



Notes for Club Membership Training

Where to Find the Presentation: <https://prezi.com/view/DLa7HfOpCDIc9SyGZ7IW/>

Introduction Page:

- Introduce yourself and welcome everyone for coming. Let them know they are about to receive the new membership training.

Let's Talk About YOVASO:

- Let the new members know what YOVASO stands for.
- You can read off the slide if you need to.
- Make sure you mention the peer run part and how they have a say in how the club is run!

About YOVASO's Mission:

- Discussion: Ask the students if they know someone who has been killed or injured in a crash. Give them about 3 minutes to have a whole group discussion.
- Let students know there is a problem throughout the state regarding teen fatalities and YOVASO is here to help lower the rate.
- Ask the students how many learn better from their peers or how many make decisions due to peer influence? That is what YOVASO is all about-using positive peer influence to encourage your friends to be safer drivers and passengers!

Focus Areas:

- Let them know the areas that YOVASO focuses on.
- Have a whole group discussion about the top problems within your school or community and what the club should focus on. Don't do this too long!

Virginia Driving Laws:

- Talk about why these laws were created. Emphasize the laws were based on crash data that showed these were problem areas for young drivers.
- Some members may already know about the laws due to being in Driver's Ed recently, but just go over the laws again.
- After each law, ask the group why this law was passed. The laws are on the last page of these notes. They do not have to give you the exact wording of what is listed below, just need to be close.
- The following are the answers to the Why Questions.
 - Curfew Restrictions: the fatal crash rate for teens is 4x higher at night than during the day.
 - Passenger Limitations: Friends can be a distraction to young drivers and statistics show that the more passengers a teen has in the car, the higher the crash risk. Teens also say they can be influenced to take more risks when peers are in the car.
 - Cell Phone Ban: 6 out of 10 teen crashes involve driver distraction, with talking and texting being a leading cause of distractions. Did you know that answering or sending a text takes away your attention for about five seconds? Traveling at 55 mph, that's enough time to travel the length of a football field.
 - Zero Tolerance Law: Any amount of alcohol in your bloodstream can impact your **driving** ability. Alcohol slows reaction time and directly affects judgement and decision making skills. It increases the chances

that you will make risky choices that you never would make sober. Every year in the U.S., 4,300 youth die as a result of underage drinking. (Info from MADD)

- Seat Belt Law: **seat belts** reduce the risk of death by 45%, and cut the risk of serious injury by 50%. In Va, over 50% of teens killed each year were not wearing their seat belts.
- For the part about Running off the road and overcorrecting talk about this:
 - Overcorrection refers to when a motorist grabs their steering wheel after running off the road and abruptly turns it in the opposite direction from where the car is going. These crashes are often fatal as they typically result in roll overs and hitting trees, cars, and other objects. Teens can reduce the risk by slowing down and learning how to properly correct when they run off the road. Remember to avoid jerking the steering wheel. Slow the car down and gradually steer the vehicle back onto the roadway.
- You do not have to spend too much time on this.

What YOVASO Provides:

- For this slide, just briefly mention all the resources YOVASO provides for your club.

Major Projects:

- Drive for Change: Buckle Up and Slow Down- this is a fall project to encourage teens to drive slow and buckle up whenever in the car.
- **The video is an example of what a club created as part of the competition for the Save Your Tailgate campaign in the past.**
- Arrive Alive: this is the spring project to remind youth to arrive from prom and graduation alive and to encourage them to make safe choices during the high-risk summer months.
- Let them know the video is an example of what a club created as part of the competition and you can do something similar.
- YOVASO projects and activities are always fun, creative and appealing to teens. Draw them in with something fun then promote the safety message.
- Think about the things your students like (what's our school culture/things unique to us) and use that to create activities that will get the students involved.

