



## MINNESOTA YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC.

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### ODP Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is ODP?**

The Minnesota US Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program (ODP) is a program that offers supplemental training and a competitive opportunity to the best identifiable talent in certain birth years. ODP is not an alternative to club play. All ODP players play for an MYSA club. Teams, or pools, of players are selected within their particular birth years to train together under specially selected age group coaches. Then the strongest identifiable talent for each birth year is invited to attend a US Youth Soccer ODP Regional camp in July to represent Minnesota.

2. **What happens after the April tryouts/identifications and May District Select Festival?**

Based on current Region II programming the Minnesota US Youth Soccer ODP will identify a select pool of 1994 to 1999 birth years for further training and potential selection to a regional camp in July 2011. Each pool will be between approximately 30 – 50 players depending on the age group.

3. **Who makes the selections?**

The age group coaches and the State Director of Coaching will select the pools.

4. **Who are the coaches?**

The staff is hand-picked based on their expertise in developing top level players. They are USSF licensed coaches, club directors of coaching, college coaches, club coaches, high school coaches and ODP player alumni.

5. **How are notifications and invitations made?**

Jersey numbers of the players who have been identified for selection to the age group pools are posted by the end of the second week of May on the MYSA web site at [www.mnyouthsoccer.org](http://www.mnyouthsoccer.org).

6. **Can I get specific feedback on my child after tryouts?**

No. Unfortunately with the volume of players, specific detail on each player is not possible.

7. **If a player is not invited via the website, what can they do for next year?**

Players should find a club environment that is both challenging and enjoyable. Club coaches or club directors of coaching are critical resources for a player desiring to improve.

8. **What if we miss a session?**

Do not worry. Players are encouraged to attend as many training sessions as possible. You will want to communicate with your age group coach if you are unable to make a session.

9. **Do we have to accept an invitation?**

No. Declining is not considered a black mark for future involvement. Declining simply gives another player a chance to participate in the program.

10. **Do goalkeepers get special attention?**

Yes, goalkeepers get specific training whenever possible.

11. **When do the pools train?**

Pools will train on Sunday evenings (Woodbury, Bielenberg Sports Complex) until their age group attends region camp. There will also be an ODP Weekend held June 4 - 5, 2011 (Woodbury, Bielenberg Sports Complex). The first training session starts on May 22, 2011.

12. **What does it mean to be a Regional Camp Holdover Player?**

The region may select players from the state pool to remain additional days at camp. This is known as the Holdover Camp selection. MYSA will cover the cost of the holdover camp. Acceptance of the invitation by the region is voluntary and does not affect future state selection.

**13. How much does ODP cost?**

The cost of ODP ranges from \$550-800, depending on specific camp costs.

*\*Camp costs include transportation to and from camp, full room and board, as well as all coaches' fees, etc.*

**\*\*Players selected to the training pool must have full payment into the MYSA office no later than Sunday, May 22, 2011. Players who are not selected for camp will receive a full refund minus the training fee. Training fees averaged \$125/player.**

**14. Is there financial assistance?**

The purpose of the Olympic Development Program is to filter talented players to the regional and national teams' program. Where necessary, MYSA will provide financial assistance to players capable of advancing beyond the state level.

Application for financial assistance will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Families must demonstrate financial need and players must be deemed capable of competing on the regional or national level. Financial assistance is not available for the fall District Select program or to the state ODP 1999 developmental players.

**Mark Your Calendars for The Following:**

- **Sunday evening pool training beginning May 22, 2011**
- **June 4 - 5, 2011** – ODP Weekend
- **July 2011** – Region Camp <http://www.mnyouthsoccer.org/programs/odp.cfm#calendar>
  - \*Boys Camp: Overland Park, Kansas
  - \*Girls Camp: DeKalb, IL (with one exception: '99 girls, Overland Park, Kansas)

Questions may be directed to John Curtis or Iván Woyno at 952-933-2384 (800-366-6972).