



EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT WISCONSIN YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION'S OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Wisconsin Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program (ODP) is affiliated with US Youth Soccer and its national Olympic Development Program. The program was established in 1977 to identify players of the highest caliber on a continuing and consistent basis, to achieve increased success for the U.S. National Teams in the international arena. A pool of players is selected from US Youth Soccer's four regions based on calendar birth years.

Why Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP?

Because US Youth Soccer ODP works at identifying the best players. On the current women's and men's U.S. Olympic teams 17 of the 18 players are products of US Youth Soccer ODP. Similar numbers are reflected on the women's and men's World Cup teams. While the goal of playing on an Olympic team or National team is achievable for some, many US Youth Soccer ODP players go on to play in college and some continue in the professional ranks both in the United States and for international clubs. US Youth Soccer ODP has consistently produced high caliber players for 31 years, success that no other program can match. The Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP is the only feeder program in Wisconsin for US Youth Soccer ODP. Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP is more readily accessible to all players, regardless of where they live within the state, or what club team that they choose to belong to.

The benefits of participating in Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP are:

- Development as a player and the opportunity to train and play with the best players in your age group.
- Quality instruction from nationally licensed and widely recognized coaches; coaches who have played the game and coached high level players. ([Link to coaches profiles](#))
- Quality competition against other US Youth Soccer ODP affiliated state teams.
- Exposure to regional and national team coaches.
- The opportunity to represent one's state, region or country in competition.
- Exposure to a wide variety of college coaches.

How are players selected?

In Wisconsin, like most states, players are selected based on a series of open trainings. Tryouts are conducted by Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association coaches who hold national licenses and many of whom are also college coaches. Players are evaluated on the four components that make up a soccer player: technique, tactics, athletic ability and psychological component (attitude).

What are Pools and State Teams?

The pool is the group of players from which the Wisconsin State Team is selected in each age group. Pools are chosen each year through a tryout process. Those pool players named to the State Team are expected to attend the Regional Camp/Tournament to train and compete with State Teams from throughout US Youth Soccer's

Region II (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Indiana, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Ohio, Michigan).

What are Regional Camps?

US Youth Soccer is divided into four regions, each of which offers a regional camp hosting state association ODP teams in each eligible age group. The camps are designed to provide high level competition and training for participating players. During this training and competition, players who are capable of performing at a high level of play are identified for possible national team camp, pool or team participation. Each region varies somewhat as to the specifics and the costs of their camps. Contact Wisconsin Youth Soccer's ODP Administrator Mike Walby for additional information at: 888.328.9972, ext 103 or mwalby@wiyouthsoccer.com.

What is a National Camp?

National camps and inter-regional events are held throughout the year at various locations around the United States. The national team coach or a member of the national coaching staff is present at these events to observe, evaluate, train, and identify players for placement in the national pool or on a national team.

Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP *Developing Players Since 1977*

Cost

Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP has been established to financially break even and is not structured to generate revenue for the Association. Every effort is made to keep the costs to a minimum while not adversely affecting the quality of the training or programming provided. A major cost is for state and regional camps/tournament but still remains far below the costs of other elite programs which do not have the distinct trainings and advantages associated with US Youth Soccer ODP participation. Players may be considered for scholarships if their family situation warrants it.

Refunds

No refunds will be granted. Events are budgeted based on the number of anticipated participants.

College Scholarships/Opportunity to Play

In America, US Youth Soccer ODP is one of the most highly recognized programs for identifying quality players. Many tournaments claim to be college showcases, but participation in a US Youth Soccer ODP affiliated program remains an exclusive soccer credential used by college coaches for player identification and recruitment. Since many of the Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP coaches are also college coaches, or have close contact with many college coaches, they know what it takes to play at that level, and instruct players accordingly.

Cooperation with Your Club

Players in the Wisconsin ODP program represent many different clubs throughout the State. The program offers top players from local clubs the opportunity to train and compete at the highest possible level and still participate with their club team. Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP players help to raise the level of their club teams when they play with their clubs, so Wisconsin ODP encourages and promotes this mutual relationship. We appreciate the cooperation of the clubs who are confident and enthusiastic enough to send their top players for additional training in Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP because it ultimately benefits the players.

We encourage clubs to send their top players to Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP and thank those who work with those players to achieve their goals.

Every soccer player who participates in Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP helps contribute to the success of our U.S. National Teams by keeping play at the highest level.

Wisconsin ODP is administered through the Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association (WYSA). WYSA is affiliated with US Youth Soccer Association and is a member of Region II – Midwest Region. WYSA has nearly 140 member clubs and over 54,000 registered players throughout the State of Wisconsin.

For additional information on Wisconsin Youth Soccer ODP registration or any other Wisconsin Youth Soccer program, please visit our web site at: <http://www.wiyouthsoccer.com> .