

*Delaware*

*Olympic Development Program*



*2003 - 2004*



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### **Welcome**

Congratulations on your selection to the 2004 ODP pool.

We will be providing you with opportunities to challenge yourself through conditioning, training, and playing. The chance to play outside your school and club teams will enable you to test your adaptation and flexibility in a competitive environment.

As our coaching staff and player pool has continued to become more competitive, increased player commitment will be required. Advancement in the program will depend on skill, attendance, training mentality and overall attitude. Your hard work in the next few months will allow you to represent our state at a regional level in a prestigious program.

### **Olympic Development Program Overview**

The Olympic Development Program is a national program for identifying and developing the best youth soccer players. ODP teams are formed at the state association and regional levels, made up of the best players in various age groups. Pools of players are identified in each eligible age group and brought together as a team to develop their skill through training and competition. From the state pools and subsequent teams, players are identified for regional and national pools and teams.

The goals of ODP are:

- To identify a pool of players in each age group from which a United States National Team will be selected for international competition.
- To provide high level training to benefit and enhance the development of players at all levels.
- Through the use of carefully selected licensed coaches, develop a mechanism for the enhancement of ideas and curriculum to improve all levels of coaching.

### **Delaware's Olympic Development Program**

In support of these national goals, the Delaware ODP program strives to give each and every Delaware player an opportunity to participate in the statewide ODP program. It is the express goal of the state program to:

- Identify the best players at each age level,
- Provide them the best training possible, and
- Provide them an opportunity to demonstrate their skills at the regional level in a variety of different regional events as well as provide them the opportunity to be showcased for college coaching staff.

Ultimately, it is the goal of the state program to have an increasing number of Delaware players represented in the regional pools and teams. This goal by definition establishes the state program as an exclusionary one—i.e.--one that is designed to identify players



## *Delaware Olympic Development Program*

*2003 - 2004*

with exceptional skill and talent on the soccer field and then provide them as much time and opportunity as possible to place into the regional pools. Unfortunately, this often means that some players will not get the same amount of field time or recognition at the regional level. It is critically important that each player and parent understand that while not everyone can be identified for the regional pool, each player in ODP will be given an opportunity to receive training from Regional level coaches and be evaluated by these coaches.

An important part of the ODP experience is not only the opportunity to move forward into regional pools and teams, but the high level of training that each player receives not only from Delaware's college level coaching staff, but the coaching staff at the Region 1 level. Many, if not most of these coaches also coach at major soccer schools in the region and this provides a fantastic opportunity for Delaware ODP players to be exposed to these coaches. Again, we want to stress that commitment, diligence, preparedness, good attitudes and behavior are as important to these coaches as soccer skill and know-how are. Making these contacts and having the opportunity to be viewed by these coaches throughout the player's ODP career will be an important part of the player's soccer future.

We hope that each player understands that part of the ODP experience is not only the development of new and improved soccer skills but participation in a broad range of experiences contributing to the players emotional, maturational, and social development as well. The player will have the opportunity to meet highly skilled players from states throughout the Northeast. It is important for both the player and parent to realize that competition at the regional level is very tough and that not making the regional pool is not a negative. Helping your player to establish appropriate goals for his/her ODP experience is an important part of helping your player get everything out of this exciting opportunity.

### **Selection for ODP State Pools/Teams**

Selection for ODP state pools at each age level is a two-stage process. The first step is a series of two tryouts for each age group. Players are encouraged to attend each of these tryout sessions to provide the player as much exposure to the evaluator and coaching staffs as possible.

The Director of Coaching selects a pool of evaluators who are responsible for assessing the performance of each player during the course of a two-hour tryout period on each of the two tryout dates. The following are some of the important criteria that the ODP coaching and evaluator staff are assessing in each player during tryouts—speed, agility, physical fitness, ball skills, team performance, performance under pressure, tactical and strategic understanding of the game, coachability, and good player attitude.

In addition to the normal tryout process outlined above, ODP coaching staff often scout league and high school games to identify potential talent in players who have been unable to attend the ODP tryouts in the fall. Coaches have until mid-May to make final pool selections and ultimately finalize team rosters. This identification and selection



## *Delaware Olympic Development Program*

*2003 - 2004*

process is in keeping with the state ODP goals of identifying the most talented players in the state and allowing them the opportunity to participate in higher levels of competitive soccer.

