

Executive Director Report





California Youth Soccer Association - North

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Dear Cal North Soccer Community,

I want to begin by thanking everyone for their continued hard work to uphold the mission and realize the vision of Cal North Soccer. The 2019/2020 season was one that will go down in history. Thank you for remaining resolute during these trying times.

I wish to express gratitude to my predecessor, Ben Jay, who accepted a position with a west coast collegiate sports conference in mid-2020. I wish all the best for Ben and his family professionally and personally.

I would also like to thank the Cal North Board of Directors for giving me the opportunity starting in early 2021 to lead Cal North Youth Soccer Association going forward.

Cal North's core success stems from what we provide to our members. True to our stated purpose, we offer programs for the benefit and development of all youth soccer players. In addition to ODP for the premier level players and TOPSoccer for the players with special needs, we also offer programs to support leagues and clubs in the areas of Recreational Soccer, Referee Education and Training, as well as Coaching Education courses. ODP provides opportunities for players throughout the association to train, travel and compete with the best of the best. Cal North Pacific Conference is aligned with the US Youth Soccer National League program, which provides a high-level competitive playing league for the very best teams. CCSL is the state-wide competitive playing league that offers opportunities for multiple levels of competitive teams throughout the year. The Cal North Cup Series hosts teams of every level with Junior Cup Festival for the U9 – U12 teams, Founders' Cup for the U14-U19 recreational teams, Association Cup for the U13-U19 mid-level competitive teams, Presidents Cup for the upper level competitive teams and State Cup for the elite level competitive teams. Pathways to the US Youth Soccer Regional and National Competitions are offered through CNPC, Presidents Cup and State Cup. Cal North continues to host the US Soccer Coaching Courses for coaches from entry level to expert level with great success. In the Referee Program, we are proud to report that Cal North's own Kutay Gokcen was named the US Youth Soccer National Young Male Referee of the Year. That is an achievement we celebrate with her and are proud of.

We have all spent the past 14 months striving to stay engaged and in touch. As we hope to put the pandemic in the rearview mirror and we slowly return to some semblance of normalcy, Cal North is committed to providing continuing support to our members with resources on and off the field. My focus during the first five months of my tenure has been spent on preparing for the future of the organization and the opportunity for returning to play. Our staff have prepared a brief deck with our plans going forward for the rest of 2021. As we move ahead, an emphasis will be placed providing leadership in regard to working with the Board of Directors on governance issues as well as providing guidance to the staff in day-to-day operations.

Customer care is the hallmark of Cal North and we pride ourselves of over 50 years in providing our services to the membership. As we work with US Youth Soccer, we begin an aggressive approach of developing a strategy to becoming the preminent sport in this country. We will continue to place an emphasis on our core values for the future and to engage at every level.

In closing, this year was unique and like everyone else, we have faced obstacles. But we are determined to emerge stronger and to join with the rest of the soccer community that worked so tirelessly to ensure the game we all love will prevail.

Thanks once again for your patience and support. Like you, I look forward to a complete return to play and seeing everyone on the pitch soon!

Marley Wilson, Executive Director
California Youth Soccer Association North
Cal North Youth Soccer

Cal North 2021-2021 Cup Series





Cal North Junior Cup Festival Presented by Raley's

Cal North Junior Cup Festival Presented by Raley's

Junior Cup Festival offers three different levels of play for Cal North registered teams –

U10 and U12 Founders' Divisions are for teams competing in a Recreational Playing League (in house, district or interleague).

U9, U10, U11 and U12 Association Divisions are for teams competing in Playing League at the Copper or Bronze level.

U9, U10, U11 and U12 State Divisions are for e teams competing In Playing League at the Silver Level or higher.

Age - U9 and U10 teams play 7 v 7 format, U11 and U12 teams play in a 9 v 9 format.

When - December 4-5, 2021

Format - Tournament style format with round robin preliminary games and bracket winners advancing.

Location – Centrally located venue in Northern California

Fee – TBD

Rules – [Junior Cup Festival Directives](#) available on Cal North website

**U12 State Cup champions advance to US Youth Soccer Far West Regionals in June of 2022.





Cal North Founders' Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North Founders' Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North Founders' Cup is a specifically designed competition for Cal North registered teams that compete in a recreational playing league. Approved recreational playing leagues may include in-house leagues, and district playing leagues.

