



What happens Next... When ODP Tryouts are over.

Good [Morning/Afternoon/Evening], Everyone!

Although we have yet to hold the 3rd ODP Tryout, we feel it is important to get you as much information as possible in order for families to look at their future calendar and commitments. Please note, this is only an overview, the Player Pool Invite Packet will have more detail and specific information.

Pool Announcement:

By September 21st (evening), the Pool rosters will be announced for each gender and age group. Each State Pool will include approximately 30–60 players, depending on the depth of talent. Goalkeepers will be counted within this number; however, we plan to continue the specialized Goalkeeper Training Program within ODP. This means that additional goalkeepers will be carried in the pool to ensure ongoing development for this group of players.

More details will be included in the Player Pool Invite packet, which will be sent to all players selected for the State Pools. The packet will provide information on:

- Player Fundraising Program
- Player Kit (Uniform and Training Gear)
- Training Schedule
- Travel Forms
- Final Event Calendar
- Team Communications
- Passports
- Travel Procedures
- And more

I think this is a great time to share a preview of what's ahead for State ODP and the exciting opportunities you can look forward to this season.

Team designation/Label/Name:

It is really important that everyone understands how we refer to the ODP team "Name" so you know exactly what team your player is on. An ODP player's age grouping did NOT change. While the clubs have returned to a "School year" age designation for players, ODP has NOT. ODP has always been, and will continue to be "Calendar Year". (January 1-December 31) A players' Team and age group will be based on their birth year. If your son was born in 2013, their team will be called and recognized as the 2013 Boys.

Communications:

We will continue to use TeamSnap, however all players will be assigned to their specific team shortly after the pools are announced. However, when communicating with the office please always include the name, gender and team your player is on when sending emails: Example: Susie Martin, 12G – this tells us the player's name is Susie Martin and she is in the 2012 Girls ODP Pool. (Please do not use U12 or U13).

ODP Pool Training:

ODP training will begin on October 11th at Mistlin Sports Park | 1201 River Rd. Ripon

All pools will train at this location unless you are otherwise notified. All training Schedules will be posted on your TeamSnap calendar page where you can also log on your attendance. TeamSnap teams will be assigned shortly after the pools are announced. The complete training schedule, times and field assignments will be in the Player Pool Invite Packet.

Keeper Training will begin on the same date/location and additional information will be included in the Player Pool Invite Packet.

ODP Travel:

As many of you know, we introduced International Travel into the program a few years ago, and it has quickly become a highlight for our players and families. This year, I'd like to give you an overview of the opportunities that await, both here at home and abroad.

There will be an informational Call available to all players in each pool. Those dates, times and links will be posted in the letter the state Team players receive.

Domestic:**2027 ODP Far West Championships - Presented by World Strides Sports | Mesa, AZ**

January 7-11, 2027 | Travel Dates: January 6-11, 2027

Teams attending: 2010-2015 Boys and Girls | Each Pool will select (1) Travel Team | (12 Teams total)

International:**All Players should make sure you have valid Passports through November 2026****2027 Mexico Friendlies | Guadalajara**

March 18-23, 2027 | Travel Dates: TBD

*Teams attending: 2012 and 2013 Boys and Girls | Each pool will select (1) Travel Team | (4 Teams)

Expected Staff attendance: 2 per team (Head Coach and Asst/Manager)

There will be an Event Information packet available with all the details and cost by October 15th.

2027 Costa Rica Tour- Teams | Costa Rica

March 18-23, 2027 | Travel Dates: Same

Teams attending: 2014 and 2015 Boys and Girls | Each pool will select (1) Travel Team | (4 Teams total).

There will be an Event Information packet available with all the details and cost very soon. A virtual meeting will be held to cover the trip details for this trip and the companion trip. There will be an Event Information packet available with all the details and cost by October 15th.

2027 Costa Rica Tour- Family Trip | Costa Rica

March 18-23, 2027 | Travel Dates: Same

This is the companion trip for the friends and families of ODP. This trip will provide all the same activities (Pro Game, sightseeing etc.) and includes the transportation to all the ODP games as well. There will be an Event Information packet available with all the details and cost by October 15th.

2027 FIFA WWC Brazil- Players

June 22-30, 2027 | Travel Dates: Same

Teams attending: 2010 and 2011 Boys and Girls | Each pool will select (1) Travel Team | (4 Teams total).

There will be an Event Information packet available with all the details and cost very soon. A virtual meeting will be held to cover the trip details for this trip and the companion trip.

Expected Staff attendance: 2 per team (Head Coach and Asst/Manager)

2027 FIFA WWC Brazil- Family Trip

June 22-30, 2027 | Travel Dates: Same

This is the companion trip for the friends and families of ODP. This trip will provide all the same activities (Opening Ceremonies, 2 WC games, ODP games, sightseeing etc.) and includes transportation to all games as well.

While the International Travel series will name a travel roster of those in the State ODP pools first, there may be travel opportunities for those players who have attended ODP tryouts over the summer. We will always reach out to those who participated in ODP first!

Why International Soccer Travel?

For young athletes, few opportunities can match the growth, inspiration, and unforgettable memories that come from traveling abroad to compete against teams from other countries. International soccer trips are more than just games in a new location — they're life-changing experiences that shape players both on and off the field.

1. Raising the Level of Play

When players face international competition, they are challenged by new tactics, skill sets, and styles of play they may never see at home. They learn to adapt quickly, think faster, and rise to the occasion against talented opponents. Competing abroad pushes athletes to a higher standard, sharpening their skills and mental toughness.

2. Building Confidence and Independence

Traveling as part of a team without parents nearby encourages players to step up, take responsibility, and solve problems on their own. Whether it's navigating a new city, managing their schedule, or communicating with someone who speaks another language, these moments build independence and self-assurance that carry into every part of life.

3. Immersing in a New Culture

International trips allow players to experience the world in a way that no classroom or tourist visit can. They'll share meals, traditions, and conversations with people from another culture — often realizing that soccer is a universal language that connects us all. Along the way, they'll visit historic sites, taste new foods, and gain a deeper appreciation for life outside their own community.

4. Creating Lasting Bonds and Memories

Traveling together brings players closer than ever. From celebrating goals to exploring famous landmarks, these shared adventures create friendships and memories that last a lifetime. Players return home with stories they'll tell for years, and a stronger sense of unity with their teammates.

5. Opening Doors for the Future

International play can also open opportunities for the future, from connecting with coaches and scouts to adding a standout experience on college applications. More importantly, it inspires young athletes to dream bigger, work harder, and imagine new possibilities for their game and their lives.

This is a powerful investment in your child's development, confidence, and future. The skills they gain, the cultures they experience, and the memories they create will stay with them forever.

The Olympic Development Program (ODP) offers soccer players a unique opportunity to grow both on and off the field. By participating, players are challenged to compete with and against the top talent in their age group, which raises their technical, tactical, and mental performance to higher levels. They receive expert coaching and exposure to advanced training environments that mirror collegiate, professional, and international standards. Beyond player development, ODP provides invaluable pathways to regional and national team selection, opening doors to college recruiting and future playing opportunities. Just as important, players build lifelong friendships, learn discipline, and gain confidence by pushing themselves in a highly competitive yet supportive environment.