

2-2D-884

Board Meeting Q & A:

Feb 5, 2026



**\*\*Spring Alliance Registration Opens 2/9/2026 - First Installment Due 2/27/26\*\* Please see further explanation of this on page 4-5 in response to Trang Tran-James.**

### Comments & Questions:

**Katherine Sommerfeld:** “We are lucky to have a professional Photographer in Antelope AYSO!! Woo woo!”

**Katherine Sommerfeld:** “I love that Sammy! Sounds like an amazing experience.”

**Katherine Sommerfeld:** “EPIC-Everyone Plays In Community”

**Trang Tran-James:** “Not sure how much time we will have for questions but here are some questions from the 14U team.”

“1. Tournament - What if we want to pay out of pocket or make up the balance that way, how would we handle that?”

- All teams are responsible for funding their own tournaments. Each team has the option to pay for tournament fees out of pocket by collecting a portion of the fees from each player. This method would have to be fully agreed upon by all families. Monies would be collected and submitted to the Regional Treasurer as a “Parent Donation.” However, in light of recent concerns regarding registration costs, please take into consideration that choosing to collect fees from players may pose a burden on families. Each team has the option to continue fundraising through World’s Finest Chocolate. There are 72 boxes remaining. Each box sold is \$40 to the team bank. A fundraiser is also being planned for the Spring season.

“2. Why don’t we offer scholarships or discounts? I know other AYSO like Davis does.”

- Our region offers scholarships and financial aid for our Core program. Currently, our Alliance budget does not meet the minimum income to be able to offer these opportunities. Typically, a portion of funds received from registration fees would be reserved to offer scholarships or financial aid to qualifying players. Our administrators have been working diligently to find ways to reduce operating expenses in order to apply funds to these opportunities without having to further increase registration costs. The same reasoning would also apply to discounts. As we continue to build a solid foundation for the future of our Alliance program, our goal is to be able to provide a reasonable registration fee to allow as many players the opportunity to develop their skills in a competitive environment.

“3. Is there a potential for discounts for multiple player family discount?”

- **Not at this time. Our goal is to offer an affordable registration fee that would allow as many players to register for the program without burdening multi-children households and still meet the minimum funding to operate. Please refer to the response for question #2 above for further explanation.**

“4. So would 14U stay at Lone Oak? Will we get Center High field back or stay on the park side?”

- **I believe this question is in response to the portion of the board meeting where the partnership with Gibson Ranch was discussed. Unfortunately, the available space at Gibson Ranch is not quite large enough to place a U14/16/19 field as well as multiple smaller fields for U6/8/10/12. With the expansion of Center High School to incorporate McClellan Continuation, we lost our clubhouse lease on the Center High School Campus as well as our field use permit for the back field. We still have permits in place for Lone Oak Park with Sunrise Recreation and Parks District. Until there is a greater demand to accommodate the need for an additional field, we will remain at Lone Oak Park.**

“5. Can we get a breakdown (itemized list) of how registration fee is used for each player?”

- **The Alliance budget was presented during the meeting and each itemized category was discussed. You may contact the Regional Board Treasurer for a copy if necessary.**

“6. What is the registration fee for Spring and is there still consideration to waive that even discounted?”

- **The Spring registration fee is \$200 (\$225 for new players who did not register with AYSO during the Fall or Winter seasons). Please refer to the response and explanation to question #2 above.**

“7. Can we have workshops for ref training to make it easier to get these completed?”

- **AYSO Regional Referee Certification Courses have been scheduled and communicated directly to registered referee volunteers. Our Referee Administrator has contacted each individual via email, text and through the chat function in Band. If your team volunteer has not registered in the AYSO platform, we have no way of communication and verification of training requirements. The training courses online have been opened on the AYSOU platform and the in-person sessions have been scheduled for February 10th 5:30- 9PM (Classroom Session) at the North Highlands/Antelope Library and February 15th 12:20-3PM (Field Session) at Tetotom Park. The USSF Certification Course is completely independent from AYSO and it is the sole responsibility for the Referee Volunteer to register and attend one of the scheduled training events.**

“8. At this point, we just want transparency and get information in a timely manner. We suggest working on creating a powerpoint with all information breaking down the entire year so that parents are fully aware of time and can plan accordingly.”

- **A power point presentation was prepared and presented to all parents who attended the parent orientation during the Winter tryouts. The presentation was also posted on the Antelope AYSO website. It was observed that many parents were absent from the mandatory meeting or chose not to engage with board representatives before, during and after the meeting. With a very limited number of board volunteers, we strive to answer any questions regarding all programs provided by our Region in a**

timely manner. The concerns expressed during the meeting were all addressed at the parent orientation, posted on the website, and communicated to team managers and coaches on numerous occasions.

**Eric Hawkins:** “I am curious on why we are doing tryouts on Superbowl Sunday and not the conclusion of the winter league?”