Age – U14, U16 and U19 Boys and Girls Teams

When – March 12-13, 2022

Format – Tournament style format with round robin preliminary games and bracket winners advancing

Location – Centrally located venue in Northern California

Fee – TBD

Rules – [Cal North Founders' Cup Directives](#) available on Cal North website





Cal North Association Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North Association Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North Association Cup is the state-level cup competition created for entry-level to mid-level Cal North registered teams that competed in league at the silver level or below.

Age – U13, U14, U15, U16 and U19 Boys and Girls Teams

When – March 12-13, 2022

Format – Tournament style format with round robin preliminary games and bracket winners advancing

Location – Centrally located venue in Northern California

Fee – TBD

Rules – [Cal North Association Cup Directives](#) available on Cal North website



Cal North Presidents Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North Presidents Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North Presidents Cup is the qualifying competition for the US Youth Soccer Far West Presidents Cup Regionals. It is a competition created for upper level Cal North registered teams that played in a Cal North or other US Soccer approved playing league at the Silver or Gold level.

Age – U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18 and U19 Boys and Girls Teams

When – April 2-3, 2022 and April 9-10, 2022 if necessary.

Format – Tournament style format with round robin preliminary games and bracket winners advancing

Location – Centrally located venue in Northern California

Fee – TBD

Rules – [Cal North Presidents Cup Directives](#) available on Cal North website

Changes – US Youth Soccer has added the U19 Age Group to Presidents Cup beginning in 2021/2022.





Cal North State Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North State Cup Presented by Raley's

Cal North State Cup is the designated state-level qualifier for the US Youth Soccer Far West Regionals and the first step on the road to the US Youth Soccer National Championships and USYS National League. It is open to teams that compete in an approved Gold, Premier or Elite level playing league and that register through a Cal North affiliated member league.

Age – U13, U14, U15, U16, U17, U18 and U19 Boys and Girls Teams

When – April 23-24, 2022 and April 30–May 1, 2022 if necessary.

Format – Tournament style format with round robin preliminary games and bracket winners advancing

Location – Centrally located venue in Northern California

Fee – TBD

Rules – [Cal North State Cup Directives](#) available on Cal North website



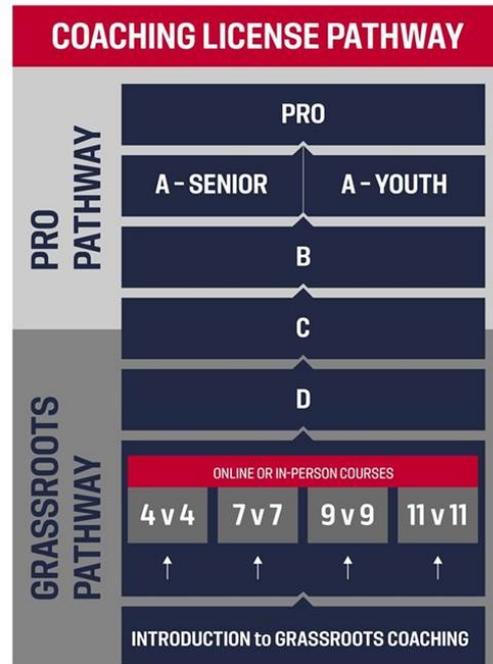
Coaching Education



Coaching Education

In 2016 US Soccer finalized the move for all US Soccer Coaching Education curriculum for the National E and National D Coaching licenses to the Digital Learning Center, and then followed quickly in 2018 with the biggest change and Introduced the New Grassroots Coaching Education Modules, the education companion to the PDI. With this change also came the elimination of the Online F License, the National E license and an update to the curriculum of the D course so there is a smooth transition from the Grassroots courses. Now fully launched for the use by all US Soccer members, this had a direct impact on the protocols and policies for the Cal North Coaching Education program.

US Soccer Coaching Education Pathway



Current US Soccer License Pathway

All persons wishing to register for a US Soccer course via the DLC, must take the US Soccer Grassroots Introductory Module (Free-One time only).

