



MISSOURI YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

2020/2021 PARENTS GUIDE



Welcome

Parents and Legal Guardians,

First of all, thank you for signing up for the 2020/2021 Missouri Olympic Development Program. Over the next few weeks, we look forward to your son/daughter participating in this tremendous program which has seen several 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 in Missouri and our Region. 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 is 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,

Jeff Muhr
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 develop these players through quality coaching, and to help these players gain recognition at the Regional and National levels.

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 for identifying the highest caliber players.

We believe that the development of players in Missouri takes a collaborative effort by our affiliate clubs and the Missouri ODP program.

We believe that the MYSA ODP is beneficial for that development as it allows the best players in the state to compete alongside each other in scrimmages and friendly games against the best players 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.

The Missouri ODP program welcomes and employs coaches from colleges and many of the clubs throughout the state.

ODP Goals

1. To identify a pool of players in each age group to be named to the state team as well as the identification of 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, Region Staff, and United States Soccer Federation Scouts.

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 groups (2009-2011 birth years) are considered 'Developmental'. There are nine (9) age groups involved in State ODP each year. This year the 2009, 2010, and 2011 age groups will be considered developmental.

For the 2020/21 ODP season, the nine (9) age groups are:

- 2003 Boys & Girls
- 2004 Boys & Girls
- 2005 Boys & Girls
- 2006 Boys & Girls
- 2007 Boys & Girls
- 2008 Boys & Girls
- 2009 Boys & Girls
- 2010 Boys & Girls
- 2011 Boys & Girls

Process

The ODP seasonal year follows the same season as Clubs: August 1 through July 31. Player registration opens August 1, 2020. The registration fee of (\$250.00) is paid when you register your player. Players are evaluated during the tryouts (October 10 and 11 and November 21 and 22). State Team, Alternates, and Pool Players will be announced on/before December 19, 2020 (except for 2009-2011 developmental age groups).

Player Commitment

Players must do their best to be at all tryouts and additional sessions. These events will stretch from October through June. We understand that there are other responsibilities that a player takes on with being a part of a club. We ask that, if you commit to be a part of ODP, you give it your best, both on and off the field. Remember that you are representing the state of Missouri as a member of this program. We ask that you be respectful to both your club coach and your ODP coach while you manage your playing calendar.

Cost/What Does It Include?

The program fee is \$250.00/player. The fee covers six (6) Tryouts, two (2) Tryout shirts, Team-Scheduled Sessions, pre-season training (for those players that are registered), and administrative expenses for the program. Refunds will not be given after try out weekends are complete.

All State Team Players and Alternates will be required to order a uniform kit. A kit consists of two (2) jersey's (home and away), a pair of shorts, and a pair of socks. Kits are expected to cost around \$62. Kits are the players to keep. Kits were ordered for the 2019/2020 cycle and will be used for one more year. New players to the State Team and Alternates will need to purchase the same uniform kit.

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.

For those players invited to attend the Regional Event in 2021, there is an additional cost for this event as well. Most of this expense is: housing, transportation, and food which is paid directly to Region II. All arrangements will be made directly with a Region II 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.

2021 Inter-Regional Events

Memphis, TN (February 13-15, 2021)

A 2021 Regional event will be held on February 13-15, 2021 in Memphis, Tennessee at the Mike Rose Soccer Complex. The format and information details will be announced when we receive that information from the Region.

The final costs for this Regional event are not yet finalized.

Indianapolis, IN (June 18-20, 2021)

Another 2021 Regional event will be held on June 18-20, 2021 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The format and information details will be announced when we receive that information from the Region.

The final costs for this Regional event are not yet finalized.

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 asked to bring both Tryout t-shirts (that you get at the 1st 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. ODP is a club-neutral environment.

Weather Policy

In the case of inclement weather, if cancellation or postponement of an ODP event is necessary, you will be notified by your coach via email, text, or both. To avoid people traveling to a venue, Missouri Youth Soccer Association will cancel the event 24 hours prior to the first session that is scheduled to take place when possible. Will will use the Missouri Team App for weather update/news info. You can find the information to download the [Missouri Team App](#) on our website.

If we are experiencing severe 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 must be cancelled, coaches will notify players as soon as possible.

ODP Clothing/Gear

All players attending tryouts will be given two (2) tryout shirts that they will 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. Please note, this is optional to ALL ODP players.

Coaches

AGE GROUP COACH EMAIL

2003 Boys	Tom Brannan	t.a.b.901@sbcglobal.net
2004 Boys	Brad Gieske & Sam York	brad@moyouthsoccer.org samyork@moyouthsoccer.org
2005 Boys	Christian Briggs	briggs202@outlook.com
2006 Boys	Michael Brown & Brett Lewis	michael.brown.825@gmail.com lewis.brett15@gmail.com
2007 Boys	Michael Clayton	mclayton10@me.com
2008 Boys	Michael Quante	mike.quante@whitfieldschool.org
Developmental (2009-2011 Boys)	Brad Gieske	brad@moyouthsoccer.org

2003 Girls	Deno Merrick	deno.merrick@mobap.edu
2004 Girls	Deno Merrick	deno.merrick@mobap.edu
2005 Girls	Mark Kaiser	mk9256@yahoo.com
2006 Girls	John Markey	johnm@lakecountrysoccer.org
2007 Girls	Saphir Salvador	saphirsalvador@gmail.com
2008 Girls	Christy Kononiuk	christysoccer@sbcglobal.net
Developmental 2009-2011 Girls	Sam York	samyork@moyouthsoccer.org

***Additional ODP coaches and Goalkeeper Coaches will be working with our players.

ODP CONTACTS

Jeff Muhr, Director of Coaching doc@moyouthsoccer.org

Sam York, ODP Coordinator samyork@moyouthsoccer.org

Brad Gieske, Outreach Coordinator brad@moyouthsoccer.org