- Tryouts for the Spring session were scheduled for the only day all teams were available and not scheduled for a game. Tryouts need to be conducted with ample time for new players to pay registration fees, order uniforms, and start practicing with their new team before the first game of the new season. The board must also finalize registrations for all registered participants, update rosters/player cards, and verify certifications of all registered volunteers. In addition, if the parents of the new player were to assume a volunteer role, we must allow time to complete any necessary training/certifications prior to the start of the new season.

**Eric Hawkins:** “I have seen It”

**Mali Srikham:** “I would like to know how much would the cost of the spring season? Since I have four kids and would like to know before we tryouts again.”

- The Spring registration fee is \$200. Please refer to the response and explanation to question #6 above.

**Iena:** “What are the dates for Spring season?”

- The D6 Spring League registration ends on February 22nd. The first games for D6 are on March 14, 2026. We should expect between 7 to 9 games per CalNorth, which would end the season on May 9, 2026. Teams should plan to register for tournaments played in May and June. July is a Black Out Month.

**Trang Tran-James:** “It was posted on band. For 14U 11:30-12:30PM Tetotom Park.”

**Diana O’Neal:** “What positions are available to join on the board?”

- **Current Open Board Positions:**
  - Regional Picture Day Coordinator
  - Regional Registrar
  - Regional Team Manager Coordinator
  - Regional Safety Coordinator
  - Regional Field Coordinator/Field Marshall
  - Regional Equipment Coordinator
  - Regional Tournament Coordinator
  - Regional U6/ U8 Division Coordinator
  - Regional U10/ U12 Division Coordinator
  - Regional U14/ U16-U19 Division Coordinator
  - Regional Spring Coordinator
  - Regional Awards & Volunteer Recognition Coordinator
  - Regional Sponsorship Coordinator

Regional Uniform Coordinator  
Regional Master Scheduler  
Regional Information Coordinator  
Adult League Director  
Alliance Registrar

**Mali Srikham:** “Sophia and some kids said the uniforms are itchy and uncomfortable,”

- If the quality of the current uniforms are unfavorable to the majority of the registered players, we can generate a poll to vote on purchasing a different uniform kit for our region for next season. Please keep in consideration, the uniforms must be the same for all teams in the Alliance program, not for individual teams. All teams must agree unanimously. The cost of the uniforms will be the responsibility of each player.

**Mali Srikham:** “I can speak it not allowing me to speak”

**Mali Srikham:** “I can’t speak”

**Shonda H:** “The unmute button isn’t working for you?”

**Shonda H:** “No Mali wants to be unmuted”

**Irina Kvitko:** “I want to raise a concern about field conditions, specifically the field lines. The paint is so faint that players cannot clearly see the boundaries. This has led to players being penalized for crossing lines they genuinely couldn’t see. It’s frustrating for the players and could also be a safety issue, especially with the grass being so tall. 14u lone park “

- The lawn maintenance for all fields is provided by Sunrise Recreation and Parks District. When the ground is too saturated and the weather is unfavorable, they will not mow until they can run equipment without damaging the grass. When the grass is overgrown, the paint machine cannot mark the fields appropriately. Alternatively, using the manual striping machines would also be ineffective. Please keep in consideration, if a team has rescheduled a game and did not notify the board, the field may have not been painted that week which would explain the faint lines. In order to save costs for painting, fields with scheduled games will only be painted.

**\*\*\*Trang Tran-James:** “What is the cost for Spring Season? And when is it due?”

- The Spring registration fee is \$200 (\$225 for new players who did not register with AYSO during the Fall or Winter seasons).
- In consideration of the concerns communicated during the board meeting, the Spring registration fee will be split between two installments. The first payment of \$100 for returning players and \$125 for new registrants will be due by February 27, 2026. The second payment of \$100 will be due by March 13, 2026. If either payment is not made by the respective due date, players will not be able to participate in any AYSO Alliance activities until that payment has been received.

**tyra parker:** "I believe they said 200"

- **The Spring registration fee is \$200 (\$225 for new players who did not register with AYSO during the Fall or Winter seasons).**

**Trang Tran-James:** "ty"

**tyra parker:** "Your welcome"

**Eric Hawkins:** "What is included with the travel budget?"

- **In preparation for the Winter season, we recruited volunteers for coaching positions. Based on the commitment from these volunteers, funds from registration fees were reserved to provide the training needed to qualify coaches in their respective age divisions. Training courses have not been offered within our area by other regions. Instead, coaches will attend the Sections Expo to receive their coaching certifications. Registration for the main event, the coaching courses, hotel and travel expenses must be assumed by the program in order to have qualified and certified staff meet the minimum requirements for both AYSO and CalNorth.**

