

**REFEREE from page 1B**

SYSA follows the pro-gressional guidelines from US Soccer “by having the younger kids’ games be much smaller and more coach-driven, and not having a referee with a whistle,” Tomaro said. “Then, we have the refereeing start in that U10 age group, and developmentally, they’ve done a lot of looking at how it works for kids to learn the game, have fun and develop.”

Conveniently, the age at which kids are about ready to start playing the game with an official referee pairs perfectly with the age at which slightly older kids are ready to start training as youth referees, which is currently 13 years old, as specified by US Soccer.

“For the referees in U10, we always tell them this is a teaching situation, so that the kids learn the rules,” said Tomaro.

Up to this point, many players may not have been playing with all the same rules, and they may not know some of the more complicated rulings.

“So, [we tell them], ‘When you make a call, make sure they know why you have made the call,’” Tomaro said. “And sometimes it’s as much about educating the coach as it is about educating the kids; the coaches might misunderstand something, or they might just have something in their head that isn’t quite right, so they’ve been teaching their kids to do something that we’re going to call them for because

either it’s dangerous, and they didn’t realize it, or it’s an age-group-specific rule because some age groups can do certain things others can’t, like head the ball.”

Luckily, the U10 age group is a bit easier to referee than the older groups.

“The kids are generally just making mistakes because they’re really excited,” said Tomaro. “They’re not fouling on purpose at that age. So, we usually put our younger refs, or our kids who don’t want a more stressful situation on those games.”

SYSA also has adult mentors on the side of the field who are certified referees.

“They can give support and explain things if the referee needs help,” she said. “I also like to do that because there have been some coaches who’ve been vocal when they think a call should be made, and I think having an adult standing there is a good buffer for that; when you have a 13-year-old, and there’s an adult saying, ‘This should be the call,’ even though the kid is the certified ref, they start to feel a little bit either pressured or unsure.”

Tomaro makes sure that all of her youth referees have a great deal of support and guidance throughout, with kids being trained as both assistant and center field refs over time.

“We mentor the youth, but we give them a lot of independence,” she said. “In the games, when you have a center ref, they go out and do their work and the mentor is

watching from the sideline. They’ll ask questions and point things out, but you kind of have to be immersed in the process and the experience, and then you learn as you go.”

That’s part of why US Soccer allows referees as young as 13.

“We start the kids at the younger ages, and then we move them up,” Tomaro continued. “We first put them as an assistant ref on the side so they can get used to the speed of the game with older kids and what they’re going to be looking for. When they feel comfortable, we move them into the center position. Some kids are really comfortable and confident making those calls and being in that center position pretty quickly.”

Throughout the process, the youth refs gain a great deal of experience, and they mature along the way.

“I do think it’s good that the kids learn leadership, they learn to trust themselves,” said Tomaro. “They learn a lot of good teamwork, because they’re working together to communicate with each other, the players and the coaches and show a little authority.”

There are several youth referee training programs offered via the US Soccer website, but in Florence, SYSA runs their program once a year in the fall.

“You sign up on US Soccer for the course you’re registering for, and you have to pay attention to the location because they’re all over the place,” Tomaro said. “You

do some online modules beforehand, and then you have to do a concussion training that’s required of all referees, because it’s not our job to evaluate whether they’re cleared to play again, but if we see symptoms or the signs of a concussion, we can send them off the field. That’s part of the responsibility keeping athletes safe from head injuries, and the referee definitely plays a role there.”

After the trainees have completed the online modules and they have their certificate of concussion training, they begin the in-person training, which is a one- or two-day course.

“There’s a classroom portion where they learn different rules and talk about different considerations and situations that might arise on the field,” said Tomaro. “Then, they go out on the field, and they practice the different movements, how to hold their arms and hold the flag. They teach you a good warm-up and talk about having your game face — whatever you do to make yourself ready to go out and be an official for the game and have your official game aura about you.”

Tomaro does her best to coordinate trainings to happen while there is some type of real recreational game play going on.

“If possible, we like to do the trainings when there are either games going on for a club or even pick-up games,” she said. “Something where they can just see play happening and be a referee

working and watching what’s happening in the game.

“It’s partially to see how a referee works a game, and it’s partially for them to start looking at the game in a new way,” she said. “A lot of these kids have played soccer for years, so they look at the game as a player, but you have to start training yourself to look at the game as an official.”

