



**MISSOURI YOUTH  
SOCCER ASSOCIATION**

**OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM**

**2016/2017 PARENTS GUIDE**

# **WELCOME**

Parents and Legal Guardians,

First of all, thank you for signing up for the 2016/2017 Missouri Olympic Development Program. Over the next few months, we look forward to your son/daughter participating in this tremendous program which has seen a number of players develop and be identified to the Regional Pool, National Pool, and US Men's and Women's National Teams.

Through this program, we expect all players to learn and develop their individual and team skills through competition. This is one of the few opportunities that you'll have to play with some of the best players and coaches in Missouri and our Region. That being said, we fully expect all players to have a fun and enjoyable experience while participating in the program. Soccer is a sport after all and it's meant to be fun!

We wish you the best of luck as your son/daughter begins their experience with the Missouri Olympic Development Program.

Sincerely,

Missouri Youth Soccer Association

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **What is ODP?**

The US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program was formed in 1977 to identify a pool of players in each age group from which a National Team will be selected for international competition.

### *ODP Mission*

The mission of the US Youth Soccer's Olympic Development Program is to identify players of the **HIGHEST CALIBER** on a continuing and consistent basis, which will lead to increased success for the US National Teams.

The mission of Missouri Youth Soccer Association's (MYSA) Olympic Development Program is to identify the top players registered within the State of Missouri, to promote through quality coaching, and to help these players gain recognition on the Regional and National levels. This is done by using the individual team coaches as a resource and reference for college acceptance.

### *ODP Philosophy*

We believe that playing with those of equal or greater ability is a tremendous teaching tool.

We believe that exposing players to such competition is the best method for development.

We also believe that this exposure is the best method of identifying the highest caliber players.

We believe that the development of players in Missouri is primarily the **direct responsibility of our affiliate clubs** and that the ODP should not interfere with that development.

We believe that the MYSA ODP can **supplement** that development by allowing the best players in the state to compete alongside each other in scrimmage and friendly games and against the best of other states in the Region.

We believe that the success of the Missouri ODP will be a direct result of the quality of players, coaches and Club Organizations.

Therefore, we believe that we must foster a spirit of cooperation and mutual respect between the Clubs and MYSA ODP.

### ODP Goals

1. To identify a pool of players in each age group to be named to the state team also for individual players to be named to the Regional pool.
2. To provide an opportunity for players to play in front of college coaches, especially at the older age groups.

### Age Groups

The age groups for ODP are determined by the year of birth. That is, players are put together if they were born between January 1st and December 31st. The youngest age group is considered 'Developmental'. There are six (6) age groups involved in State ODP each year.

For the 2016/17 ODP season, the six (6) age groups are:

- 2000 Boys & Girls
- 2001 Boys & Girls
- 2002 Boys & Girls
- 2003 Boys & Girls
- 2004 Boys & Girls
- 2005 Boys & Girls

### Process

The ODP seasonal year follows the same season as Clubs: August 1st through July 31st. Below is a chart that illustrates the process that each player will follow during the year:

Players register and sign-up for ODP. The tryout fee is paid and paperwork is turned in for each player. No player will be allowed to participate that hasn't registered for the program.

Players are evaluated during the tryouts, after 4 sessions have been held, the State Pool could possibly be named. All Players are encouraged to attend all the sessions. See individual team schedule attached in packet.

All players named to the pool will attend scheduled sessions. Sessions will be held in January and February.

State Team and Alternates will be named on March 1<sup>st</sup> for all teams (except 2005 developmental)

On March 1<sup>st</sup> when the state team is named, there will also be a named selection of players from each team to attend the Regional event, this invites will be announced April 1st. **All arrangements and transportation will be made by the players parents directly with the Region after invitation is accepted.**

## **YOUR COMMITMENT**

Player must do their best to be at all tryouts, and additional sessions. These events will stretch from November through March 1st. We understand that there are other responsibilities that a player takes on with being a part of a club. Club commitments come first, then ODP. That being said, we ask that if you commit to be a part of ODP that you give it your best both on and off the field. Remember, you are representing the state of Missouri as a member of this program.

## **COST / WHAT DOES IT INCLUDE?**

The program fee is \$200.00/player. The fee covers Tryouts, two (2) Tryout shirts, Team Scheduled Sessions, and administrative expenses for the program. For each team, we plan for four (4) tryouts, additionally there is a sheet at the end of this handbook with your specific age groups schedule.

For those players invited to attend the Regional Event, there is an additional cost for this event as well. The majority of this expense is housing, transportation, and food. The Region will directly provide the costs to selected and accepted invitees as well as all arrangements will be made directly with a Region 2 representative. Since the Region has gone to a format that no longer has teams attending the competition, Missouri Youth Soccer Association no longer arranges any transportation to or from any Regional event.

## **EQUIPMENT TO BRING**

While participating in ODP, players should never wear or bring any gear that identifies a particular club or high school. Players are always to bring both of the Tryout t-shirts (that you get at the 1<sup>st</sup> tryout), shin guards, water, and a ball). If you attend wearing any club gear you will be asked to change or turn your items inside out.

## **WEATHER POLICY**

In the case of inclement weather and Missouri Youth Soccer Association has to cancel or postpone an Olympic Development or Player Development session we will send out a text alert to everyone that has signed up for the alert:

1. Go to the following webpage: [https://www.rainedout.net/team\\_page.php?a=413a56ce508dab8b2748](https://www.rainedout.net/team_page.php?a=413a56ce508dab8b2748)
2. Enter your phone number. The RainedOut system will then text you a validation code. Enter the validation code.
3. You'll then be able to subscribe to your team's text alerts.

