



PORTLAND TIMBERS

Portland Timbers ODP Invitation and Information 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 Age Groups

Tryouts: August 15-16/Capital Timbers Complex – Salem, Oregon

Oregon Soccer Players,

On behalf of the Portland Timbers and Oregon Youth Soccer Association, you have been invited to tryout for the Portland Timbers Olympic Development Program, August 15-16, at the Capital Timbers Complex in Salem, Oregon. **Players can register for tryouts at registration.timbers.com and then clicking on ODP Tryouts.** Information on the ODP program is included below.

What is the Portland Timbers Olympic Development Program (ODP)?

The Portland Timbers Olympic Development Program, in conjunction with Oregon Youth Soccer Association, is a program designed to identify the top youth players in the state of Oregon and Southwest Washington. The mission of the ODP program is to provide players with an opportunity to climb the elite soccer ladder by competing for ODP regional and national pool status along with college identification and academy opportunities. In ODP programs throughout the country, youth players are chosen to represent their state association, region and ultimately, the United States in soccer competition. ODP teams are formed at the state association and regional levels, made up a number of the best players in various age groups. At the state level, pools of players are identified in each eligible age group and then brought together as a team to develop their skill through training and competition.



Through a collaborative effort between the Portland Timbers and OYSA, Oregon is a nationally recognized ODP program with a cutting-edge youth development and Academy system. Through ODP, players are given the opportunity to climb an integrated pathway to a higher-level of soccer by being identified by Regional, National, Collegiate or Academy coaches.

The principal Portland Timbers/OYSA ODP mission is to identify, evaluate, and provide more consistent training opportunities for the elite youth soccer players in Oregon. As part of the effort, the Portland Timbers ODP program is dedicated to helping develop the highest level of youth soccer in the state and Portland Timbers home-grown territory. This objective will be achieved in an atmosphere of integrity, fairness, and impartiality. The player's talent with a ball, their physical and cognitive skills, together with their attitude will be the criteria for entry into the program.

There are inherent secondary objectives too:

- To continue to identify players in the ODP/Pre Academy age groups that will train and then be evaluated to select a state pool of players from which state team players are then identified and state Timbers ODP teams are formed.
- To advance the soccer skills and knowledge of players and coaches in each Timbers ODP age group, to send back to their club teams to share and develop.
- To provide appropriate competition for state Timbers ODP teams in each age group and to prepare players for the next level of soccer: MLS Academy, Regional Pool, National Pool and collegiate soccer.



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Why should I participate in Timbers ODP?

As talked about on the first page, there is a vertically integrated system in place for players to get to the level they want as a player. As shown below, the pyramid gives players the model for what they need to do and how they get there. The Timbers ODP program gives players the chance to continue to be identified by our academy staff while also creating a more competitive environment for players to compete and showcase their talent both here in Oregon and against states from all over the Western United States. Timbers ODP has produced more than 90 percent of the current Timbers Academy players along with many players who are playing professional soccer now in the MLS and overseas including Timbers Players, Marco Farfan, Foster Langsdorf, Niko Devera, Carlos Anguiano and others.

Again, as shown below in our development pyramid, you will see the suggested pathway for players in the Timbers program to get to the level they achieve. By challenging players in a competitive setting, we are giving players the chance to develop and improve, while creating an environment that challenges them to become better players and move up the pyramid. The ultimate goal as a youth player should be to play with the national team. But being realistic, there are many goals a player can achieve with ODP, Regional Pool, collegiate soccer and the brand-new MLS Elite Youth Development Platform. This new platform will allow players in the Timbers academy to truly play the best competition year-round for the full development they are searching for. And Timbers ODP gives every player in our program the opportunity to reach this goal.

WHAT IS THE TIMBERS ACADEMY?



MLS ELITE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM





How each ODP Age Group is structured in 2020-21

In order to create as many opportunities as we can for players, each ODP age group will be a stand-alone age group. So we will keep pools of players in the 2004, 2005, 2006 and 2007 age groups. Players born in 2008-2011 will tryout for the Timbers RTC program in mid-August. Each age group will have their own coaching staff and schedule. Each pool will have roughly 25-35 players.