Online Grassroots Modules: (Online Modules do not include the interactive field session)

- Online modules are available on the US Soccer Learning Center
- These are 2 hr. asynchronous learning format
- 4v4, 7v7, 9v9 and 11v11

Current US Soccer License Pathway

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, US Soccer is now offering 2 course formats for the In-Person 4v4, 7v7, 9v9, 11v11, D Course and C Course. They are Traditional and Blended formats.

- Traditional: Original format 2 hrs. in Classroom + 2 hrs. field with youth players.
- Blended: 2rs. Online with Instructor guided education + 2 hrs. In-person Field Session

All US Soccer IP, Blended and Virtual Grassroots courses can only be presented by a US Soccer Licensed Grassroots Instructor.

Current US Soccer Grassroots Modules

Grassroots IP-In Person Modules:

- **IP-4v4:** (2 hrs. Classroom + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **IP-7v7:** (2 hrs. Classroom + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **IP-9v9:** (2 hrs. Classroom + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **IP-11v11:** (2 hrs. Classroom + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **D License:** (36-40 hrs. over 2 weekends + online course work. Weekends 6-8 weeks apart, prerequisites required)

Courses: *Managed and hosted by State Association (on approval from US Soccer)*

There are No prerequisites to take a 4v4, 7v7, 9v9 or 11v11 Grassroots coaching course.

Current US Soccer Grassroots Modules

Grassroots IP-In Person Modules: Blended format

Online 2 hr. session, followed by 2 hr. field session. Field Session should be presented within 2 days of the online session (no more than 7 days). Attendees must have access to a web-camera/live video capabilities.

- **Blended 4v4:** (2 hrs. Online w/Instructor + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **Blended 7v7:** (2 hrs. Online w/Instructor + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **Blended 9v9:** (2 hrs. Online w/Instructor + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **Blended 11v11:** (2 hrs. Online w/Instructor + 2 hrs. Field Session + online activities due prior to course meeting)
- **Blended D License:** (40-45 hrs. Combination of Online w/Instructor and assignments over 8-12 weeks + 1 day testing at end of course)

Current US Soccer D License

National D Course

Applying to Host a National D course requires planning 2-3 months in advance. If you wish to have a D course in your community, please submit the course application, a minimum of 60 working days in advance. Please do not advertise or book any location until a course has been approved in your area. Groups wishing to host a D Course, may want to consider first offering the IP-Grassroots Modules that will fulfill the requirements to enroll in the D Course for their coaches.

Current US Soccer D License

D Course Description: Traditional Format

The National D license is a 40 to 45-hour course, held over two meetings with a development period of at least at six (6) weeks between the meetings. The course is designed for the grassroots coach working with youth players U6 to U13 in a participation driven environment and focuses on all four game models as outlined in the Player Development Initiatives (4v4 / 7v7 / 9v9 / 11v11).

D Course Description: Blended Format

The Blended National D license is a 40 to 45-hour course, that begins in with an online experience and ends with a one-day on-field component. The course is designed for the grassroots coach working with youth players U6 to U13 in a participation driven environment and focuses on all four game models as outlined in the Player Development Initiatives (4v4 / 7v7 / 9v9 / 11v11).



Current US Soccer D License

The goals of the course are to help coaches understand how:

- to create game-like training sessions that encourage players' ownership (decision-making)
- to create a game day environment that encourages players' ownership (decision-making)

The learning objectives of this course are to facilitate coach improvement in the Six Tasks of a Coach with an emphasis on developing the team and individual players by learning how:

- to demonstrate an understanding of developmental stages & age characteristics
- to observe the game, recognize formations and all player actions
- to further develop a comprehensive understanding of Play-Practice-Play methodology
- to organize, execute and reflect on 2 Play-Practice-Play training sessions based on the same goal in 1 week
- to demonstrate an understanding of how to inform, involve and inspire parents

US Soccer D License enrollment requirements

D Course Enrollment Requirements

A unique combination of three of the eight Grassroots Licenses now formally represent the prerequisite to progress to the U.S. Soccer D License. Specifically, candidates must have completed a minimum of three grassroots courses, in the form of two in-person courses and one online course:

- Two in-person courses (one of which must be the 11v11)
- One online course across any of the four levels (4v4, 7v7, 9v9, 11v11)
- Candidates must be at least 16 years old

US Soccer D License enrollment requirements

D Course Enrollment Requirements (Cont.)