To avoid people traveling to a venue Missouri Youth Soccer Association will try and cancel the event 24 hours prior to the first session that is scheduled to take place, but we cannot guarantee this. If an event is cancelled during the normal business hours of Missouri Youth Soccer Association we will also update the team page and send out a text & email.

If we are experiencing bad weather such as thunder and lightning at the start of the session we will break until it is deemed safe for the players to return to the fields. If the weather does not pass and the sessions have to be cancelled, Missouri Youth Soccer Association will do the utmost to post updates on the MYSA website calendar as soon as we are able to secure venues and re-schedule events.

## **ODP CLOTHING / GEAR**

All players attending tryouts will be given two (2) tryout shirts that they'll use during tryouts sessions. In addition, MYSA will make available specific clothing items each year to ODP participants for purchase. Last year, hoodies and t-shirts were available. Proceeds from the sale of these clothing items go directly back into the program.

## COACHES

*\*For coaches bios, please see the ODP team pages on the MYSA website.*

<u>AGE GROUP</u>	<u>COACH</u>	<u>EMAIL</u>
2000 Boys	<u>Head Coach</u> Carl Rose	<a href="mailto:3roses4@att.net">3roses4@att.net</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> Zack Waters	<a href="mailto:zewaters@gmail.com">zewaters@gmail.com</a>
2000 Girls	<u>Head Coach</u> Dan Schmidlin	<a href="mailto:dschmidl@centralmethodist.edu">dschmidl@centralmethodist.edu</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> Drew Hawkins	<a href="mailto:hawkinsd@moval.edu">hawkinsd@moval.edu</a>
2001 Boys	<u>Head Coach</u> Graham Shaw	<a href="mailto:Grahamshaw2005@gmail.com">Grahamshaw2005@gmail.com</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> Rob Wilkenson	<a href="mailto:Rwilk27@gmail.com">Rwilk27@gmail.com</a>
2001 Girls	<u>Head Coach</u> Deno Merrick	<a href="mailto:merrickd@mobap.edu">merrickd@mobap.edu</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> Oscar Rojas	
2002 Boys	<u>Head Coach</u> Tim Strange	
	<u>Assistant Coach</u>	
2002 Girls	<u>Head Coach</u> Deno Merrick	<a href="mailto:merrickd@mobap.edu">merrickd@mobap.edu</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> Sarah Eden	
2003 Boys	<u>Head Coach</u> Jim Bokern	<a href="mailto:coachbokern@gmail.com">coachbokern@gmail.com</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> Mike Slivinski	<a href="mailto:Michael.slivinski5@gmail.com">Michael.slivinski5@gmail.com</a>
2003 Girls	<u>Head Coach</u> Cody Smith	<a href="mailto:cody.smith@hlg.edu">cody.smith@hlg.edu</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u>	<a href="mailto:ragottier@gmail.com">ragottier@gmail.com</a>

	Ryan/Kateyln Gottier	
2004 Boys	<u>Head Coach</u> <u>Nathan Mason</u>	<a href="mailto:Nathan.mason@williamwoods.edu">Nathan.mason@williamwoods.edu</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> <u>Zak Fox</u>	
2004 Girls	<u>Head Coach</u> Dan Garabedian	<a href="mailto:dvgarabedian@yahoo.com">dvgarabedian@yahoo.com</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> <u>Mark Kaiser</u>	<a href="mailto:Mk9256@yahoo.com">Mk9256@yahoo.com</a>
	<u>DEVELOPMENTAL</u>	
2005 Boys	<u>Coach</u> <u>Rob Wilkenson</u>	<a href="mailto:Rwilk27@gmail.com">Rwilk27@gmail.com</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> <u>Graham Shaw</u>	
2005 Girls	<u>Coach</u> <u>Mark Kaiser</u>	<a href="mailto:Mk9256@yahoo.com">Mk9256@yahoo.com</a>
	<u>Assistant Coach</u> <u>Dan Garabedian</u>	<a href="mailto:dvgarabedian@yahoo.com">dvgarabedian@yahoo.com</a>

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## **2017 REGIONAL EVENT**

The 2017 Regional event will be held sometime in July. The format and information details will be announced later this winter when receive that information from the Region.

The final costs for the Regional event will not be finalized until early 2017.

Lastly, Missouri Youth Soccer will not be sending teams to this event, players of the **highest caliber** on the team's 00-04, may be invited to attend this event there is no set number of players that can or will be sent. If your player is invited you will work directly with the Region on all your arrangements, all transportation is solely your responsibility.



## **SUPPLEMENTAL EVENTS**

All players may be offered additional opportunities to attend tournaments/showcases as they become available with their respective ODP teams throughout the year, additional costs will apply for these events.

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## **ODP CONTACTS**

Denny Vaninger

MYSA Director of Coaching

ODP Director

[statecoach@moyouthsoccer.org](mailto:statecoach@moyouthsoccer.org)

314-409-0300

Kathy Arnold

MYSA Programs Coordinator

ODP Administrator

[kathy@moyouthsoccer.org](mailto:kathy@moyouthsoccer.org)

636-946-0958 x101

Nik Bushell

MYSA Executive Director

Developmental Coordinator