

## **Common ODP Concerns**

### **Cost**

The Olympic Development Program is not a profit generating program. Here are the costs associated with ODP: 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; regional camp fees, etc. Please budget approximately \$2000 for the entire annual New Mexico ODP process. The cost varies with the number of events. The major cost is associated with the state and regional tournament/camps but remains below other camps, none of which have the distinction associated with the Olympic Development Program. There are scholarships available for those participants who meet the application criteria. Payment plans are available for those individuals who do not meet the criteria for scholarship.

### **Refunds**

No refunds will be granted. Events are tightly budgeted based on the number of participants. Exception is medical issue that is confirmed by a physician.

### **Schedules**

The ODP calendar will be listed on the web site at [www.nmysa.net](http://www.nmysa.net) and distributed to the participants. Although ODP takes precedence by law, the program tries not to conflict with regularly scheduled outdoor league play; high school soccer season, State Cup games, Snickers U.S. Youth Soccer regional and national games, US Youth Soccer and US Soccer regional and National ODP events.

### **Club/ High School Conflicts**

Special Thanks are extended to the club & high school coaches who encourage their players to participate in the ODP process. Through their efforts these coaches are participants in the ODP process and the development of their players. These coaches have the best interest of their players in mind and have enough confidence in their own ability to allow their players to be trained by other coaches to reach their potential. In turn the ODP players bring honor to their coaches, clubs and high schools. Club or high school coaches who discourage, threaten, punish or deny their players the opportunity to participate in the ODP process are not only denying their players an opportunity to reach their potential but are violating the Amateur Sports Act. By the Amateur Sports Act, a federal law enacted by Congress in 1978, no athlete can be denied the right to participate in the Olympic Development Program. Olympic program competition or event organized by an Olympic member in its selection procedure is protected by the federal law. No one may deny or threaten to deny any amateur athlete the opportunity to compete in the protected competition, censure, or otherwise penalize (1) any such athlete who participates in such competition, or (2) any organization which the athlete represents. The US Olympic Committee (USOC) shall, by all lawful means at its disposal, protect the right of an amateur athlete to participate if selected (or to attempt to qualify for selection to participate) as an athlete representing the United States in protected competitions.

### **Regional & National Team Athletes**

The top regional and national ODP athletes will miss club and school activities in order to participate in state, regional, national and international ODP events. Any team that takes a regional or national ODP player must accept the fact that this player may not be available for some games and tournaments because by law their primary obligation is to the Olympic program. Since these premier athletes are frequently honor students, they are heavily recruited by the top universities. However, many times their primary concern is making the U.S. Olympic or National team.

## **USE ODP AS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE!**

***Each player who participates in the ODP process contributes to the success of the U.S. National Team Program by playing at the highest level.***