

Olympic Soccer Academy – Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Where and when do travel teams practice?

All of our club traveling teams will be practicing in Plainfield at approved school facilities as well as our exclusive rights to a field located in Plainfield. Practices will be based on availability with coaches and most practices will be 2 x a week (90 minutes) as well as an extra goalkeeper training 1 x a week. We are looking at Central/North areas of Plainfield. Amount of practices for certain age groups can be found in our Fact/Fee segment of our site.

Q: Where and when do travel teams play? Do I have to travel far?

Our Home Field will be one of the Plainfield Park District Fields. Games are normally played on Saturdays and/or Sundays. In some instances, two games might be scheduled on the same day or during the week. This is usually done in an effort to make up games that are rescheduled due to inclement weather. 8 games are played in Fall Season and 8 games in Spring with half our games played at home and half are played at the opponents field. Travel times for away games are no more than 30-45 minutes. We are usually scheduled against local clubs in the surrounding communities of Naperville, Minooka, Oswego, Downers Grove, Aurora & LaGrange.

Q: What is the time commitment every week for Travel Soccer with OSA?

Depending on the age group, time commitment is 90 minutes 2 x a week and 1 game on Saturday or Sunday (Boys mostly Saturday, Girls mostly Sunday). If your child plays goalkeeper, there will be a special additional practice every week exclusive to goalkeepers. Fall Season consists of mostly 8 games and Spring Season consists of mostly 8 games.

Q: Do I have to travel out of state for tournaments?

Olympic Soccer Academy will include 1 tournament in the Fall & in the Spring. These tournaments will be local or within the state. We will not have any mandatory out of state tournaments. When it comes to our higher level teams, we may have an out of state tournament 1 x a year but this will be defined as we develop our teams over time.

Q: How do Tryouts work? Can any child Tryout?

Players at any level are welcome to tryout for Team Olympic travel teams. The tryouts are free and parents can register on our website. Players participate in small sided games and activities which allows our coaching staff to evaluate the players based on their skill and potential. The tryout is an evaluation and no coaching or feedback is given. Parents will receive a discreet email notification within 24 hours of the tryout as to whether or not their child has been accepted into the travel program.

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Q: How much does Travel Soccer Cost?

All our fees per age group are posted in our FACT/Fee segment of our site. Fees are to pay for field rental, game field use, coaches time, league fees, referee fees, player registration, team/training equipment, softwares, ..etc. Our goal is to offer the best Travel Club Program for full player development at a lower cost than most clubs.

Q: How are coaches selected at Olympic Soccer Academy?

OSA coaches are not parent volunteers. Our coaches are USSF licensed and must meet our high standards of performance. “Win at all costs” coaching is not tolerated and our coaches are constantly being evaluated to be sure that their philosophies match the club philosophy of development over winning. Coaches seeking consideration for our club must undergo extensive background checks and be prepared to provide qualified personal and professional references. We will also observe their coaching style to be sure that they are relatable to younger players and are competent instructors.

Q: Do we have to pay upfront for the full year or is there payment plans?

Once a player is accepted on the team, there is a \$200 deposit to secure the players spot on the team. If you pay all at once, it will be the lowest amount for the year. But you will have the opportunity to make a 2 payment plan option, 3 payment plan option or a 4 payment plan option for the year. This will allow parents to budget for the year.

Q: Are there any other “hidden” fees?

NO. The only additional fee will be the uniforms that you will pay directly to Soccer2000. There may be additional tournaments we enter for the teams but they will not be mandatory and the cost will be low per player. Summer camp is not mandatory but highly suggested and it is discounted at 50%.

Q: Will every kid who makes the Traveling Team play equally during games?

This is the question asked most often. If your child is accepted they will play. We understand that in order to develop they must play in games, but the amount of playing time will be based on their skill level compared to their teammates, fitness level, practice participation and effort. Team Olympic is not a recreational soccer program. Some kids will play more than others. We don't support equal playing time for all players.

Q: Will TEAM OLYMPIC take players from other clubs to win games?

We do not use Guest Players from other clubs for any tournaments or for any games. In the extreme case we can't field a team during a tournament, we will evaluate if we have the need to do this but we do not use Guest Players.

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Q: Will TEAM OLYMPIC pool players?

Pooling players occurs when players from a higher level are brought down to a lower level to play or housing over 18 players per team. Most clubs use this tactic to ensure a league win, playoff berth or tournament trophy. **WE STRENUOUSLY OBJECT TO THIS TACTIC.** The only time players will be moved from their current roster is to satisfy a minimum player requirement when the lower level team can't satisfy the minimum requirement due to sickness, injury or vacation. Our focus is not to just win games, but to develop players currently on the team. Taking players from a higher level team to play a level lower only shows what the focus is for that club. Unless the lower level team has issues with fielding a full team on a given game day, then we will look at 1 or 2 players from our other teams so we can satisfy the playing requirements. We will use upper level players as a supportive role on lower level teams but this is limited to 2-3 players.

Q: Do we accept all players who Tryout for the Traveling Team?

NO. Our goal is to have different levels of competition within the same age group and place them based on their skill level and their potential level. But not all kids who tryout for the traveling team program will make a team.

Q: Can my child participate in Travel Soccer at the same time as other sports?

We don't restrict players especially in the younger age groups to only play one sport. If the player can commit to our practices and games, and still be able to play another sport, we are fine with that. However, no player on Team Olympic can play with another soccer travel club or organized soccer club while playing for us.

Please feel free to contact us at 815-263-3597 for any other questions you have.

You can also send an email to OlympicSoccerAcademy@gmail.com

