

# HELP AYSO REGION 47 KEEP COSTS DOWN

## Frequently Asked Questions:

### Why do we have a fundraiser?

To help keep registration fees affordable. In 2015/2016, AYSO expenses, under the terms of our new lease agreement with Riverside Public Utilities (RPU), are expected to increase in excess of \$19,000 from previous years. AYSO has leased the RPU-owned Ab Brown Sports Complex since 1992. Under the previous agreement, AYSO paid \$1 per year plus the cost of maintenance and improvements. Under the new agreement, AYSO is required to pay \$12,000 (1,199,900% increase) per year for the lease and an additional \$7,000 in water costs. This is in addition to the \$150,000 plus AYSO already pays for field maintenance, upkeep and other expenses in Membership Year 2015/2016.

### Is the fundraiser mandatory?

No; however, the more we can raise through voluntary fundraisers, the less we have to charge for registration.

### What incentive is there to participate?

Aside from keeping registration fees affordable, if each player on a team participates, the team will receive one additional TPIP point.

### I'm not into selling stuff door-to-door, what other fundraisers can I participate in?

If fundraising is not your thing, seeking sponsorships is a great way to help keep registration fees affordable. Any individual, company, or corporation can sponsor an AYSO team. Sponsorships can be in any amount; however, sponsorships of \$250 or more will receive a sponsorship plaque and the team will receive special t-shirts. All sponsorships are tax deductible. Contact [fundraising@ayso47.org](mailto:fundraising@ayso47.org).

### How did we get here?

AYSO is an all-volunteer organization which helps keep costs low. However, there are some costs that we have little or no control over, such as insurance costs, uniforms, field maintenance expenses and most recently our lease with RPU for use of Ab Brown Sports Complex. Under the terms of the original and subsequent agreements, AYSO and the City's Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department have developed the existing soccer fields, parking lots and concession buildings. AYSO currently provides all maintenance of the facilities, including watering, mowing, weed and pest control, graffiti abatement, equipment upkeep, parking lot maintenance and security. With the passage of recent legislation, AYSO is at risk of losing the use of Ab Brown and will be seeking alternatives to help off-set rising costs. Previous lease terms proposed by the City (RPU) would increase the lease from \$1 a year to more than \$145,000 per year in addition to our current operating expenses. However, this amount was negotiated down to the current agreement discussed above. Our goal is to continue the terms of the lease agreement and remain at Ab Brown as long as possible, but given the current political and economic climate, that may not be as long term as we would like. Fundraising is one way to limit the impact of these increases to our players and player's families. Without fundraising efforts like these, it is very possible to see \$30 or more increases in registration fees in the coming years.