



**Welcome to the OYSAN Olympic Development Program.
Tom Turner, OYSAN Director of Coaching and Player Development
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The fall 2011 ODP training and identification process begins in earnest this Sunday (9am – 11am) and I would like to take a few minutes to outline some basic program information, particularly for those who are new to ODP.

What is ODP?

Many families come into ODP without a sense of the program's scope and purpose. In short, the Olympic Development Program is a filter system for the US National Youth Teams and I would invite you all to read the article entitled, "What is ODP?" posted on the OYSAN website at... <http://www.oysan.org/Assets/What+is+ODP+2010-2011.pdf>. Hopefully, this piece will provide context to ODP and help answer most of your questions.

Objectives

There are four basic program objectives for the fall season.

- 1) TRAIN...To conduct relevant and exciting training sessions for all non-HS ages. For more specific information, please see "Training Expectations" below. For those who may be interested in the value of training vs games, please read the article posted at... <http://www.oysan.org/Assets/games+vs+practices.pdf>
- 2) ASSESS...To assess players in the 1999 and 1998 ages for advancement to the winter state pools.

There are two state teams in both the 1999 and 1998 age groups and the ideal winter pool number is approximately 60 players. This number (30 per older/younger team) provides for healthy roster competition. Once the fall season has concluded, only those who are new to the ODP process will be invited to join the 1999 and 1998 pools for the winter. For information on why older/younger teams are selected, link to... <http://www.oysan.org/Assets/Age+effect+April.pdf>.

There is no fall season selection process for 1997 players, as most of this age group is in high school.

The 2000 birth year is a developmental age group and no players are cut.

3) EVALUATE... To provide electronic evaluations to every player who attends a minimum of three training sessions.

4) INTERNATIONAL TOUR... To assess 1999 boys and girls for the March international trip to Europe (Paris, Brugges, Amsterdam). Information on this trip will be e-mailed next week and the teams will be named in December. The web site link for ODP-International information is...

http://www.oysan.org/FOR_PLAYERS/ODP/ODP_International.htm.

Locations

The addresses for the training locations are posted at the following OYSAN link:
http://www.oysan.org/FOR_PLAYERS/ODP.htm

ODP Communication and OYSAN Website

Information about the fall ODP program and any schedule changes are posted in the "ODP Fall" section of the OYSAN web site.

http://www.oysan.org/FOR_PLAYERS/ODP/ODP_Fall_Information.htm

You may also receive direct e-mails with time-sensitive information, so please make sure that the e-mail addresses you submitted during registration are checked on a regular basis.

ODP T-Shirts and Training Uniform

Each player will receive a gray numbered ODP T-shirt that will identify them for the duration of the 2011/12 season. The ODP training uniform is a gray shirt, black shorts, and white socks. The shorts and socks are not supplied.

The shirts will be available from this weekend forward. If your son or daughter does not receive a shirt by next weekend (September 18th), please contact OYSAN Programs Assistant Bernie Telmanik in the OYSAN office via e-mail. Her address is btelmanik@ohionorthsoccer.org.

Arrival Time and Warm-up

Please have your son or daughter on site fifteen minutes prior to practice to check-in and begin their individual warm up. Please remind players that shooting at a goal is not warming up!

Inflated Soccer Balls

Under-inflated soccer balls are one of the key reasons why our young players have difficulty kicking the ball over any significant distance. If you could please have your son or daughter routinely carry a hand pump in their soccer bags, it would be much appreciated.

Training Expectations

You will see three basic elements at an ODP training session: 1) Individual Technical Development, such as ball striking; 2) Conceptual Games, such as 4v4+1 to two small goals; and 3) Positional Games, such as 6v6 to two large goals with offside lines. A minimum of 30-45 minutes of each training session will typically be spent in larger number games.

Player Evaluations

It is a goal of the ODP program to provide each player who attends a minimum of three training sessions with an electronic evaluation. To learn more about the components and context of the ODP evaluation, please link to

<http://www.oysan.org/Assets/ODP+Player+Evaluations+2008.pdf>.

Attendance

The fall schedule includes six Sunday sessions in Akron, Cleveland-East, Cleveland-West, Wooster/Mansfield, and Toledo; and six midweek sessions (5:30pm – 7:30pm) in Akron (W), Cleveland-West (T) and Toledo (M). Attendance is not mandatory, but evaluations are only provided to those who make at least three appearances.

Because of the ratio of coaches to players at each site, it is generally not possible to mix and match sessions during other practice times. However, this is not a hard and fast position and requests will be handled on an individual basis. Bottom line... players will be accommodated until the training numbers at a session exceed a reasonable coach-to-player ratio.

Should you have any questions, my e-mail is coaching@ohionorthsoccer.org and the OYSAN office number is (330) 659-0989. Bernie Telmanik can be reached at btelmanik@ohionorthsoccer.org.

Good luck this fall and I look forward to meeting many of you along the way.

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