



Arizona Youth Soccer Association

11029 N. 24th Street Suite 806
Phoenix, AZ 85029
State Office 602-433-9202
Fax Number 602-433-9221
www.azyouthsoccer.org

Players and Parents:

Welcome to the AZ Youth Soccer Association Olympic Development Program tryouts! We thank you for the time and commitment you have made to try and be a part of the elite selected for the Olympic Development Program. This information pack describes the purposes of the Olympic Development Program and its focus upon the growth and development of soccer players within Arizona. Also included are a listing of Olympic Development Program Events and a fee schedule. The event and fee information is preliminary and subject to change.

The ODP program is designed to compliment a player's club commitment and all ODP events are scheduled around AYSA play dates and major College Showcase Tournaments. US Youth Soccer ODP is not only the first and original ODP program but also the only elite player development program that can claim members of Major League Soccer and Women's United Soccer Association, as well as a majority of current and past national and youth team members, as alumni.

The Arizona Olympic Development Program demands a commitment to excellence as the program offers the experience of being developed, exposed and identified by some of the State and Regions top Collegiate, Club and National team coaches! Those participants who are selected will be representing our state at the highest level of youth soccer.

If you have any questions about the tryouts or the Olympic Development Program please email or call. Again we thank you for your time and commitment. Good luck with tryouts!

Sincerely,

The US Youth Soccer/AZ Youth Soccer Association Olympic Development Program Philosophy

Our Olympic Development Program is designed to identify players of the highest caliber on a continuing and consistent basis for the purposes of developing their skills and abilities; and creating sustained success for the U.S. National Teams in the International arena.

The Olympic Development Program Provides Superior Benefits

The Olympic Development Program is an integrated and comprehensive approach that provides benefits superior to other elite player concepts:

Focus upon the individual player

Development of the individual player is enhanced as he or she trains and plays against the best players in his or her age group

Development of the individual player is enhanced because he or she must learn to adjust to varying groups of teammates. This requires the player to respond to the varying styles, strengths, weaknesses and abilities of the other elite players, rather than becoming dependent on habits of a fixed group

The highest quality of competition against the best of the best drawn from entire state rather than one or two associations

Exposure to regional and national team coaches

Exposure to college coaches within the environment of the highest quality competition

The opportunity to represent our state, our region and our nation in domestic and international competitions

Non-profit sponsorship and administration. Our Olympic Development Program does not carry the burden of a profit orientation. As a result, we will continue to drive down participants' costs. Our goal is to be significantly less expensive than other elite soccer concepts

How Are Players Selected?

Players are selected in Arizona on the basis of open tryouts conducted by the AZ Youth Soccer Association State Coaches and experienced college and club coaches, selected by the Olympic Development Program, who are recognized for their abilities to identify and train players with superior talents. Players can also be invited into the ODP program if they are scouted and identified by our extensive ODP staff and scouts.

Selection of Olympic Development Program players is not an easy task. Players are evaluated on the four components that make up a soccer player:

1. Technique
2. Tactics
3. Fitness and Athletic Ability
4. Psychological Component (attitude/desire for excellence)

What Will Happen at Tryouts - Policies and Procedures

Players must participate in as many tryouts as possible.

Players will receive one numbered Adidas T-shirt

Coaches will receive a list with players designated numbers (no names)

Players will be placed in small groups, rotate, play games, etc.

Players will be assessed and identified by the ODP staff. The staff will determine those players selected to the initial State Pool.

Communication with Identification and Selection

All Players must currently be registered with AYSA

Player status after tryouts/training sessions will be posted on the AYSA website, by tryout number and by the following Monday afternoon.

Players can be released from the State pool after any session.

Players must pay for all sessions whether in attendance or not to stay in ODP.

Payment is required prior to the training session.

If withdrawing from ODP please notify the ODP Administrator via email of your intentions at azodp21@yahoo.com

What are Regional Camps?