After the course is completed, youth referees receive their badges, and they get a new one each year as proof of their certification.

“Every year you have to re-register,” she noted. “At our level of certification, you’re not required to do any continuing education. They do require us to read and accept that we’ve read all of the new rules for every year, because there are rule changes happening all the time that clarify or change things a bit. You have to know what those are, and you have to reup your concussion training every year.”

For each of SYSA’s seasons, referees have a meeting and go over the rulebooks and age-level-specific rules.

Once certified, Tomaro schedules the youth referees throughout the SYSA season. Although programs were paused for a portion of the pandemic, Tomaro was able to bring back the previously certified youth refs this past spring.

“We started practices after spring break, and then we did five weeks of games

for U8 and six weeks for the older age groups starting on April 10,” she said. “So, six weeks of refereeing games this past spring. I have a couple of kids who’ve been waiting [to be certified] because we got the last group in before COVID, so we haven’t done any new certifications for a couple of years.”

SYSA player registration closed on Aug. 14, and practices will start after Labor Day when school starts. Following about two weeks of practice, games begin.

“In the next few weeks, I’ll get in touch with all the ones who reffed and a couple who are high schoolers,” said Tomaro. “Then, for the kids who are already certified, we will set a meeting date, probably in early September, and get everybody up to speed and refreshed on everything.”

Tomaro herself is going to the Lane County Soccer Referee Association training day for already certified refs on Aug. 21.

“I’ll bring back all that information and make sure the kids are all up to date, and I’ll be communicating with those people who are interested about whether we’re going to do a class on the coast this fall,” she said.

For more information on joining the youth referee training program in Florence, email SYSA at ssysa@sualwosoccer.com, or send a message to SYSA Facebook page at www.facebook.com/sualwosoccer.

**COACH from page 1B**

“We’ve got a good mix of some strong players and then also some beginning incoming players. So, I think it’s going to be a great atmosphere for the older kids to mentor the younger kids and kind of rebuild this program. They’re a nice group of kids and they work really well together,” she added.

This year, the Lady Viks have Desi Tupua and Ashley Hennessee returning to play in the front row, with libero Hayden Muller and setter Zoe Alberti holding it down

for the back row, defense and setting up the team’s offense.

“It’s an outside hitter that I’m looking to fill,” said Blake, “and based on the kids that we had last year at the varsity level, there’s nobody really that can shift into that easily. We’ve had a couple of swingers from last year, one of them with a little bit of height, Ava Center. Then, we’ve got a couple of the incoming freshmen that have some real height to them.”

Any of these players could step into the position.

“I definitely am excited to get to assess these girls to see who the best fit is to take that place,” the coach said. “There are definitely some prospects coming up that I’m excited about.”

The girls had their first practice on Monday, Aug. 16, and their game schedule is set for the season.

“We’ve got a multitude of games up until league starts Sept. 21,” said Blake. “So


again, getting lots of games ahead of the actual league start is going to be really good for these girls.”

The Lady Vikings start the season with a Jamboree at Philomath, where they will play five other teams on Thursday, Aug. 26 at 4 pm. They will then play a tournament in Newport on Saturday, Aug. 28, with more information coming as the tournament approaches.

**One solution for oxygen at home, away, and for travel**  
Introducing the INOGEN ONE – It’s oxygen therapy on your terms

No more tanks to refill. No more deliveries. No more hassles with travel. The INOGEN ONE portable oxygen concentrator is designed to provide unparalleled freedom for oxygen therapy users. It’s small, lightweight, clinically proven for stationary and portable use, during the day and at night, and can go virtually anywhere — even on most airlines. Inogen accepts Medicare and many private insurances!

Call Inogen Today To Request Your FREE Info Kit  
**1-855-839-0752**



**Reclaim Your Freedom And Independence NOW!**

**A Smarter Way to Power Your Home.**

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**

**ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!**  
|(844) 989-2328

\*Offer value when purchased at retail. Solar panels sold separately.



**Prepare for unexpected power outages with a Generac home standby generator**

**REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!**  
**877-557-1912**

**FREE 7-year Extended Warranty\***  
A \$695 Value!  
Limited Time Offer - Call for Details

Special Financing Available  
Subject to Credit Approval

\*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.



