



New Mexico Youth Soccer Association Olympic Development Program Policy Manual

INTRODUCTION

The New Mexico Youth Soccer Association Olympic Development Program is a player identification and development program. It provides age-eligible players an opportunity to represent New Mexico on a US Youth Soccer Region IV team and/or US National Team. Player Development provided at Olympic Development Program events is intended to compliment training at the club level.

This document outlines the Olympic Development Program and presents a detailed manual for the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association. It includes the organization, job descriptions, rules and procedures.

OBJECTIVES

The New Mexico Youth Soccer Association Olympic Development Program seeks to establish a process, approved by New Mexico Youth Soccer Association and not in conflict with Region IV, the US Youth Soccer Association, or United States Soccer Federation, for identifying and training the outstanding male and female youth soccer players in the State and to provide each such player the best opportunity to qualify for New Mexico ODP, US Youth Soccer Region IV, and US Soccer National Team programs.

The program provides exposure to state, regional, national and college coaches and provides the best opportunities for each player to further develop his or her soccer skills so as to reach the highest possible level of soccer.

NEW MEXICO OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PURPOSE

- 1) Identify a pool of players in each age group from which a State Team will be selected for Regional competition.
- 2) Provide high-level training to benefit and enhance the development of players.
- 3) Through the use of carefully selected and licensed coaches, develop a mechanism for the exchange of ideas and curriculum to improve all levels of coaching.



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I. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Calendar of Events will be posted on our website at www.nmysa.net - This allows for changes in the schedules and parents should check the website for changes. The website will be one of the main communication devices.

II. NEW MEXICO OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM ORGANIZATION

A. The New Mexico Olympic Development Program is under the responsibility of the Technical Director, who has the sole authority for its management, including administration, coaching personnel, and the development and implementation of the budget. The Technical Director reports directly to the Vice President/Youth Commissioner, who is responsible for overseeing all financial decisions. The Board of Directors must approve any philosophical changes within the structure of the Olympic Development Program.

B. The Associate Technical Director is responsible for the dissemination of pertinent information to all registered players and their families, the selection and training of team administrators and chaperones, and all administrative functions associated with camp. The Associate Technical Director reports to the Technical Director.

III. NMYSA STATE/ODP STAFF SELECTION

The selection of the staff will be made at the beginning of each ODP annual cycle. The State Technical Director with the input of the Associate Technical Director will make assignment of coaches for the age/gender groups. Coaches will not necessarily be rotated every year in order to provide continuity for an age group. However, coaches are not guaranteed a spot on the coaching staff or with a specific age/gender group from year to year. Efforts should be made to avoid obvious conflicts of interest when selecting the NMYSA State Coaching Staff. Knowledge of the game, impartiality in identifying and selecting players, commitment to the NMYSA and its programs, ability to organize, document and communicate, and moral



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character should all be considered when selecting the NMYSA State Coaching Staff.

For each age/gender group, one Head Coach and one Assistant Coach will be appointed. Additional coach(s) may be assigned for the youngest age groups which may have larger numbers of players participating in the age/gender group.

Also named to the NMYSA State Coaching Staff will be coaches responsible primarily for the selection, training, and evaluation of goalkeepers.

IV. HEAD AGE GROUP COACHES

A. The New Mexico Technical Director will identify, select and provide training for all coaches according to the following selection process. All coaches must have an application on file and complete the "Disclosure Form" as part of the Risk Management Program prior to appointment. A background check as described in the Risk Management program will be done on all Olympic Development Program Coaches.

B. It is the objective of the Olympic Development Program that coaches remain with a specific team for a period of two years, however, this may not always occur. Furthermore, it is the aim of the Olympic Development Program not to select coaches who are currently coaching a club team in the same age group in which they are assigned. Coaches will be selected by the Technical Director with the input of the Associate Technical Director.

C. The Head Age Group Coach is responsible for:

1. The identification, recruitment, selection and development of the player pool through the tryout process as defined in this document;
2. Preparing, implementing and providing a copy to the Associate Technical Director each training session;
3. Submitting a list of players who attend every session to the Associate Technical Director;
4. Submitting a list of each player selected to the pool and/or roster according to the timeline as laid out in this document;
5. Providing pool players, who don't make the Regional Camp roster, a written evaluation on the appropriate form provided;



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6. Assisting in the evaluation for those players attending camp on the appropriate form provided.
- D. Coaches must complete all administrative functions to be paid.
- E. Coaches may not handle any monies for any purposes associated with the New Mexico Olympic Development Program, including renting of facilities and/or other expenses. All additional training must be made through and with the advanced written permission of the Associate Technical Director.
- F. These positions are yearly appointments and report to the Associate Technical Director

V. ASSISTANT COACHES

A. The New Mexico Technical Director will identify, select and provide training for all coaches according to the following selection process. All coaches must have an application on file and complete the "Disclosure Form" as part of the Risk Management Program prior to appointment. A background check as described in the Risk Management program will be done on all Olympic Development Program Coaches.

