



Oregon ODP Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

- **What is ODP?**

The US YOUTH SOCCER Olympic Development Program, or ODP as it is more commonly called, is a national identification and development program for high-level players. The program identifies and develops youth players throughout the country to represent their state association, region and the United States in soccer competition.

ODP teams are formed at the state association and regional levels, made up of the best players in various age groups. At the state association level, pools of players are identified in each eligible age group, and brought together as a team to develop their skill through training and competition. From the state pools and subsequent teams, players are identified for regional and national pools and teams.

- **What is the purpose of ODP?**

To identify and provide opportunities for high potential players, facilitate their development, expose them to next level of their chosen pathway and motivate their pursuit of excellence.

- **Who is eligible?**

Any soccer player is eligible for consideration in ODP, provided that he or she meets the age requirements for the established age group. A player may try out in the state association in which he or she is eligible to be registered. A player may not try out for ODP in more than one state association.

- **How are players selected?**

Players are selected on the basis of open tryouts. These tryouts are conducted by coaches who are recognized for their ability to identify and train players with superior skills. Selection of these players is not an easy task. The state association technical director will be assisted in the selection process by several other qualified coaches from the club or league level.

Players are evaluated on the six (6) key qualities:

1. Game Understanding and Decision Making
2. Responsibility and Initiative
3. Growth Mindset and Winning Mentality
4. Technical Execution
5. Physical Execution
6. Learning Ability

- **What do ODP players do?**

Upon selection, a state association ODP player is expected to participate in all their team's activities. These activities may include training sessions, exhibition matches, invitational tournaments and regional play. If players are not available for a specific event, they may be replaced by another player from their player pool. Players are expected to take their participation in the program seriously and should be committed to improving their individual skills as well as improving as a team player. Players are subject to the ODP Code of Conduct upon entry into the program at the state association level.

- **What are regional camps?**

US YOUTH SOCCER is divided into four regions, each of which offers a regional camp for state association ODP teams in each eligible age group. The camps are designed to provide high level competition and training for participating players. During this training and competition, players who are capable of performing at a higher level of play are identified for possible national camp, pool or team participation. Each region varies somewhat as to the specifics and the cost of their camps.

- **What is a national camp?**

National Camps and Inter-regional events are held throughout the year at various locations in the United States. The National Team Coach or a National Staff Coach is present at these events to observe, train and identify players for placement in the national pool or on a national team.

- **My child did not make ODP this year. Could you provide an evaluation?**

ODP tryouts are a selection process and should not be viewed as an evaluation. As ODP coaches are viewing players, they are attempting to select the players that stand out based on the four criteria laid out above. Coaches do make mistakes in identification from time to time. After all, they are human. Parents, please recognize that in a selective environment such as ODP, children may experience their first setbacks or failures to make a team. These should be seized as opportunities to improve. Coaches feel confident that if they miss a player one year, they will be recognized the next.

- **I understand that after tryouts there will be a pool selected. How big will the pool be for each team and when will the final teams be picked?**

Coaches of the specific age groups decide how large the pool will be- for the youngest age groups (U12-U13) the pools tend to be larger (40 players) so that we have the ability to develop more players within our game model. Rosters will be released as soon as they are all finalized after the tryouts.

- **What if my child cannot attend one of the tryouts listed?**

There will be an opportunity at the first (1st) ALL pool training to tryout. If your child is unable to attend tryouts you will fill out the "unable to attend tryouts" link that will be provided on the OYSA website that will then trigger a response of the following steps to attend the supplemental tryout in early December. **YOU CAN ONLY ATTEND THE SUPPLEMENTAL TRYOUT IF YOU**

COMPLETE THE “UNABLE TO ATTEND TRYOUTS” LINK. NO PLAYERS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TRYOUT AT THE SUPPLEMENTAL TRYOUT IF THEY DO NOT COMPLETE THE LINK. NO WALK-UPS WILL BE ALLOWED TO TRYOUT.

- **What competitions will the ODP teams participate in this year?**

The 2007-2011 Girls and Boys will compete in the following competitions:

1. West Region Tournament (January 2024)
2. Friendship Cup (May 2024)

The 2012 Girls and Boys will compete in the following competitions:

1. Cal-North Friendlies
2. Friendship Cup

- **What if there are conflicts with my club team?**

Oregon Youth Soccer would like to see players follow the U.S. Soccer guidelines of three practices per one match and one match per week but realize that very few clubs follow that practice. We do not want to see young athletes over-train and contribute to overuse injuries. We train almost exclusively on Sundays to limit conflicts for players, parents and coaches. All State Cup (NCS), Presidents Cup, Challenge Cup, ECNL or GA tournament games take precedent over ODP training. Having said that, **players are expected to attend at least 75% of the training dates**, barring injury or long-term illness.

- **How much playing time will players receive in competition?**

Coaches are asked to attempt to play all players in matches that have no consequences for advancing in a tournament (I.e.: during the Friendship Cup or Cal-North Friendlies). In the West Region tournament for U15-U17's, ODP teams have a chance to advance but coaches are still asked to play everyone if possible.

- **Does Oregon Youth Soccer provide scholarship for ODP?**

Yes, scholarships are determined on a case-by-case basis upon receiving a completed scholarship form. The scholarship form can be found on the OYSA website under the “Programs-Oregon ODP” tab and scroll down on the right-hand side of the page.

- **What should the players wear to training?**

Players will wear their Oregon ODP training kit- details on purchasing that will be provided once a player is offered a spot within the pool.

- **How do I reach the coach/coaches in my age group?**

Each coach's email will be linked in his or her name in the coaching staff section of the team pages. These will be updated once the coaching staffs are finalized.

- **How do I know in a training, game, or an event is cancelled or postponed?**

All effected parties will receive an email notification and the information will be posted on the individual team pages We will attempt to notify families of changes at least three hours before start times.

- **Will there be any international trips offered?**

Each year we look at hosting an international trip for a specific age group (girls and boys). This year's international trip will be announced closer to the tryout dates.