**Shonda H:** "I second Eric's question"

**Eric Hawkins:** "It is the grass"

**tyra parker:** "Thank you for cutting the grass"

**Eric Hawkins:** "It is on the Park and Recs"

**Eric Hawkins:** "Park"

**Eric Hawkins:** "They are a different beast. It is all on the Park and Rec."

**Eric Hawkins:** "and they are not easy to work with"

**Aundrea Orosco:** "When does spring season end so I know?"

- **Spring season tentatively ends on May 9, 2026. We will not have a final end date until the schedule has been published by D6. We must also take into consideration the possibility of rescheduling matches due to tournaments and any requests from opposing teams.**

**Eric Hawkins:** "June/July cause core starts in August"

- **\*\*Copied Response to Lena's Question Above\*\* The D6 Spring League registration ends on February 22nd. The first games for D6 are on March 14, 2026. We should expect between 7 to 9 games per CalNorth, which would end the season on May 9, 2026. Teams should plan to register for tournaments played in May and June. July is a Black Out Month.**

**Eric Hawkins:** “I liked the shooting on the coaches.”

**Trang Tran-James:** “lol”

**Luba Biza:** “WE can list them on the website”

- **Listed under Board Contacts on Antelope AYSO Webpage.**

**Katherine Sommerfeld:** “That’s the most important thing is we could use a lot more help and support, even if you just join as an at-large member.”

**Erica Lehman:** “Thank you, Luba.”

**Aundrea Orosco:** “Yeah we lost a player because of that, that would be helpful to know”

- **This is a concerning comment as the Board has not been notified of the U10 Boys Hot Shots losing a player during this season. However, I am aware of a player that tried out and did not register. Who is the player in reference? Also, what is the reason for “Loss of player?”**
- **\*\*Update\*\* After speaking with the coach from this team, it was determined that the player in question did not sustain any injuries while engaging in AYSO related activities and did not register for the Winter season for personal reasons.**

**Irina Kvitko:** “I agree with Shonda. Previously it wasn’t this expensive.”

- **As explained during the meeting, previous Alliance seasons did not operate on a budget that met the minimum requirements to cover operating expenses. Under the direction of our Area and Section Directors, we have been advised to split each season into independent sessions and build separate operating budgets for each that cover all operating expenses.**

**Trang Tran-James:** “Can we use our team fundraiser to offset registration fees if we choose to?”

- **Per AYSO guidelines, players are not permitted to use team funds to offset registration fees. However, personal sponsorships are permitted. Please take into consideration that Alliance requires more personal funds to cover hotel, food, and other travel expenses during tournament play.**

**Katherine Sommerfeld:** “Yes, that’s what Patty was just saying Trang”

**Eric Hawkins:** “So Davis charges \$150.00 for the same time period. Why is that”

- **Please reference the below screen shot from the Davis AYSO website in regards to their Alliance program.**

What is the cost? In 2025/2026 \$650 - Alliance fees now include 3 tournaments, rented lit fields during the winter months, league and referee cost, and other administrative expenses. Scholarships for these registration fees are available in addition to a 6 month payment plan option. Additional expenses families can expect that are not covered by scholarship are: uniform (\$70), travel expenses to games, and hotel stays at up to 2 tournaments. AYSO is committed to ensuring the registration fee is not a barrier to playing if your child is selected. Families do need to be prepared for travel to away games and paying for tournaments and uniforms.

- **Please understand that Davis has many more registered players and, more importantly, VOLUNTEERS than Antelope. Davis also has certified trainers and does not require sending their coach and referee volunteers to Expo for certification courses. In the past, Davis has been generous to offer opportunities to other regions in our area. Unfortunately, no courses were available for this season.**

**Iena:** "Thank you all for your time!"

**Aundrea Orosco:** "Thank you"

**John Sommerfeld:** "info@antelopeayso.org"

**Luba Biza:** "info@antelopeayso.org"

**Katherine Sommerfeld:** "Honestly, I think we should take the questions and concerns and look at the guidelines and see if we can find a way to be flexible or adaptable. For example if a player is going to remain on a team, do they have to tryout or could they just pay \$400 for a 2 seasons? Things like that."

- **Thank you Katy, I am constantly looking at ways to make it as feasible for families as possible. We do not allow nor do we suggest families paying more than one season at a time as tryouts are not a given and if a player gets injured during one season and cannot play in the next it is well outside our refund guidelines. Our Alliance program as well as Core program operate by seasonal enrollment not a year round enrollment.**

**Disclaimer:**

**In order for teams to qualify for Spring Season:**

- 1) Coaches must confirm that they have fulfilled all of their verification requirements in AYSO and GotSport by February 15th.**
- 2) Team Managers must confirm that they have fulfilled their verification requirements in AYSO and GotSport by February 15th. Only one team manager per team will be required to complete the verification process in GotSport.**
- 3) Three referees for each team must**
  - **Confirm that they have fulfilled their verification requirements in AYSO.**

- **Registered in AYSOU online for both the in-person session on February 10th from 5:30-9PM and the field session on February 15th from 12:30-3PM.**
- **Confirm that they have completed or at minimum registered for a USSF referee certification course by February 15th.**
- **Confirm that they have completed the verification requirements in USSF.**