

Frequently Asked Questions About the Olympic Development Program (ODP)

1. Can my son or daughter still tryout even though we missed the initial tryout weekend?

- Yes, your child can still participate in the tryout process for the 2018/19 ODP. We are having a second weekend of tryouts (4 sessions per age group) the weekend of November 17 & 18, and, we will be using our December Friendlies against Kansas as the final tryout if needed.

2. What are the benefits of participating in the ODP.

- Players are exposed to high level coaches from around the state (college coaches, high-level club coaches, accomplished high school coaches, Regional Staff Coaches, etc.).
- The USSF Training Methodology is used throughout the Missouri ODP. In some cases, this is reinforcing what players are hearing in other soccer environments, which is valuable for them. In other cases, this information is exposing them to new ways to look and play the game.
- ODP players have the opportunity to play against some of the best players in the state, and in some cases the region.
- The ODP can be a pathway to the Region Team, National Team, college recruitment and even professional soccer.
- Participation in the ODP can help players build their soccer resume.
- Participation in the ODP is a positive environment where kids get to share their passion for soccer with other kids that share that same passion. Friendships are made and built from within the ODP.

3. Is it OK to participate in the ODP if I am currently playing club soccer?

- Yes, it is permissible for a player to participate in the ODP even if they are playing club soccer. MYSA offers the ODP to all of its members in order to enhance the players' soccer experience. The program is designed to give players the opportunity to further their development and provide them with additional opportunities beyond club soccer.
- We realize that players may have club events that may conflict with an ODP event. We encourage all players to communicate with both their club coaches

and ODP coaches to work out any conflicts. We respect the need for players to attend club events and missing an ODP event for this will NOT be held against them.

4. Who is eligible for the ODP?

- Any competitive soccer player is eligible to participate in the ODP, with the exception of those that are playing in the Developmental Academy.

5. What if my child is unable to attend one of the tryouts/training sessions?

- We would like the players to make as many sessions as possible, but we realize that there will be conflicts. They should notify their specific age group coach so he/she is aware.

6. What are the opportunities for my child once they go through the tryout process?

- ALL players remain in the ODP for the entire cycle. For all age groups, other than the 2007/08, your child will be placed in one of three categories. They will either be assigned to the State Team, Alternates, or Pool players.
- The 2007/08 coaches will be sorting the players into "like skill groups" so they can be appropriately placed in events. All players will be placed on a team.

7. What does it mean to be a State Team player?

- A State Team player is a player that has been selected by the coaching staff to represent our state in tournaments, sub-regional events, and friendlies, around our region. There will be training sessions scheduled in advance of events so they can prepare for the event. State Team players will also be evaluated for the opportunity to participate at Region Camp.

8. What does it mean to be an "Alternate?"

- Alternate players should plan on attending all trainings that are being held for the State Team. At times, State Team players may not be able to attend events. In these situations, the Alternates will have an opportunity to participate in these tournaments, sub-regional events or friendlies.

9. What does it mean to be a “Pool Player?”

- A Pool player is a player that remains in the ODP system and will have access to additional training in the spring. These training sessions will be open to ALL players in the age group. It is highly recommended that players attend these sessions so they can further develop alongside high-level players.
- Pool players also have the opportunity to participate in events with the State Team if the numbers warrant it.

10. How does a player get selected to go to Regional Camp?

- Coaches observe and evaluate players throughout the course of the ODP Cycle. Recommendations are made from these observations.

11. How many players make it to Regional Camp?

- That number depends on the players’ performance. If the coaching staff evaluates a player and determines that they have the skill set to participate at the Regional level, they will be offered an opportunity to attend. In the past we have seen the number range from 4-12 players in each age group.

12. When can you expect to hear about the placement of your child?

- We will have all team selections completed by December 21. We originally anticipated being done after the November 17 & 18 weekend, however, we are finding it necessary to back that date up. This will give us an opportunity to see the players one more time for the Kansas City Sub-Regional event (December 15 & 16).

13. What is the cost to participate in the ODP?

- The registration/tryout fee is \$225 for the 2018/19 ODP Cycle. That gets players all of the pre-tryout training sessions, 8 tryout sessions, 2 tryout shirts, and any additional training (for Pool, Alternates and State Team players) throughout the spring.

14. What additional cost may I incur throughout the ODP Cycle?

- Each player that is placed on the State Team or is an alternate, will be required to purchase a uniform. The cost to the uniform kit is approximately \$80-90. That include two New Balance Dry Fit shirts, a pair of New Balance shorts and two pairs of socks.
- The cost of any additional events/tournaments that a team participates in will be split among the players on that team. You can figure \$75-100 per event, in addition to hotel costs.

15. Where are the ODP events held at?

We do pre-tryout events in both Kansas City and St. Louis. Once the official tryouts begin, we use the Missouri Soccer Park located in Booneville, Missouri for training. This is a centrally located turf soccer complex. The tournaments, sub-regional events, and friendlies that we participate in are scattered among several states within our region-Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, Ohio, and Tennessee are all included on this year's calendar.

16. Will I have to purchase another uniform kit this year if my child participated in the ODP last year?

- NO, we are using the same uniforms as last year. We will have to coordinate numbers so we don't get "repeats." If your child has outgrown or lost some part of their uniform, they will have the opportunity to purchase replacement pieces.