



Hello SYSA Coaches & Managers,

Without our amazing volunteer coaches, SYSA wouldn't be here! Therefore, in an effort to continually improve our communication and availability to resources for coaches, we have decided to pilot a Slack community this fall season. All U10 - U16 recreational volunteer coaches and managers participating in SYSA's Fall League are invited to join, as well as club leadership.

The primary purpose will be to use this as a tool for communication and collaboration among SYSA coaches, as well as provide SYSA staff a way to quickly disseminate information should the need arise (in addition to email). While this is designed to help YOU have more fun this fall, all members on SYSA Slack channels will have a responsibility to maintain a positive, professional, and supportive environment, free of discrimination and harassment, and respectful of diverse viewpoints.

SYSA Slack Community Guidelines & Considerations:

1. Please use SYSA Slack to:
 - share (or ask for) ideas & resources
 - coordinate scrimmages
 - track down lost and found items
 - give kudos for good sportsmanship
 - share field information & maintenance issues
2. Do NOT use SYSA Slack to:
 - talk about the results of games
 - discuss specifics from any previous match (including referee calls)
 - voice complaints or grievances about teams, players, coaches or officials
 - contact staff about scheduling needs or sportsmanship issues (please email those to the appropriate address)
3. General considerations
 - Be respectful to everyone, the sole purpose of this community is to provide support and bring us together
 - Nothing is ever confidential on Slack, a basic guideline is to assume that others will always see what you write
 - SYSA staff will be available on this platform yes, but not 24/7, we will chime in when we can. All coaches are encouraged to help each other and answer any questions as well. No need to wait for us!
 - Messages only remain in Slack for 90 days, so if you come across something you like and want to reference in the future, make sure you save it

This community is being started to give coaches a space to come together, support each other and share knowledge - not as a tool to contact staff. SYSA staff will monitor the platform, but will continue to use email as their primary form of communication. Copies of important email messages WILL be added to the appropriate Slack channel(s) though, to ensure that the information is available for all of you through multiple platforms as well.

By signing up and joining SYSA's Slack community you are agreeing to all of the above guidelines and considerations. SYSA reserves the right to remove anyone not following the guidelines from the platform. Removal will be at SYSA's discretion.

Following this email, invitations to join the SYSA Slack community will be sent to the email address on your Demosphere account, the one connected to your team roster. When setting up your profile, under display name, please list your name and then club and team in parenthesis. Example: Jenn Ireland (Ballard, GU10 Stars).

We look forward to working with you all to create this welcoming space for our coaching community, one in which we each commit to help strengthen and unify through camaraderie, togetherness and mutual support and encouragement inside this journey of volunteer coaching.

If you have any questions, please reach out to jenn.ireland@sysa.org