

Contents

- 01: Same Mission, New Season
- 02: YFFL Registration Now Open!
- 03: Youth Clinic Registration
- 04: Redraft Process for All Players
- 05: Player and Coach Development
- 06: Fun Facts: The Roots of YALD
- 07: Sponsor a Youth – Make a Difference!
- 08: Closing Statements

Same Mission, New Season

As we launch Season 15 of the YFFL, we celebrate more than just another year—we honor a legacy that began on a baseball diamond and grew into a movement grounded in leadership, community, and sport. What started as a group of neighborhood friends has become a platform that continues to shape the lives of youth across communities.

This issue highlights what makes YALD special: a redraft process that levels the playing field, coaches who develop both athletes and leaders, and stories that reflect our roots—from Little League fields to lifelong bonds. With registration now open for the YFFL and Youth Clinic, this season invites new families, returning players, and loyal supporters to be part of something bigger than football.

We're not just building teams—we're building futures.

Let's grow. Let's lead. Let's make Season 15 unforgettable.

YFFL Registration Now Open!

Registration is officially open for all athletes wishing to participate in this season's Youth Flag Football League (YFFL). Please remember that returning players must also register and stay in communication to hold their draft spot. Your registration helps ensure that every player, regardless of financial situation, can participate in our program.

Youth Clinic Registration

We are excited to announce that registration is now open for our Youth Clinic! This is a fantastic opportunity for younger athletes to receive expert coaching, improve their skills, and build confidence. The clinic will run over the summer, focusing on fun, fundamentals, and leadership development. [Register Here](#)



Redraft Process for All Players

This year, we're continuing with the redraft process that was first introduced in 2024—and it's here to stay. After the overwhelmingly positive feedback from players, families, and coaches, we're proud to carry this format into Season 15.

The redraft gives every player, both new and returning, a chance to experience new coaching styles, meet fresh teammates, and take on new challenges. This approach fosters balance, competition, and growth across the league, while also ensuring fairness in team formation.

More than just a team reshuffle, the redraft promotes personal development, teamwork, and fun. Every player starts with a clean slate, making this an opportunity to grow, learn, and lead in a new environment.

Player and Coach Development

YALD doesn't just develop athletes—we develop leaders. Our coaches are USA Football-certified, and trained to deliver not only safe and structured gameplay but also life lessons in health, fitness, education, and community involvement.



Fun Facts: The Roots of YALD

From Baseball to Football: While YALD uses flag football to engage and empower youth, Carlos Castellanos' first love has always been baseball. Ironically, he didn't fully learn football until YALD's early years—proof that purpose sometimes leads us to unexpected passions.

The same field where YALD plays today is where Carlos played Little League baseball from 1988 to 1996. It's also the field where his father coached him and where Carlos first coached his own team in 2000. This field holds a special place in Carlos' heart, serving as both a symbol of his own athletic journey and a foundation for empowering the next generation of leaders.

Family on the Field: Carlos' brother became a coach in **2012**, and their father—affectionately known as **Chino**—has been a loyal volunteer ever since. Chino helps ensure the safety of the field and provides quiet support behind the scenes, embodying what it means to serve with heart.



A Brotherhood That Runs Deep:

YALD isn't just powered by friends — it's driven by a group of neighborhood brothers who've known of each other since their youthful days. Some friendships date back to kindergarten, others were forged playing in the streets, parks, and local leagues of Washington Heights. What unites them now is their shared mission to uplift the next generation.



The Meaning Behind the Chino Award:

Every other year, YALD presents the **Chino Award** to an individual who doesn't just take care of themselves — they uplift their family, empower others, and lead with quiet strength and consistency. These individuals embody the values YALD holds dear: humility, service, and purpose.

Recipients of the Chino Award include:

- Kelvin Valentin - 2014
- David Calderon - 2016
- Raymond Cruz - 2018
- Kevin Camilo - 2020
- Miguel Guzman - 2022
- Jason Ceden - 2024

Each of them has demonstrated the passion to support others, lead by example, and empower everyone in their path — just like Chino himself.

Closing Statements

"True leaders don't just build teams — they build people. Jason Cedeno has spent every season turning young players into young men, not for the spotlight, but for the future."

— In honor of Coach Cedeno, YALD Champion & Chino Award Recipient

Sponsor a Youth – Make a Difference!

Help a child play this season by sponsoring a youth for just **\$175**. Your support covers uniforms, equipment, game-day essentials, and more — giving youth a chance to grow through leadership and sport.

Bonus: Get entered to win a **JetBlue round-trip flight** (valued at \$900)! The winner announced **Opening Day in September**.

How to Sponsor:

- **Zelle:** info@yald.org
- **Online:** www.yald.org
Please include your name, email, and player's name (if applicable).

You'll receive:

- Player's first name
- Team + schedule
- Academic journey info

Youth privacy is always protected.

As we kick off our 15th season, YALD remains more than just football—it's about leadership, growth, and community. This season, we continue to empower youth to reach their potential, on and off the field.

Thank you for being part of this journey. Whether you're new or a long-time supporter, your commitment helps us build a brighter future for our youth.

Together, we're not just raising athletes—we're developing leaders who will make a difference.

Let's make this season unforgettable!

The YALD Team



Quick Notes – Save These Details

JULY 19TH, 2025

Summer Training Sessions:

Saturdays, **9:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

Location YALD Field

Bring Weekly: Water, cleats, athletic wear

Contact: info@yald.org