ODP Events We Participate In

ODP Regional Championships: One of the premier tournaments in the country, we send all of our ODP teams to Phoenix in January where they compete against the best ODP players from the other 13 Western States in a championship format. The event is full of regional and national team scouts along with college coaches. Winners, in the past, have gone on to compete at ODP nationals.

Cal-South Friendly: One of the new events to ODP, if it works with our players and coaches club schedules, is the Cal-South Friendly in the February/March timeframe. ODP teams from around the country come into this event where they are evaluated by national team staff. We will look at this event closely again this year to see if it works with our schedule.

Timbers Friendship Cup: For 36 years now, the Friendship Cup is and remains one of the top ODP tournaments in the country. More than 100 teams participate each year and we host the event in our own backyard here in Portland. Regional staff is brought in to evaluate players and two years ago more than 50 college coaches were in attendance to scout players in our program.

ODP Regional Camp: If you are lucky enough to be invited, ODP regional camp is the ultimate goal for a player. Players selected will have the opportunity to be selected to the ODP Regional Pool, made up of the top players in Region IV. Players in this program can travel with the Regional Pool on international trips and the experience is incredible. Oregon has hosted camp the last two years which makes this event much easier for our players with no travel costs involved.

Are there conflicts with my Club Team or High School Team?

There are times when Club and ODP have events on the same dates, but it should be known that State ODP trumps Club activities unless noted differently by the ODP staff. With all this said, ODP does not replace your club team and the Timbers encourage players to play with their club teams or high school team if you are old enough. Club development is key for players when they are not exposed to ODP training. Through a collaborative effort, Timbers ODP and Clubs work hand in hand to eliminate most conflicts in the soccer schedule as well. The Timbers also allow players to be excused from ODP training if they are participating in a showcase tournament.



Timbers ODP Coaching

Any coach who becomes part of the Timbers ODP program has been hand-picked by the Timbers Youth Program. Our goal is to hire the most qualified coaches around the state to work with Timbers ODP players. Head coaches are required to have a USSF A or B license or professional experience and assistant coaches need to have at least a USSF C license or professional experience. To ensure exposure to the collegiate level, we look to bring in at least one collegiate coach per team when possible and one former professional player. Head coaches and their info can be seen on the next page.



Head Coaches

2004 Boys Head Coach

Biniam Afenigus

- USSF A licensed Coach
- Head men's coach at George Fox University
- Former Region IV ODP staff coach
- Former men's head coach at Southern Oregon University
- Timbers ODP Staff Coach for more than 6 years.
- 2019 Timbers Boys ODP Coach of the year



2005 Boys Head Coach

Robin Bostwick

- USSF A licensed Coach
- Technical Director at Washington Timbers Football Club
- Current staff instructor for Oregon Youth Soccer Association
- Former Academy Director at Bridlemile Soccer Club



2006 Boys Head Coach

Pete Peterson

- USSF A licensed Coach
- Academy Director at Eugene Timbers Futbol Club
- Timbers ODP staff coach for more than 6 years
- Former college staff coach at Northern Michigan University
- 2018 Timbers Boys ODP Coach of the year



2007 Boys Head Coach

Kyle Steinbaugh

- USSF A licensed Coach
- Timbers Alliance Manager
- Former head coach at Bend Timbers Soccer Club
- ODP head coach for more than 15 years
- Timbers Academy Head Youth Scout



Timbers GK Director

Jimmi Ulloa

- Timbers ODP GK Director for four years
- Westside Timbers Staff Coach
- Wilsonville High School GK coach
- 2017 Timbers ODP Boys coach of the year
- Responsible for more than 25 Gk's selected to ODP regional Camp over the last 5 years.





What does each ODP age group focus on during the season?