Coaching candidates who have earned the E or F License will have the following opportunities to use those certifications toward the D License prerequisites:

- U.S. Soccer E License + Introduction to Grassroots Coaching Module
- U.S. Soccer F License + Introduction to Grassroots Coaching Module + 11v11 in-person license + one other in-person license
- Candidates must be at least 16 years old

The National D course is managed and administrated by the Cal North Office and registration will be through the Digital Coaching Center (DLC). All enrolled candidates will be able to communicate with the course instructor via the communications tab for their course.



US Soccer C, B and A Licenses

The higher level license courses are managed by the US Soccer Coaching Education Department

- **C License:** *Managed and hosted by State Association (on approval from US Soccer)*
- **B License:** *Managed and hosted by US Soccer*
- **Youth A License:** *Managed and hosted by US Soccer*
- **Senior A License:** *Managed and hosted by US Soccer*
- **Pro License:** *Managed and hosted by US Soccer*

Hosting a Grassroots Module for your group

Hosting a Grassroots Module/Course for your Group

As a member of US Soccer, Cal North has been granted permission to host and administrate Grassroots Modules and the National C course (by application). All Grassroots courses are set up in the US Soccer Learning Center (DLC) where all registration, fee collection, course work and communications are done. Once you have decided to host a course you will contact the Cal North office where a hosting procedure has been set up. You will apply for a course, get confirmation, arrange for your locations (classroom and field) and advertise your course to your coaches. Cal North will set up your course in the DLC, provide you with a US Soccer licensed Coaching Instructor, communicate with the course organizer if needed and manage your online course. All instructor costs and expenses are covered by Cal North.

Now Available: [Hosting a Grassroots Coaching Course Manual](#)



Olympic Development Program



What is ODP

WHAT IS ODP:

The Olympic Development Program is a national process for identifying and developing the best youth soccer players. The process promotes players to the U.S. National Teams, which represent the United States in international competition, such as the Youth World Cup and the Olympics. The main ODP objective is to identify, evaluate and train highly talented male and female youth soccer players. As part of this national effort, Cal North ODP is dedicated to developing the highest level of youth soccer. This objective must be achieved in an atmosphere of integrity, fairness and impartiality. The player's physical and cognitive skills and attitude must be the only criteria for the program.



What is ODP

WHAT IS ODP (CON'T):

The procedure to achieve this objective must be approved by the Cal North Board of Directors and must not conflict with any US Youth Soccer or United States Soccer Federation (USSF) policies.

Cal North ODP Objectives

CAL NORTH OBJECTIVES:

- Evaluate and select players in each ODP age group for a State pool of players from which State players are selected.
- Advance the soccer skills of players in each ODP age group.
- Provide competitions for State Teams in each ODP age group.

ODP participation does not mean that players do not participate on their club team. ODP participation, whether at the State, Regional or National level, is concurrent with club team participation. The advantages often outweigh any conflicts this might pose. All players are placed in pools by their birth year as opposed to the age groupings for league or club teams.

Cal North State ODP

CAL NORTH STATE ODP:

State ODP is administrated at the State level by the State Technical Director and the Cal North State Office.

State ODP Try-Outs

State ODP Try-Outs are typically held in August, September and October. Try-Outs for the 2021-2022 season will be held Sunday, August 8, September 12 and October 10, 2021. The final pool selections will be named after the conclusion of the 3rd try-out. The try-out format will be under the Technical Director and will be in a electronic format using the Team Genius Software. All players will be notified of their status with a final evaluation.

Eligibility

Eligibility

Any player is welcome to try-out as long as they meet the correct birth year requirements and are recommended by their league/club Coach. The players that participated in the state pools for 2020-2021 will be automatically invited to try-outs and will not need a coach recommendation. The players who are selected to the 2021 Regional ODP Pools (from Regional Summer Camp) will be automatically promoted to the 2021-2022 State ODP Pools. All players must pre-register and pay the registration fee in order to participate in try-outs and to be promoted to the 2021-2022 pools. Players must try-out for the pool of their birth year.