**dish BRING EVERYTHING YOU LOVE TOGETHER!**

**Blazing Fast Internet!**  
ADD TO YOUR PACKAGE FOR ONLY **\$19.99** /mo. where available

**2-YEAR TV PRICE GUARANTEE**

**\$64.99** America’s Top 120 Package  
MO. **190 CHANNELS**  
for 12 Mos. Including Local Channels!

**CALL TODAY - For \$100 Gift Card** Promo Code: DISH100

**1-866-373-9175** Offer ends 11/15/21.




**LeafFilter GUTTER PROTECTION** BACKED BY A **YEAR-ROUND CLOG-FREE GUARANTEE**

**CALL US TODAY FOR A FREE ESTIMATE 1-855-536-8838**

**15% OFF YOUR ENTIRE PURCHASE** + **10% SENIOR & MILITARY DISCOUNTS** + **5% OFF TO THE FIRST 50 CALLERS\***

Mon-Thurs: 8am-11pm, Fri-Sat: 8am-5pm, Sun: 2pm-6pm EST | **Promo Number: 285**

\*For those who qualify. One coupon per household. No obligation estimate valid for 1 year. \*\*Offer valid at time of estimate only. 27th leading consumer reporting agency conducted a 16-month outdoor test of gutter guards in 2010 and recognized LeafFilter as the “#1” rated professionally installed gutter guard system in America. \*Manufactured in Plainwell, Michigan and processed at LMT Merger Group in Ohio. See Representative for full warranty details. CSL#B 1035795. DOL# 10783658-5501. License# 7056. License# 50145. License# 41354. License# 99338. License# 128344. License# 218294. WA ULB# 602-283-977. License# 2102212956. License# 2106212946. License# 2705132153A. License# LEAFFNW822J2. License# W0506912. License# WC-29998-817. Nassau HIC License# H01067000. Registration# 176447. Registration# HIC-049905. Registration# C127229. Registration# 366920918. Registration# PC47475. Registration# 0721804. Registration# 13940993950. Registration# P4069383. Suffolk HIC. License# 52228-H. License# 2705169445. License# 26200022. License# 262000403. License# 0086990. Registration# H-19114.

**Rosas MEXICAN RESTAURANT**

**Hours: Monday-Saturday 10:30am - 9:00pm**

**Dine in and Outdoor Seating is available**  
**Cocktails to Go!**

**From our family to your family, thank you!**  
**We appreciate your support and hope you are all doing well.**

**2020 VOTED BEST OF FLORENCE**

**Best Mexican Restaurant and Best Salsa**

**2825 Hwy 101, Florence • 541-997-1144**

**We are open and ready to assist you!**

**JOHNSTON MOTOR COMPANY**  
Since 1939

2150 Hwy. 101 • Florence  
**(541) 997-3475 • 1-800-348-3475**





**Your home is only as smart as your Internet.**

**AT&T Internet \$40/mo.**

- Plans up to 100 Mbps.\*
- Free Smart Home Manager App\* with Parental Controls.
- The bandwidth to power multiple devices at once. (Number of devices depends on screen size/resolution.)
- Get a seamless whole-home Wi-Fi experience with AT&T Smart Wi-Fi. (Limited availability. May not be available in your area. Call to see if you qualify.)

**Cut cable internet and switch to AT&T Internet. Call now!**

**TV Support Holdings LLC 888-486-0359**

AT&T Preferred Dealer

**Locally Owned and Operated**

**WEST-COAST REAL ESTATE SERVICES, INC.**

**Jim Hoberg, ABR, CRS, GRI**  
BROKER / OWNER

PHONE 541-997-SOLD (7653)  
FAX 541-997-7654  
TOLL FREE 1-866-967-7653  
jim@jimhoberg.com




**WALLY'S SEPTIC TANK PUMPING**

Has it been 5 years or more since your tank was pumped? Then it’s time!

Call us to today to schedule an appointment.

Check Saturday’s paper for a coupon good on your next service.

**Lowest Prices Guaranteed—We will match any competitors price!**

**541-997-8885**

**COAST PAVEMENT MAINTENANCE**  
SERVING FLORENCE AND SURROUNDING AREAS SINCE 1994

**Greg Bishop**  
Call 541-297-0392  
Email: office@coastpavement.com  
CCB# 205230

**Asphalt Seal Coating**  
**Asphalt Repairs • Parking Lot Sweeping**  
**Parking Lot Striping • Crack Filling**  
**Bumper Blocks • ADA Compliance**

**Call for a FREE ESTIMATE**  
**541-902-2256**  
**“We’ll Seal You Later!”**