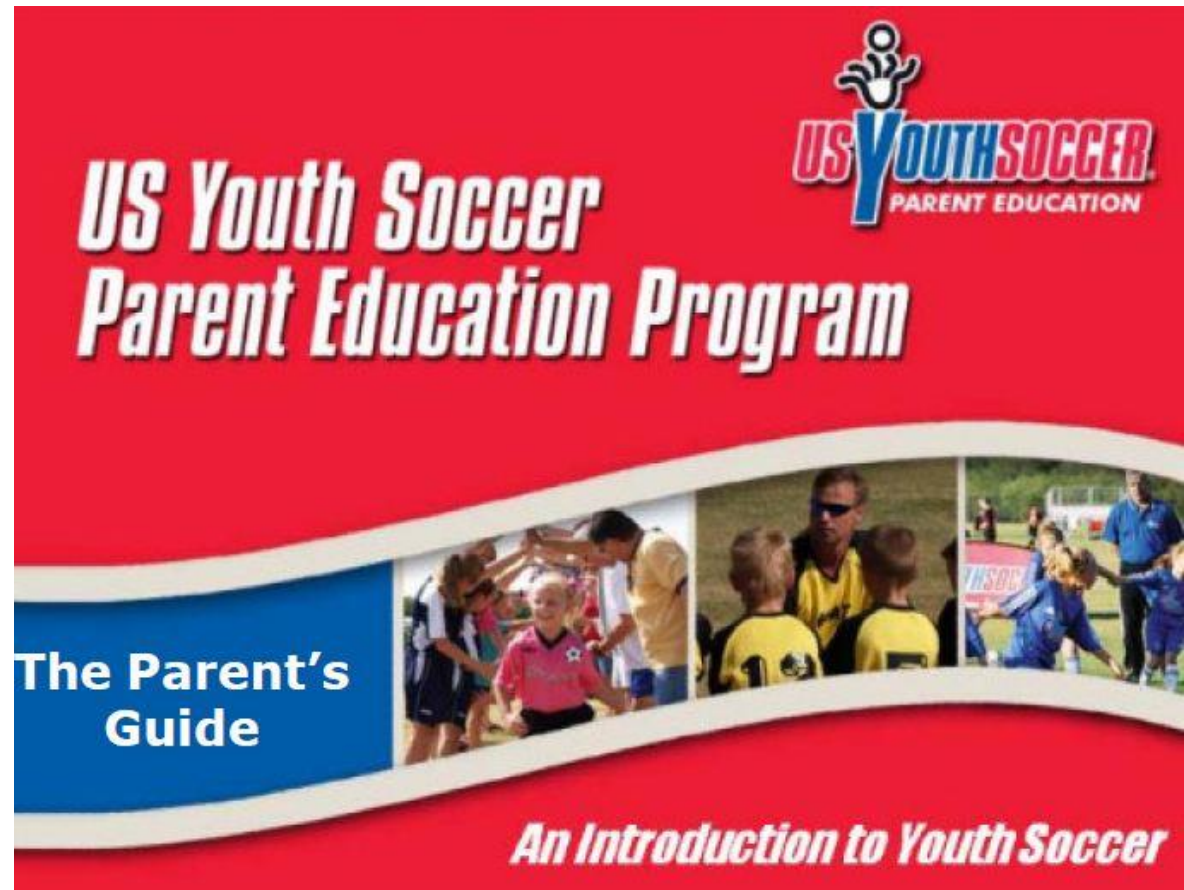
- Coaching Philosophy and Objectives include - safety, fun, inclusion, engagement, and skills development over need to win
- Overview of curriculum content for that age
- Playing time and positions
- Expectations clarified
- 2-Adult Rule
- Touchline Behavior
- Schedule next meeting
- Continued Soccer Education / Engagement – US Youth Soccer, US Soccer, and respective state association





# Engaging Parents in the Process of Understanding Best Practices

- Player-Centered not Coach-Centered
- Facilitator Role
- Game as the Teacher
- Uninterrupted Free Play -  
Are they learning to play soccer by playing soccer?
- Decision-Making by Players
- Players free to experiment without fear of mistakes
- No Lines, Laps, or Lectures
- Style of Play – Building from the back, Possession-Based attacking
- Rules and Modifications



# Please Remember

 **WARNING**

**ALWAYS ANCHOR GOAL.**

**Unsecured goal can fall over  
causing serious injury or death.**



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