

ODP Player and Parents,

It's hard to believe by looking out the window, but the ODP District Festival is only four weeks away!

In preparation for this year's event I wanted to send out a quick email updating everyone on this year's format. This year's event will be held at Hobson Freedom Park in Dayton, Ohio. The facility address is:
Hobson Freedom Park
2910 Trebein Road
Fairborn, Ohio

The schedule for the District Festival has been finalized and will be posted on the Ohio South website on Friday, February 20th. It will be posted at http://www.osysa.com/odp/odp_news_and_information/.

Rosters for the District Festival have also been completed and can be viewed after 6:00 pm on Friday February 20th. Please note that this year's format is different from past years and that the players have been assigned to three different ODP Groups: Team Glaze, Team Hauter, and Team Wall. Within each ODP Group, you will find the corresponding age group assignments and your son's/daughter's roster placement. Please note that this format is different from past years...in the new format the players will now be participating on teams that include players from all three Districts... We believe this new format will increase player exposure and result in some very exciting games. We are asking that everyone take a few minutes to ensure they are familiar with which team they have been assigned.

When you arrive at the fields, the players will need to report to the ODP tent and check-in with ODP Administrative Staff. Similar to District training, the players will need to wear their previously issued white ODP T-shirt and appropriate soccer attire. Just a reminder that we are asking that players please refrain from wearing any club gear to all ODP events. Once you check-in with the ODP Administrators, they will direct you to your playing field where you will meet up with your designated team and State Staff coaches. Traffic may be a bit heavy getting in and out of the soccer complex so please allow sufficient time.

The format for the games is designed around a "Street Soccer" environment...meaning substitutions will occur during the flow of the game, keepers cannot punt the ball, and all "throw-ins" will be "kick-ins". Scores for the games will be recorded and the winning team will receive three points for their designated ODP Group (ties count as one point). After the last match on Sunday, we will be awarding the "ODP Cup" to the ODP group with the most wins. Who will win this year's ODP Cup? Only time will tell...but I do have my predictions! It will be a very "ceremonious" event, so make sure you stick around to watch.

We are very excited about this year's event and are hoping that the players are sharing this same level of excitement. We will have additional emails as the event date gets closer so stay tuned for more information.

See you on the Fields!

Bill Glaze
Associate Head ODP Coach
Ohio South Youth Soccer Association