US Youth Soccer is divided into four Regions. Each offers a Regional Camp for ODP participants in each eligible age group. The camps are designed to develop these elite players through high-level competition and training. During this training and competition, players who are capable of performing at the highest level of play are identified for possible National team camp, pool, or team participation. The specifics, as well as the cost, of these Regional camps will be provided by AZ Youth Soccer Association to all invited players.

What is a National Camp?

National Camps and Interregional events are held throughout the year at various locations in the United States. The National Team Coach or a National Staff Coach is present at these events to observe, train, and identify players for placement in the National pool or on a National team.

How Can I Learn More?

AZ Youth Soccer Association is committed to providing the highest quality Olympic Development Program at the lowest possible cost and with fully informed parents and players. Additional information can be found at www.azyouthsoccer.com or contact Chris Webb, ODP Administrator, as well as members of the AYSA staff at 602-433-9202.

What are the Players Expectations?

AZ Youth Soccer Association has rapidly become a leader within our Region largely due to the strong clubs/associations in Arizona. AZ Youth Soccer Association provides several avenues for the players to improve, but it is their own enthusiasm, and commitment to excellence, as well as the support from their club coaches, that promotes them to the State, Regional and National Teams.

The Olympic Development Program expects a lot from its players:

- 1) Commitment to Excellence
- 2) Work Hard – Play Smart!

- 3) Personal responsibility – each player must sign the Code of Conduct. Violation of this contract will be dealt with fairly and firmly.
- 4) Attendance – players are expected to attend all training/competitive events, and any absences must be documented as well as approved by the AZ Youth Soccer Association ODP Administrator
- 5) All ODP events are scheduled around club commitments (AYSA play dates and College Showcases) therefore players are not expected to miss events!

What are the Parents Expectations?

AZ Youth Soccer Association appreciates the time and commitment parents make on the behalf of their sons and daughters. This information pack was developed in an effort to educate both parents and players of the ODP process. Please utilize this information pack as a tool to answer most of your questions as well as giving you an insight into our ODP program.

IT IS THE PARENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO CHECK E-MAILS AND OUR WEBSITE PRIOR TO ALL TRAINING DATES. FIELDS CAN BE CLOSED UNEXPECTEDLY FOR REASONS OTHER THAN WEATHER. Please pay particular attention to ***ALL*** deadlines and instructions for various activities. Adherence to these dates is the key to reducing hassles and costs. ***IT IS THE FAMILIES’ RESPONSIBILITY TO RESPOND TO COORESPONDENCE FROM THE STATE OFFICE.*** Not doing so in a timely fashion will jeopardize the players’ opportunity to participate in an event.

Tentative Budget 2009/10

Try-out Fee	\$50.00	Registration Fee (Includes: T-shirt, Field Fee, Coaches Fee, Administrative Fee)
	\$200.00	Pool Training Fee (Due October 30, 2009) (Includes: Field Fee, Coaches Fee, Administrative Fee, Uniform Fee, Equipment Fee)
	\$215.00	Region IV Championship Tournament Fee (Due by December 21, 2009) (Includes: Tournament Fee, Coaches Fee, Administrative Fee, Uniform Fee)
	\$250.00	Mini-Training Camp (Due by May 19, 2010) (Includes: Housing, Meals, Field Fee, Coaches Fee, and Administrative Fee)
	\$1200.00	Region IV Camp (\$250.00 Deposit Due by April 16, 2010) (Includes: Room, Meals, Transportation, Coaches, Administrative Fee)
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TOTAL COSTS	\$1915.00	

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance is available for those in need. All players must pay the registration/tryout fee. After this, families may apply for scholarship assistance. Scholarship applications can be emailed upon request by contacting the AYSA office. **All financial assistance information needs to be in the office by OCT 30 of each calendar year.**

AYSA Olympic Development Program is financially self-supporting. It will be the policy of this administration to keep the total cost of this program as efficient as possible. Costs are determined by facilities, hotels, coaches, transportation, entry fees and other projected miscellaneous expenses.