### **Attendance**

All Olympic Development Program players are expected to take their commitment seriously. Players are expected to be punctual, attend practices and events, and participate with a positive attitude, intensity and passion. Poor attendance, attitude and punctuality will be a factor in final roster selections. Your hard work will allow you to represent our state at the regional level where you will be exposed to new coaching staff, soccer players and great experiences.

It will be your responsibility to follow the rules of the ODP program and the Code of Conduct signed by every player. We cannot stress enough the importance of good attitude, commitment and drive in advancing in the program and at the regional and possibly national levels.

In case of inclement weather, please check the Delaware ODP web site ([www.dysa.org](http://www.dysa.org)) after noon the day of practice for an update on practice schedules. This includes cancellations due to wet field conditions or stormy weather forecasts.

### **Program Fees**

The total cost of the program for the 2004 ODP year is \$725. The first \$25 is due at tryouts and is non-refundable regardless of whether the player is selected for the pool or state team. The second payment is due at the first full meeting of ODP pool players and their parents on January 14, 2004. The final payment is due May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004, prior to final rosters being prepared for the ODP Rider Cup Tournament. We have little flexibility in the fees we charge, largely because we are subject to the costs associated with the program at the Region 1 level - e.g. - cost of the ODP tournament at Rider, and the cost of camp during the summer. Region 1 recently increased these fees and we have had to follow suit at the state level. US Youth Soccer Region 1 sets fees for Regional Camp and the Delaware ODP Administrative staff sets fees for the state program annually.

### **Scholarships**

It is our intent to try and have as many players as possible involved in the program and while we have only limited funds available for scholarships, we strive to see to it that any player selected for a state team is not precluded from participation for financial reasons. Of course, because of limited funds, we are not always successful. Thus, a limited amount of scholarship funds are available to players where there is a demonstrated financial need. Application forms and information are available upon request or by download on the Delaware ODP web site at <http://www.dysa.org>. All scholarship request forms will be kept confidential and are due by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2004. Scholarship



## Delaware Olympic Development Program

2003 - 2004

applicants should work aggressively to raise sponsorship funds as described below to help defray ODP tuition costs.

### Sponsorships

Players are encouraged to seek individual and/or corporate sponsorships to help defray the costs of their participation in the Olympic Development Program. Sponsors will receive recognition in the next issue of the Delaware Youth Soccer Association Newsletter and on the Delaware ODP web site. Contributions are tax deductible. All completed sponsorship forms are due by April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004.

### Refund Policy

Fees for ODP events are non-refundable. Any player who is selected as a member of a final state team will be expected to attend the regional event in his/her respective age group. Any player who decides not to attend their regional event after they are selected to the final state team, and does not have official documentation of a medical hardship, may be subject to a fine.

### Staff

The Olympic Development Program (ODP) is under the direction of State Coach, Mike Dickey. Mike holds his USSF "A" License and is a current ODP Region I Staff Coach and also serves as Director of Coaching for Kirkwood Soccer Club. In addition, the Delaware ODP program takes great pride in the fact that each of its head coaches have college soccer experience and they are all tasked with preparing our players not only for their ODP experience but for competition at the college level as well. Finally, we have successfully executed a goalkeeper training program as part of the ODP program with separate weekly training sessions exclusively for keepers who then go on to practice with their ODP teams.

Girls ODP Administrator: Peg McGregor ([odpgirls@dysa.org](mailto:odpgirls@dysa.org))

Boys ODP Administrator: Sam Burns ([odpboys@dysa.org](mailto:odpboys@dysa.org))

### Coaching Staff

Boys ODP Coaches		
1985/1986 Coach	Bill England	<a href="mailto:england@dol.net">england@dol.net</a>
1986 Asst. Coach		
1987 Coach	Bill England	<a href="mailto:england@dol.net">england@dol.net</a>
1987 Asst. Coach		
1988 Coach	Matt Digney	