Each age group will have a focus as shown below. Our staff coaches will focus on the below as much as they can to prepare players for what to expect at regional camp and beyond.

2004 and 2005 Age Group: Focus on functional play and team tactics.

High priority: Team possession; Roles of players within the team, offense v. defense (match-related), crossing and finishing (quality and timing), heading/attacking air balls, team defending and transition.

Lower priority: Individual skills should be addressed in warm-up.

Goalkeepers: Ball handling, breakaways, crosses, distribution, playing with feet, role as last defender.

2006 and 2007 Age Group: Focus on small group tactics and skills.

High priority: Team possession; quality of first touch, 2 and 3 person combination play; individual and small group defending (depth, balance, compactness, communication), transition.

Lower priority: Functional play, team play.

Goalkeepers: Handling, diving technique, decision-making with regard to diving, recovery, distribution. Field skills.

Cost of the Program

Below is a rough cost breakdown of what ODP will cost in 2020-21 season if players make a pool. Please know that players will not travel to every event below. Please also know we do everything in our power to help players get through the season. We offer scholarship money, we offer payment plans, working opportunities at Timber camps and we do what we can to help players with financial difficulty get through and not be left behind.

ODP Tryouts: \$60 (All)

ODP State Fee/Uniform Fee (If you make the Pool): \$400

ODP Regional Championships: \$750-\$800 (18 players selected for each age group)

ODP Cal-South Friendly: \$400-\$425 (18 players selected for each age group)

ODP Timbers Friendship Cup: \$30 (All)

ODP Regional Camp: \$500 (Invite only for 04-07 Boys)

ODP Tryouts/Tournament Conflicts

ODP Tryouts will take place **August 15th and 16th in Salem, Oregon**. Over the last few years, a few tournaments around the state have moved their events to this same weekend. Our dates have been set for the last 20 years when it comes to ODP tryouts as we have to hold tryouts before the high school season begins in August. In most cases, most ODP type players will not play in these tournaments, but for those that do, you will be required to be available for at least one of the tryout sessions in Salem. If you have a conflict or any other issue, please email me at elyslo@timbers.com and we will see if we can help. In some cases we will allow players to tryout at a later time.



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Timbers/Thorns 2020-21 ODP Schedule

ODP Schedule

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
August 15-16	ODP Tryouts (04-07)	TBA	Capital Timbers Complex
*November 28-29	ODP Tryouts (08-09)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
November 28-29	ODP Training (04-07)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
*December 5-6	ODP Tryouts (08-09)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
December 5-6	ODP Training (04-07)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
December 12-13	ODP Training (04-09)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
December 19-20	ODP Training (04-09)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
January 2-3	ODP Training (04-09)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
January 8-11	ODP Championships (04-09)		Phoenix, Arizona
January/February	Cal-North Friendly (08-09)		San Jose, California
**February/March	Cal-South Friendly (04-07)		Southern California
#March 20-21	RTC Tournament (09-11)		Eugene, Oregon
May 8-9	ODP Training (04-10)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
May 15-16	ODP Training (04-10)	TBA	Portland Area/TBA
May 21-24	Timbers Friendship Cup	TBA	Beaverton, Oregon
##June/July	ODP Regional Camp	TBA	McMinnville, Oregon

Schedule is always subject to change as new events are presented to us.

*The tryouts in late November and early December are state pool tryouts for the 08's who have been involved in RTC. The 09 tryouts are for the Regional Championship roster only. Those players go back to RTC training after the Phoenix event.

**The Cal-South event is a new event and we would only attend if timing worked with our players and coaches and their club schedules.

#The RTC Tournament is a tryout for the 09 and 10 ODP pools. ODP coaches for those age groups would be required to be in attendance.

##ODP Regional Camp is by invite only for players, not coaches. Coaches do not attend camp.

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How do I register for tryouts?

The registration process for tryouts is simple – go to registration.timbers.com and find the ODP Tryout section. All tryout registration can be done online. We hope to see you in August and don't hesitate to ask if you have any questions.