



ODP Attendance Policy

Future ODP Players, I hope all is well with you. I've received a lot of feedback recently about potential conflicts with ODP and the NW Champions League/OPL in December and January. I wanted to assure everybody that we are aware of the new potential conflicts in December and January and have updated our attendance policy to accommodate players. Obviously we're disappointed that players have once again been put in a situation where they have to choose where to play. The soccer landscape is flawed and unfortunately it's the families and players who have to suffer for this.

Please know, Oregon ODP will do everything we can to make sure players and parents are not put in situations where you are having, to make tough decisions. At the end of the day, you're playing soccer, and hopefully for all of you at this level it's something you love and something you wish to pursue after your high school days. ODP is your ticket to the next level in soccer and we'll do our best to make sure you get there. So, we have updated our attendance policy below and we will work with players schedules this winter if you choose to participate in ODP. Again, hope to see a lot of you at tryouts August 14th and 15th at the CFC Fields in Salem. Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks!

Mandatory Training Policy

Part of the success of the Oregon ODP program the last seven years has come from some rule changes put into affect five years ago. Believe it or not, some training sessions scheduled a number of years ago only had 4-5 players show up at times. To me, that was a waste of time. That ended quickly when I implemented the ODP Mandatory Training Policy. It's not the favorite rule in ODP and it's one always discussed by players and parents when traveling rosters come out. But it's certainly one of the big reasons we've turned the program around. With all of this said, starting this season, we will give all players four unexcused absences to use during the ODP season. We understand things up come during the season and we want to accommodate players as much as we can. We also understand, with a lot of our players now part of the OPL Champions league, you will have conflicts in December and January with club games and ODP schedules. We will also look to move one of the ODP training weekends to a non-mandatory Dec. 20-21 Monday/Tuesday training session. Again, we want the best players a part of the ODP process and we want to make sure we are doing what is best for the player and family.

Do know, regardless of the decision a player makes to use their absences, players and parents need to understand that coaches will always have the final say in traveling rosters though. For instance, if a player misses more than half the training sessions, the coach has the call to make on whether or not the player travels. In other words, just because you cover yourself through me on the administration side, doesn't mean the coach will automatically travel you. The ODP program is taken very seriously and being at training is part of what it takes to succeed at this level. Remember, the only excused absences for players will be injuries, illness, death in the family, graded school project, soccer outside of the country and showcase soccer tournaments. If a player is having to miss, they must inform the coach and team manager prior to training. If this doesn't happen, the player is considered unexcused and will not travel to the next ODP event.

Erik Lyslo

Oregon ODP Director

erik@oregonyouthsoccer.org

503-626-4625