B. It is the aim of the Olympic Development Program not to select coaches who are currently coaching a club team in the same age group in which they are assigned. Assistant Coaches will be selected by the Technical Director with the input of the Associate Technical Director.

VI. THIRD COACHES

A. The "Third Coaches" is a developmental program to introduce coaches to the higher level of ODP instruction. The third coach is mainly an observational position whereby new coaches become more familiar with the instruction level, format, and conduct of the program staff.

B. A third coach may be required to do instructing during training sessions by themselves if the numbers of players warrant them stepping in. We encourage head, assistant, and guest coaches to guide them through the ODP process and involve them in coaching instruction.



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VII. EVALUATORS

- A. The New Mexico Associate Technical Director will identify and select all evaluators according to the following selection process.
- B. Evaluators are responsible for providing feedback to the Associate Technical Director regarding specific and/or all players in the playing opportunities.
- C. Evaluators will be compensated for their time and effort at these Playing Opportunities.
- D. These positions are appointed per event and report directly to the Associate Technical Director.

VIII. TEAM ADMINISTRATORS/CHAPERONES

- A. All administrators and chaperones must complete the "Disclosure Form" as part of the Risk Management Program prior to appointment. A background check as described in the Risk Management program will be done on all Olympic Development Program Administrators and Chaperones.
- B. The Associate Technical Director will select volunteer team administrator(s) to assist the age group head coach in the operation of each team throughout the year and while at camp. They will assist the Associate Technical Director in the dissemination of information, coordination of activities, preparation of player forms prior to leaving for any events including camp, and administrative functions at the US Youth Region IV Camp.
- C. The Associate Technical Director may select volunteer team chaperone(s) to assist the team administrator and age group head coach in the supervision of players, the daily collection, washing, and distribution of ODP uniforms, and other administrative responsibilities as delegated by the team administrator at the US Youth Region IV Camp.
- D. These positions are yearly appointments and report to the Associate Technical Director.



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IX. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- A. Any player living in the State of New Mexico is eligible to register for the US Youth Soccer New Mexico Olympic Development Program. Registration is open to all players, regardless of organizational affiliation. Non-New Mexico Youth Soccer Association members will be assessed a registration fee and issued a US Youth Soccer player's pass. He/she will have all benefits afforded all New Mexico Youth Soccer members.
- B. A player that resides in a neighboring state may request to participate in the New Mexico Olympic Development Program. Both New Mexico Youth Soccer and the state of residence must grant permission to each player.
- C. Age groups are determined by birth year (January 1 to December 31) relative to the year in which the summer camp takes place. (Example: Camp in July 2008, players born in 1991 are in the U17 age group.)
- D. Acceptance into the New Mexico Soccer Olympic Development Program is subject to the highest standard of human behavior. Eligibility may be revoked for any violation of the Olympic Development Program policies and rules and/or State or Federal law.

X. SELECTION PROCESS

Players can be selected into the State pools by the following ways:

A. Playing Opportunities

1. An open tryout (playing opportunity) will be conducted during the fall season according to the published calendar for the U13 through U17 age groups. The tryouts date(s) should be announced on the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association web page and by direct mailing to eligible players as determined by the Associate Technical Director.
2. These events should be free for any player, regardless of club, league or state affiliation, to attend.
3. Evaluators will be arranged for each of these "Playing Opportunities" based on the number of expected participants.
4. These evaluators will submit a form that evaluates the players they have observed. These written comments should reflect which players should be



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invited into the ODP pools, which players need to be evaluated further, and which players are not at this level based on that day's performance.

5. Provisions may be made for eligible players unable to participate in the tryout process due to injury/illness or special circumstances provided arrangements are made with the Technical Director and Associate Technical Director prior to the tryout date(s). Only the Technical Director or Associate Technical Director may add a player to the State Pool who registers after the tryout date.

6. Players who are selected for New Mexico ODP will be listed on the website of their standing in regards to the pool according to the published calendar.

B. Coach Recommendations

1. Members of the NMYSA State Coaching Staff will scout players during the fall season. Players are scouted during High School Varsity, JV and 'C' team games, during club team games, at tournaments, and during other soccer events.

2. State Coaching Staff members are required to submit the names and additional information of players they see and recommend.

3. Staff members may scout and recommend players from any ODP age group or gender; however each age/gender group's Head Coach and Assistant Coach is primarily responsible for their age group.

4. These recommendations of players by members of the State Coaching Staff are weighed heavily when considering players for the programs.

XI. REGIONAL CAMP

A. Offering a particular age group in the tryout process does not guarantee New Mexico will send a team in that age group. If, in the determination of the Technical Director in conjunction with the Associate Technical Director and head age group coach there aren't enough players capable of participating at the Regional level, a team may not be sent. In this event



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individual players may be sent and combined with another Region IV State, but only at the determination of the Technical Director.