## Delaware Olympic Development Program

2003 - 2004

1988 Asst. Coach		
1989 Coach	Tung Nguyen	<a href="mailto:keepercoach2002@yahoo.com">keepercoach2002@yahoo.com</a>
1989 Asst. Coach		
1990 Coach	Jamie Burlew	<a href="mailto:burlewje@hotmail.com">burlewje@hotmail.com</a>
1990 Asst. Coach		
1991 Coach	Shibaji Chakraborty	<a href="mailto:schakrab@email.usps.gov">schakrab@email.usps.gov</a>
1991 Asst. Coach		
Goalkeeper Coach		

<b>Girls ODP Coaches</b>		
1985/1986 Coach	John Cappiello	<a href="mailto:CoachCapp8@aol.com">CoachCapp8@aol.com</a>
1986 Asst. Coach		
1987 Coach	John Cappiello	<a href="mailto:CoachCapp8@aol.com">CoachCapp8@aol.com</a>
1987 Asst. Coach		
1988 Coach	Ted Elder	<a href="mailto:Tedeee@msn.com">Tedeee@msn.com</a>
1988 Asst. Coach		
1989 Coach	Kelly Walker	<a href="mailto:Kellywalker17@netscape.net">Kellywalker17@netscape.net</a>
1989 Asst. Coach		
1990 Coach	Peye Garcia	<a href="mailto:peyegarcia@hotmail.com">peyegarcia@hotmail.com</a>
1990 Asst. Coach		
1991 Coach	Ken Cohen	<a href="mailto:mailto:keeper@udel.edu">mailto:keeper@udel.edu</a>
1991 Asst. Coach		
Goalkeeper Coach		



## Delaware Olympic Development Program

2003 - 2004

### Region 1 and Delaware ODP Calendar 2004

2004 Dates	Event/Location
January 14	<b>Parent &amp; Player Meeting</b> (Mandatory) – 1 <sup>st</sup> Payment Due - Glasgow High School
January 31	<b>Scholarship Requests Due</b>
March 14*	Outdoor training begins the first Sun./Mon. that weather permits us to be outside. - (Location TBD)
March 13 – 14	<b>ODP Joint Coaching Symposium</b> - Kirkwood SC, DE
April	<b>Mini Camp</b> (Dates determined by Region I)
April	<b>KICKS against Breast Cancer Tournament</b> – Girls 1987 Age Group - Maryland Soccerplex
April 7-10	<b>Soccer Scramble</b> - Featuring the Region I Girls 1990 Team and the 1989 Teams and NSA ODP Teams for the 1989 & 1988 age groups - Kirkwood SC, Newark, DE
April 15	<b>Sponsorship Forms Due</b>
May?	<b>Last Pool Additions</b>
May?	<b>ID Tournament Team Finalized</b>
May 15, 2004	<b>Camp Payment Due</b>
June 11-13	<b>Region I ODP Tournament</b> for the 1991, 1990, 1989, 1988 and 1987 age groups. - Rider University
June 26-27	<b>Region I ODP Tournament Semi-Finals and Finals</b> for 1987 (U17) and 1989 (U15) Age Groups Kirkwood SC, DE
July 7 - 11 July 12 – 15 July 12 – 16	<b>Girls Camp Dates:</b> Camp 2 (U15's, U16's and U17's) @ URI Camp 1 (Under 19's) (pool holdover until July 16 <sup>th</sup> ) @ URI Camp 3 (Development) (Under 13's and Under 14's) @ URI
July 9 – 13 July 14 – 17 July 14 - 17	<b>Boys Camp Dates:</b> Development Camp for 1991 & 1990 Age Groups @ Rider Camp for 1989 & 1988 Age Groups @ Rider Camp for 1987 & 1985/1986 Age Groups @ SUNY Binghamton



## *Delaware Olympic Development Program*

*2003 - 2004*

### **Player Forms**

Every player selected to an ODP pool must complete and return the Player Packet to your team manager during the initial player/parent meeting. In any event, this player packet must be to the team managers no later than the first date of practice. The Player Packet consists of the following forms:

1. ODP Player Code of Conduct
2. ODP Medical Release Form
3. ODP Medical History Form
4. ODP Player Profile Form

We look forward to your continued support of the ODP Program and we wish each of you the very best as you advance in your skill and playing development. Do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do to help make your ODP experience a more productive and memorable one!

**Again, congratulations!**