Eligible birth years for 2021-2022: 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006, 2005 Boys and Girls



What happens next:

Pool Training:

Once the pools are formed, they will begin to train and play local scrimmages in order to prepare for events and Identification opportunities. Trainings are set up in 2 different formats. There will be several all pool trainings set up at a single site for all pools, on the same day, and there will be specific training set up by each Head Coach at a location and date of their choice. Training dates will be announced after the pools are selected.

While training is not mandatory due to conflicts with league/club games, the training sessions may be used to determine which players will be selected to travel to an event. Players may need to make some personal decisions when facing conflicts.

What are ODP events for:

Pool Travel/Events:

ODP teams travel and compete to different places for a variety of events. But the main mission is to get the players seen, evaluated and identified by College coaching staff, Regional Coaching staff and the Youth National Team coaches. Events are selected for specific age groups and levels of players in order to place players in the best environment for their identification. Rosters are selected by each Head Coach for an event based on what they are able to view at pool training by the players. Not all players will travel to every event. At any point in time, a player could be identified and selected to attend a youth national team training.

The ODP Calendar

ODP Calendar of events:

This would be a typical calendar for ODP: (2021-2022 events have not been confirmed)

December: Training (Sundays only for high school age players)

January: Western Regional ODP Championships, AZ (09, 08, 07, 06, 05 -B&G) /Training

February: Winter Camp, CA (CN, CO, OR, CS) (10, 09 -B&G) /Training

February/March: Pacific Coast Invitational, Southern Cal (07, 06, 05 -B&G)

March/April: Pool Training

May: Portland Timbers Friendship Cup, OR (09, 08, 07 -B&G) /Training

June/July: Western Regional Camp (2010-2005 -B&G) locates and dates TBA

Young Olympians Program

Sacramento Republic FC is partnering with Cal North Olympic Development Program (ODP) to lead the organization's Young Olympians Program. The program is designed for youth players of all abilities born between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2012 who aspire to play at a high level.

Republic FC's professional coaching staff will design and lead the programming of the Young Olympians sessions, which will take place in August, September and October at Mistlin Sports Park in Ripon, Calif. The program provides a pathway to participate in ODP, a national process for identifying and developing the best male and female youth soccer players with the aim of promoting them to the U.S. National Teams.

Young Olympians Program

Players participating in this program will be automatically placed on the radar of the State ODP staff for future identification and recommendation for future State ODP Try-Outs.

Players will register for this program via the State ODP Registration platform and the program will run in conjunction with State ODP tryouts at the same location.

Specific registration information will be posted on the Cal North website within the ODP site.

Other ODP program benefits

Additional benefits for the ODP Players:

CAP: College Advisory Program

Our program provides high school age players and parents with critical resources needed to make healthy college decisions.

Team Genius:

Flexible player evaluation software for tryouts, camps and player feedback - so you can save time, make better decisions, and develop your players.

Techne Futbol:

Techne Futbol is the only soccer training app to provide weekly futbol drills rooted in the fundamentals.



TOP Soccer



TOPSoccer

TOPSoccer

US Youth Soccer TOPSoccer (The Outreach Program for Soccer) is a community-based training program for all athletes with intellectual, emotional, and or physical disabilities. The program strives to provide soccer opportunities (the opportunity of soccer) for players to develop at their own pace in a safe, fun, and supportive/inclusive environment.

TOPSoccer was formed to perpetuate the US Youth Soccer mission statement which is, in part, "to foster the physical, mental and emotional growth and development of America's youth through the sport of soccer at all levels of age and competition." There are thousands of children with disabilities who need, and can be provided with, the opportunity to play soccer through the TOPSoccer program.



TOPSoccer Players...