B. It is the goal of the New Mexico Olympic Development Program to have a team represented in each age group offered by US Youth Region IV. Camp dates and locations are determined at the Annual Region IV Meetings held in October.

XII. PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A. The parent(s)/legal guardian will be billed for all Olympic Development Program-related expenses. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/legal guardian to know and understand all billing expenses and due dates.

B. The parent(s)/legal guardian will receive all correspondence by email and/or postal mail regarding all training, competition, and camp dates. These dates will also be posted on the web page at www.nmysa.net. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/legal guardian to know and understand all dates even if a mailing is not received.

C. It is the responsibility of the parent(s)/legal guardian to notify the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association of any changes to their postal and/or email address to ensure communications are received.

D. Within the New Mexico Olympic Development Program, players are responsible for their own gear (uniform, shin guards, water, etc...); however, the parent(s)/legal guardian should assist when appropriate.

E. Payments must be made through online registration system, mailed and/or hand-delivered to the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association Office at 2825 Broadbent Parkway., Suite D, Albuquerque, NM 87107. Please put player's name and age group in "Memo" area of check when submitting payment.

XIII. COSTS

A. The New Mexico Youth Soccer Olympic Development Program is a self-funded program. As such, it is the goal of the Olympic Development Program to fund itself on a yearly basis.

B. Scholarship dollars are available to families in need. To apply for a scholarship, contact the Associate Technical Director.



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C. Payments can be made in full at anytime or on a payment schedule as determined by the published calendar. Failure to meet required payment schedule may result in the suspension of the player from further program participation.

D. All fees associated with the Olympic Development Program must be received at the state office. Coaches, Assistant Coaches, callers, administrators, or team treasurers are NOT authorized to receive such fees and receipt by them **DOES NOT** constitute receipt by the Olympic Development Program.

XIV. TRAINING COSTS

A. Player Development Program fee includes the administrative fee and coaching fees for all age groups. Registration and payment not received in the State Office seventy two (72) hours prior to the first session will be subject to a late fee.

B. State Pool Fees includes field rental and maintenance; medical trainers and supplies; coaches stipends and associated travel expenses; hotel/university accommodations, meals, ice; administrative costs; vehicle rental; university administrative costs facility rental, and training gear. The cost includes winter, spring, and summer sessions.

C. Event Fees include the administrative fees, coaching fees and event cost.

XV. REGIONAL CAMP & COSTS

A. The regional camp fee includes: New Mexico coaches' fee, Regional coaches' fee, room & board, transportation, uniform and administrator/chaperone expenses. The camp costs are determined by the Region IV costs, New Mexico administration costs, and coach's fees. They will be reviewed in December 1 and may be adjusted depending on the fees set by the Region at the October Region IV meetings.

B. A non-refundable camp deposit must be paid according to the published calendar prior to selection to attend camp.

C. Camp Costs will be published on the website after the review in December.

D. Transportation Surcharge - If the transportation company charges a surcharge for fuel or anything else, it will be passed onto the player.



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XVI. REFUNDS

A. Refunds are the jurisdiction of the Technical Director. Request for refunds must be made in writing. Historically, refunds have been granted for **well-documented** medical reasons only. Once the camp deposit has been made refunds will not be granted due to:

1. Players quitting or removed from the team for cause;
2. Conflicts with jobs;
3. 2 consecutively missed payments;
4. Changes in motivation/family vacation.

XVII. PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Pool player responsibilities:

1. Be on time!
2. Work hard!
3. Show respect for your coaches, fellow teammates and competitors.
4. HAVE FUN!

B. Players may be removed from the Olympic Development Program for cause and without refund. The parent(s)/legal guardian will be responsible for transporting any player removed from the Olympic Development Program while at the Region IV camp or any event.

XIII. ILLEGAL RECRUITING

A. Any parent, player, or coach who uses the Olympic Development Program to recruit any other player to his/her club at anytime will be suspended from the program until a formal inquiry has been completed. All complaints must be in writing and sent to the Technical Director.

B. If a player, parent or coach has been found in violation of this rule the individual(s) will be removed indefinitely from the program in addition to any fine(s) and/or suspensions levied by the New Mexico Youth Soccer Association.



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XIV. US YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION REGIONS

Region I

Connecticut
Delaware
Maine
Maryland
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New York West
New York East
Pennsylvania West
Pennsylvania East
Rhode Island
Vermont
Virginia
West Virginia

Region II

Illinois
Indiana
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Minnesota
Michigan
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
Ohio North
Ohio South
South Dakota
Wisconsin

Region III

Alabama
Arkansas
Florida
Georgia
Louisiana
Mississippi
North Carolina
Oklahoma
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas North
Texas South

Region IV

Alaska
Arizona
California North
California South
Colorado
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming