Section Developer

Purpose

The role of an AYSO section developer is to assist and work closely with the section director, area directors, the Development Commission and National Support & Training Center (NSTC) to identify communities for new AYSO regions and to support growth and retention within existing regions.

Each section must have one volunteer designated as section developer. The section may determine a development structure specific to their section, such as co-developers or a Section Development Committee.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities:

The section developer is expected to perform the following duties, without specific schedule except as necessary to meet deadlines and for scheduled AYSO meetings and development presentations:

1. Generate leads within the section through personal knowledge, research and recommendations from volunteers and NSTC; investigate leads presented by NSTC;

2. Communicate in a professional manner via face-to-face meetings, phone, e-mail and written letter with leads, community officials, other volunteers and NSTC staff;

3. Deliver presentations to interested leads within the section, and work with the NSTC and section director to designate local volunteer presenters;

4. Participate in development training and forum as requested at Section Conferences, the NAGM or via teleconference;

5. Assist in arranging training for pilot regions and/or charter regions needing assistance, working with the section director and area director to identify the courses needed and qualified instructors; and

6. Communicate regularly with section director, area directors, regional commissioners and assigned NSTC staff to identify regions needing support.
Qualifications and Skills

To be considered for the position of section developer, the volunteer should present the following skills and qualifications:

1. Knowledge of the AYSO structure and of current AYSO Policies, Procedures and Regulations;
2. Broad AYSO volunteer experience, including roles in community organization (coach, referee or administrator at region level) and management (board position of region, area or section);
3. Professional manner and good communication skills, including phone, e-mail and presentation/instruction;
4. Successfully pass a screening, including a background check;
5. Availability for travel, with often little advanced notice;
6. High personal organizational skills; and
7. Successfully pass a screening, including a background check.

Characteristics

The ideal volunteer for the position of developer will demonstrate the following characteristics:

1. Passionate about AYSO, and sincere belief in AYSO’s philosophies, programs and structure;
2. Articulate and well-spoken about the organization and the volunteer’s own experiences;
3. Comfortable speaking in front of groups and making cold calls;
4. Enthusiastically persistent;
5. Capable of and willing to react quickly when leads are presented;
6. Able to deal with rejection yet remain committed and driven;
7. Professional demeanor; and
8. Able to follow established communication protocols for continuous information sharing.
Supervision Protocols

While performing as the section developer the volunteer is:

1. Subject to the bylaws, rules, regulations, policies, procedures, and guidelines of AYSO;

2. Under the direction and strategy of the Development Commission and section director;

3. Responsible for regular and responsive communication with the NSTC staff assigned to the volunteer’s section; and

4. To maintain the recommended child to adult supervision ratio of 1:8 or less; that is one adult for every eight or fewer children and two adults (one of whom may be the coach and one of whom should be of the same gender as the group) present at all times. For the protection of both the children and the volunteer, no volunteer should permit himself or herself to be alone with any child or group of children (except his or her own) during AYSO-sponsored activities.

Term/Time Commitment

The desired term for a volunteer developer is three years in order to encourage commitment to the role and continuity in local and national relationships. The time commitment necessary to fulfill this role will depend on section-specific goals developed in conjunction with the National goals.

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Orientation, Training, Certification and Continued Education Provided

To prepare a volunteer for the position of section developer, AYSO will offer the following educational/training opportunities which the volunteer is expected to take advantage of and participate in, as appropriate.

1. Orientation by the section director;

2. Training by NSTC staff, offered at Section Conferences and/or one-on-one (phone, in-person, etc.), as schedules and budgets permit;

3. Board and Staff Introductory Certification(BASIC); and

4. AYSO Safe Haven certification
Activity Locations

While performing the duties of section developer, the volunteer is limited to the following locations, unless expressly authorized in writing by the national administrator to hold activities in another location.

1. Section board meetings;
2. The annual Section Conferences;
3. Assigned field or meeting locations;
4. Assigned classroom locations, which may include workshops held at the NSTC; and
5. Independent work at home alone, in committees of adults, or in a properly supervised situation with children.