



Boston Youth Sports News

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Making Sports Safer: US Youth Soccer Collaboration

A strategic partnership between US Youth Soccer and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) aims to address the risk of head injuries within the game of soccer. This is a continued collaboration based off of the CDC's *Heads Up: Concussion in Youth Sports* [campaign](#), which provides educational materials to coaches, athletes, and parents involved in youth sports. Along with increasing awareness of and knowledge about head injuries, US Youth Soccer also has implemented policies outlining when an athlete can return to the field or game after a potential injury. Specifically, these standards require that players sit out of the game or practice and must have a thorough evaluation and a signed release from a qualified medical provider before re-entry.

The newest step in this campaign involves [collaboration with Axon Sports](#), who provides online cognitive assessment tools. After taking Axon Sport's Computerized Cognitive Assessment Tool (CCAT), baseline data of the athlete's mental speed and accuracy is established. Then, following an injury, an athlete takes the CCAT again, which allows for medical providers to compare test scores in order to determine the impact of the injury and whether or not the brain has fully recovered. Through the partnership with Axon Sports, US Youth Soccer members and players can receive a 15% discount for the costs of the baseline tests. Athletes as young as age 10 can take the CCAT, and it takes approximately 8-10 minutes to complete.

US Youth Soccer President John Sutter recognizes the need for making safety a priority among youth sports organizations. He says, "Supporting the game also means helping to keep our players safe." Maintaining a safe sports environment includes numerous steps – increasing awareness and knowledge, implementing preventative measures, recognizing signs and symptoms of injury, and effectively responding to and managing sports injuries when they occur. This collaborative effort – between US Youth Soccer, CDC, and Axon Sports – helps to create an environment where medical professionals can work with coaches, parents, and players to respond effectively to head injuries and develop appropriate post-injury recommendations.

[Learn more about Axon Sports and the CCAT here](#)

Grant and Funding Listings

Upcoming Deadlines

- > [Bikes Belong](#), 2/29
- > [Responsible Sports Community Grant](#), 3/1
- > [Kaboom, Let's Play](#), 3/16
- > [Finish Line Youth Foundation](#), 3/31

Rolling Deadlines

- > [New Balance Foundation](#)
- > [Baseball Tomorrow Fund](#)

To find these listings and nearly 200 others, go to the link below and scroll alphabetically or use the keyword search and type in the organization name.

[BYSI Funding Database](#)

Jobs, Trainings and Events

* Free Advertising to over 800 Subscribers!*

Send us your job and board openings so we can post them for FREE in our newsletter and on our website! Email [Janice M. Epstein](#).

JOBS

YOUTH SPORT POSITIONS

- > Executive Assistant, Appalachian Mountain Club
- > Network support Associate, Appalachian Mountain Club
- > Aquatics Director, Camp Harbor View BGCA
- > Assistant Aquatics Director, Jordan Club BGCA
- > Development Manager, Boston YWCA
- > Chief Executive Officer, MetroLacrosse
- > Reading Coordinator, Tenacity
- > Program Sector Leader, Tenacity
- > Tennis Coordinator, Tenacity
- > Program Operations Assistant, Youth Enrichment Services

VOLUNTEER

- > Assistant Soccer Coach, America SCORES New England
- > Referee, America SCORES New England
- > Volunteer Coach, MetroLacrosse
- > Outdoor Adventure Volunteers, Youth Enrichment Services

Click here for more details about the listed [Job Opportunities](#).

TRAINING/EVENTS

YOUTH SPORTS TRAININGS/EVENTS

- > National Bike Summit, 3/20-22
- > Camping: Introduction to Outdoor Leadership, AMC, 4/18-19
- > Backpacking, YOP-Outdoor Leadership Training, 5/16-20
- > Camping & Hiking, YOP-Outdoor Leadership Training, 5/17-20

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- > Request for Proposals for AmeriCorps*VISTA Members, 2/24
- > Promoting Inclusion of Children with Disabilities, 3/5
- > Successful Grant Writing, from A to Z, 3/21 - 4/25

Send us your upcoming trainings and events so we can post them for FREE in our newsletter and on our website! Email [Janice M. Epstein](#)

[Detailed Training and Event Information](#)

The Boston Youth Sports Initiative (BYSI) promotes youth sports as a positive youth development and physical fitness approach. Working with and for Boston's urban youth sports programs and supporters, BYSI encourages, strengthens, and builds network connections, with the goals of improved information sharing, quality, scale, and sustainability in the sector. BYSI is a strategic initiative of Boston After School & Beyond. A key part of the BYSI is the newsletter which is edited by Janice M. Epstein.

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