TOPSoccer players are not defined by their disabilities

TOPSoccer players represent a diverse group of individuals with a wide range of ability. The level of participation varies and development is self-paced. The key to the success of these players is patience! You can make this adventure fun for all involved. Participation in TOPSoccer can help the player with:

- Physical activity required for optimum health
- Opportunity to participate in organized sports
- An avenue for increases social interaction
- Development of a positive self-image and self-confidence

Starting a TOPSoccer Program

Things to consider when starting a program:

- Identify the need within your league/club
- Check for any restrictions placed on the facility you plan to use. Are they equipped to handle athletes with physical disabilities?
- Contact established programs for information. (US Youth Soccer, Special Olympics, United Cerebral Pals, Shriners)
- Contact your local school districts and universities.
- Create a list of people who are able to assist you.
- Plan your advertisements.
- Get the support from the State TOPSoccer Chairperson or State office

Starting YOUR TOPSoccer Program

The unique thing about TOPSoccer is that each program is different and is created around the needs of the participants. Remember, TOPSoccer athletes are placed on teams according to ability, not age.

- Length of program is determined by league/club.
- Create rules to fit specific needs (helpful hint: US Youth Soccer Under-6, Under-8 or Under-10 guidelines)
- For those athletes not able to participate due to medical reasons, design a skills program that is rewarding, challenging and fun.
- Optional Formats: Small-sided games (3 v 3, 4 v 4, 8 v 8, etc.), full-sided games (11v11), unified teams (ratio of challenged athletes to non-challenged athletes), indoor programs outdoor program, camp, skills only

Starting YOUR TOPSoccer Program

Placement and Registration of Athletes

- Registration procedures should be the same as those used for regular league teams: should include a section for medical history. Athletes with Down-syndrome should be required to have a current x-ray. If the x-ray is positive for their safety, it should be strongly recommended that they do not take part in team play, and in some cases medical waivers may be required.
- Assessment test should be made available upon request.
- Ensure that the experience is meaningful for the participating athletes, and one in which they feel they have made a contribution.
- Above all... keep it simple... KEEP IT FUN!

Recruiting Coaches and Volunteers

The TOPSoccer programs are very dependent on volunteers. Volunteering for TOPSoccer helps bring more awareness and understanding to the special needs community. Many older players can even receive community service hours by helping out a TOPSoccer program.

The TOPSoccer program relies heavily on support provided by "Buddies." Anyone can be a TOPSoccer Buddy: parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles or friends. Many competitive coaches enlist their teams to help with this project.

Recruiting Coaches and Volunteers

Recruiting Coaches

Many coaches who are already active in your program are willing to help in addition the State Technical Director can help put you in touch with an instructor who can teach a TOPSoccer Coaching Certification Course, that is available free of charge.

You can also contact your local Colleges and Universities for students that enrolled in the Special Education teaching programs. Also, many of the local high schools and looking for opportunities for their students to do volunteers hours.

CCSL



CCSL Return to Play Dates

Phase 1 Return to Play March- Only a few teams ready to go

Phase 2 Return to Play April/May - 198 teams participating

Phase 3 Return to Play June/July - Deadline is May 30

CCSL Return to Play Changes

- No team fee charged to participate
- Players and adults mandatory Cal North registration (no US Club or AYSO passes)
- Increased guest players (8) for teams with limited players being able to commit
- Flexibility on uniforms for clubs struggling to get uniforms quickly

CCSL Return to Play Challenges

- Field space due to numerous other sports returning at the same time
- In County and Adjacent County competition for April/May
- Inconsistency with Covid guidelines between State, County, City, School Districts, etc
- Less players due to readiness to return or other sports

Recreation Program



Recreation Program 20/21

- Provided a 10-week Recreational Curriculum for COVID-19
- Provided CN Recreational Coach Manual Template
- Provided US Soccer Grassroots License Courses
- Provided Soccer Parenting Webinars with Skye Eddy-the industry leader that helps parents learn how to create positive environments
- CN-EastBay Sports Online Retail Store-Access to Nike and Adidas soccer equipment at prices lower than box retail store

Technology Partners

1. Mojo-Recreational Coach focused app that provides easy to use and customize training sessions
2. Sportslab360-Tactical app that helps players understand decision making

Recreation Program Plans for 21/22

1. Comprehensive Development Program to encompass grassroots soccer at the club level
2. Increased Coaching Education Opportunities
3. Cal North Technical skills Competition with Tommy Thompson using Topya Technology
4. Keeper Wars Competition