Halloween Safety Project:

- This initiative happens during the Drive for Change Project. The goal is to encourage youth and teens to celebrate safely and responsibly on Halloween night. High school-age students are encouraged to give trick-or-treat safety presentations to elementary-age students. Let everyone know some ideas to promote the project would be to participate in a community wide trunk or treat event, pumpkin carving contest, pledge banner signing, etc.
- Take a minute or two to let the club members discuss their ideas and make suggestions.

Holiday Safety Contest:

- The goal of the *Jingle Your Way to a Safe Holiday* Contest is to encourage teens to drive safely and celebrate responsibly during the holiday season. **Schools and youth groups participate in the contest by creating a musical jingle to promote safe driving and celebrating around the holidays.** Let everyone know some other ideas to promote the contest and safe driving would be to participate in a community holiday parade, decorate a pledge tree, etc.
- Take a minute or two to let the club members discuss their ideas and make suggestions and see if creating a jingle is something you want to do!

YOVASO's Distracted Driving Simulator:

- YOVASO's distracted driving simulator is a fun, hands-on experience that exposes young drivers to the serious dangers of distracted driving in a controlled environment.
- On the prezi, there is an extra slide with pictures and videos to show your peers what they can experience with YOVASO's Distracted Driving Simulator

Summer Leadership Retreat:

- This is a four-day, three-night event at JMU where schools all over the state come together to learn leadership skills and learn what YOVASO is about. It's fun, hands-on, and also includes a lot of cool social events and entertainment.
- Show the video on the screen. This will give the students a view on what the retreat is about.
- If you've attended a retreat, give them a quick example of your favorite part of the retreat.
- The annual YOVASO Awards Banquet is held at the retreat and is a chance for your club to be recognized for your hard work and achievements throughout the year. You can be awarded for the best new club or for promoting traffic safety all year. The awards ceremony is about you and to applaud you!

Time for Personal Stories:

- This is where you give your personal reasons why you want to be a part of YOVASO.
- When telling your story, think about what drew you to YOVASO, what you like most, and/or how it has impacted you.

Social Media:

- Have students go to our social media pages, just one, and post about YOVASO and their training.
- Then have them scan the QR Code to take the training survey! Make sure EVERYONE takes the survey.

Teen Driving Restrictions- (Details on the Laws in Case You Get Questions)

Curfew Restrictions:

- If you are under age 18, Virginia law prohibits you from driving midnight to 4 A.M. except when driving:
 - To or from a place of business where you are employed;
 - To or from an activity that is supervised by an adult and is sponsored by a school or by a civic, religious, or public organization;
 - With a licensed spouse age 18 or older, parent or other adult acting in loco parentis who is occupying the front passenger seat,
 - In case of an emergency, including responding to emergency calls as a volunteer firefighter or rescue squad personnel.

Restrictions on the Number of Passengers:

- If you are under age 18, you may carry only one passenger under age 21, unless accompanied by a licensed parent, or other adult acting in place of a parent, in the front passenger seat. However, after you have held your license for one year, you may carry up to three passengers under age 21 in the following situations:
 - Travel to and from a school-sponsored activity;
 - A licensed driver 21 or older is in the front passenger seat; or
 - In case of an emergency.
- Learner's permit holders may not carry more than one passenger under age 21.
- **Note:** Passenger restrictions for licensed drivers and learner's permit holders do not apply to family members.

Cellular Telephone/Wireless Telecommunications Device Restrictions:

- Virginia's cellular telephone law prohibits the use of cell phones while driving, regardless of whether such device is or is not hand-held.
- You can **only** use a cell phone or any other telecommunications device for a driver emergency and the vehicle must be lawfully parked or stopped.

Seat Belt Use:

- Virginia's seat belt law requires anyone younger than 18 years of age who is occupying the front and/or rear seats of a vehicle to use safety belts. A driver transporting anyone younger than 18 must ensure that those passengers are properly restrained regardless of where they are seated. The driver receives the ticket for any unbuckled passengers who are under age 18.