

Florida Youth Soccer Association
Olympic Development Program
2009-2010

Florida Youth Soccer Association Olympic Development Program Mission Statement

The main goal of the Florida Youth Soccer Association is to identify players for our men's and women's Youth National Teams. The selection process takes place through state, regional and national trials.

The primary benefit to the player is to be able to try out, train, and play against the best players in their age group. This allows the best players to be with the best in order to further their development as soccer players.

Our State Staff is comprised of professional, college, high school, and club coaches. All of these coaches are nationally licensed by US Soccer. It is the goal of our staff to conduct these trials in a fair and impartial manner.

Florida Youth Soccer Association encourages all players to try out through our program. We continue to strive to make this program the finest in the country.

Background

The United States Soccer Federation (US Soccer) is responsible for the development of US National teams that compete in international events throughout the world. US Soccer currently fields National teams at the Under 14, Under 15, Under 17, Under 18, Under 20, Under 23 (Olympic), and World Cup levels for men and Under 14, Under 16, Under 17, U20, U21 Olympic, and World Cup levels for women. 85% of the players for these National teams are identified and developed via the Olympic Development Program (ODP). We currently have 53 players playing with Full or Youth National teams that have participated with our program. Age group teams are also identified at the Region III level for additional training and participation in national and international events.

It is recognized that developing a national caliber player is a long process, and that most players cannot advance from the club level to the National Team in just one step. Also with size of the United States does not allow the national coaches to scout and work with every promising player. Hence, the process of identifying and nurturing those players with potential starts at the under 13 level via the Olympic Development Program. There is also in place a scouting program to identify those players not a part of the Olympic Development Program and bring them into the program.

Purpose of FYSA Olympic Development Program

To identify and develop outstanding soccer players within the state of Florida for selection to State Teams and for advancement to the Region III Olympic Development Program and to the National Youth Teams.

Objectives

1. Identification
2. Selection
3. Development
4. Training
5. Competition
6. Evaluation

Overview

The Florida Youth Soccer Association will provide its players the opportunity to try out, train and compete with players in their respective age groups in order to find out where they stand with other players from around the state. The players will initially be selected through two-day trials at the regional level, which will be held in the four regions around the state (A, B, C, and D). Players may also be identified through a scouting program. Scouted players may only be brought in by National Staff Coaches or by the FYSA Director of Coaching. These players will be brought into the next level of the process once they have been identified. The players are then brought into either a sub state or state trial weekend where a state pool is identified. State teams are then formed

and usually have two training events before the Region III ODP event. This process continues on to the regional and national level.

ODP Age Groups (pure age) January 1-December 31

Boys	Girls
1997	1997
1996	1996
1995	1995
1994	1994
1993	1993
	1992

As players grow older and mature, selection becomes an integral part to the process throughout the system. In the younger age groups, the focus is more on development and larger numbers selected since the ability level and capacity of these players change more rapidly. For players of all ages the most important factor is continued development. Each year our teams have a 40-60% turnover from year to year.

Any player who plays soccer in the state of Florida is eligible to participate in the Olympic Development Program. In order to participate in FYSA ODP you must become a registered player. This can be accomplished through the FYSA office. A player's status as a US citizen, non US citizen, or in the citizenship process may effect their selection as the ultimate goal of the program is to place players on a US National team where a player must be a US citizen. Citizenship is less of an issue at the state and region III level unless teams are making international trips.

All boys and girls wishing to try out at the Florida ODP regional trials must pre-register by completing and submitting an application with the tryout fee to the Florida Youth Soccer Association. Players may try out once at a regional trials and may do so at any of the published trials for their age group. Registration forms can be found in the Touchline, on line at www.fysa.com or requested through the FYSA state office. **THERE WILL BE NO WALK ON PARTICIPANTS AT THESE TRIALS.**

A returning FYSA ODP player who is identified as a Region III pool player is exempt from the regional trials. Those players will be invited directly into the state trial/supercenter level. A returning FYSA ODP player who is identified to a National pool may bypass the state/supercenter event. These players will be invited in to the state pool training events. In both cases if a player wishes to attend the regional or state trial event they may do so. Also in both cases a player must register for ODP so we may track the player and make sure they receive the appropriate information.

Benefits

1. Development as a player. The opportunity to train and play with the best players in one's age group.
2. Quality instruction from nationally licensed coaches.
3. Quality competition against other states' ODP teams.
4. Exposure to regional and national staff coaches.
5. The opportunity to represent one's state, region, or country in competition.
6. Exposure to college coaches.

Staff

Our state staff is comprised of some of the finest coaches in the state. The coaches volunteer their time for the trials. All of our coaches are nationally licensed through US Soccer. The coaches come from the professional, college, high school, and club ranks. We endeavor to keep this process fair and impartial. Coaches are not to make selections in the age groups in which they coach a club team. Coaches may not make decisions on players that they know at the club level. These decisions are deferred to the other coaches within the group selecting.

Age Group Trial Process

1993, 1994, and 1995 Age Groups Boys and Girls

Regional Trials

The Olympic Development Program process will begin at the regional level in the spring. A player is eligible to try out once at any of the announced sites and dates. These participants will go through a two day trial. At this time a pool of players will be selected to move on to state trials.

The typical times of these trials will be: Registration will be from 8:00AM-8:30AM on Saturday followed by trials from 8:30AM-11:45AM with the afternoon trials running from 1:00PM-4:00PM. On Sunday the trials will run from 9:00AM-noon. Sites may require the adjustment of times so a confirmation letter will be sent to each player with exact times.

Scouting

FYSA in conjunction with US Soccer will be developing a scouting program within our state to identify players in these age groups. Either a National Staff Coach or the FYSA Director of Coaching may bring scouted players into trials.

State Trials and Beyond

State Trials will be held in April. These trials will be held for the boys and girls identified through regional trials and the scouting process. The size of the player pool and numbers of teams are as follows:

93 boys and girls pool of 18-26 to form one team*

94 boys and girls pool of 26-36 to form one or two teams*

95 boys and girls pool of 32-36 to form two teams*

*The numbers selected, number of teams formed, and timing of selections may change depending on the needs and pool of players in each age group.

The state teams will then come together for two training weekends in June in preparation for Region III Camp.

1992 Girls

These age groups will be brought into pools at the Region III level. No trials will be held or state teams formed in this age group. The region will identify players through prior status with the region, scouting and recommendations of region and state directors of coaching.

Region III Camp

The region III camp is held during July for the boys and girls. The 1993-1997 boys and 1993-1997 girls will travel as state teams to the Region III camp. The Region III Camp is where players are identified to Region III pools and teams. Region III is comprised of the 12 state associations in the southeast that include Texas, Georgia, and North Carolina. The camp consists of training, presentations, and games versus other states.

National ODP Championships

The 1994 and 1995 boys and girls will participate in the Region III ODP championships in order to earn a berth in the US Youth Soccer ODP Championships. The 1994 and 1995 competition will be held in July and January with the Region III Champion advancing on to the National ODP Championship. The national competition will be held in March of 2011.