

2014-15 Indiana Olympic Development Program – John Carter, Director

Program Philosophy, Components and Activity Summary

Development is *the act or process of developing; unfolding; a gradual growth or advancement through progressive changes*. While ultimately the role of the Indiana Olympic Development Program is the identification and selection of players with the ability to progress to the next level of competition, the developmental process should be and will be at the forefront of the Indiana Olympic Development Program. The top players want to be challenged in competitive, positive, developmental environments against players of equal or better proficiency. If we refer to the above definition of “Development,” The Indiana Olympic Development Program goals are to provide for the unfolding of ideas about the game of soccer, to assist in developing the player’s confidence as well as ideas in order to solve problems the game presents, and to provide opportunities for the gradual growth and advancement of the player through challenging, creative, and positive training and playing environments.

The Indiana Olympic Development Program calendar runs from the end of August, when we begin the 11 month journey of identifying, evaluating, and training players, to July when we take 16 age groups (8 boys and 8 girls) to Region II camp to compete and train with the other 13 state organizations that make up Region II. Entering into the fourth full year of this calendar we continue to revise the goals of the program based on feedback from players, parents, and coaches. Based on the feedback received during and after the 2013-2014 year, the 2014-2015 Indiana Olympic Development Program player developmental goals were as follows:

- Understand, learn, and develop the technical qualities necessary to advance one’s game to the Regional and National level;
- Expand interpretation and understanding of the game from different perspectives (Systems and Positions);
- Learn and develop problem solving skills to be used before, during, and after matches;
- Learn how to confront adversity and respond responsibly, maturely, and thoughtfully;
- Learn how to effectively use different forms of communication with teammates and coaches;
- Learn how your role may change playing in different systems and in different positions;
- Become a soccer player, not a system or positional player;

To accomplish the overall goals of the Indiana Olympic Development Program as well as the player development goals, the Olympic Development Program training and developmental calendar (August – July) is broken down into three phases, plus Mini-Camp and Regional Camp. The three phases are Phase 1 (Fall), Phase 2 (Winter), and Phase 3 (Spring). Phase 1 and Phase 2 are considered State Pool Training which encompasses a larger pool of players. Players in the State Pool are trained and evaluated for a 6 month period (September – February) in preparation for our coaches to invite a selected group of players into Phase 3. Phase 3 is considered the State Team Pool. Every player invited to continue training as part of Phase 3 will either be named to the State Team or as an alternate. The players are trained in this tighter, more homogenous environment for a period of 4 months in preparation for Region II Camp. Each age group then attends a Region II camp or Showcase (depending on age group) in July based on the calendar set by Region II. Region II summer programming included a College Showcase/Tournament for the 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, and 2002 boy2/girls. The 2003 boys and girls

had a 4 day camp in July. Each age group, except for the 2003's, had a holdover camp (immediately following the Region II Showcase/Tournament) for selected players named to the Regional Pool in their respective age group.

The Olympic Development Program calendar also includes other special features and programs which are offered to enhance the player's developmental experience as well as accomplish the goals of the program:

Functional Training

As part of training we have begun to incorporate functional training during some of the outdoor scheduled sessions. Functional training is a wonderful component to help players expand on their ability to interpret and understand the game from different perspectives both from a system and position standpoint. Functional training will be broken down along traditional lines of play (Goalkeepers, Backs, Midfielders, and Forwards) but also non-traditionally such as pairing Goalkeepers/Central Backs/Targets, Playmakers (Central Midfielders), and Wide Defenders/Wide Attackers. In other words we will have the ability to introduce the players to a greater level of understanding through functional training by combining positions or areas of play on the pitch.

Special Invitational Training

Throughout the Olympic Development schedule we also incorporate opportunities to combine the top players from each age group for special training. One of the objectives of Indiana ODP is to prepare the players who have the ability to advance to the Regional and National levels. It is important that we provide the top level of each age group the opportunity to be challenged at a higher level than what the general pool offers. The top players want and need this environment and if we are going to adequately challenge the top players of Indiana, we must periodically assemble these players together in order to create such an environment.

ODP Friendlies/Scrimmages and participation in Tournaments

Positive remarks repetitively offered by participants concerning the Olympic Development Program is about the opportunity for the State Pool/Team to play against outside competition throughout the year. In 2013-14 Indiana ODP participated in the following events:

- Nov. 8-9, 2014: All Age Groups – Girls Veterans Invitational Tournament (Evansville, IN)
Entered 8 total teams
- Nov. 15-16, 2014: All Age Groups – Boys Veterans Invitational Tournament (Evansville, IN)
Entered 9 total teams
- March 7-8, 2015: 2001/2002 Boys/Girls – Friendlies hosted by Michigan Youth Soccer
- March 14-15, 2015: 2000/2001/2002/2003 Boys – Indiana Fire Juniors Showcase
- March 21-22, 2015: 2000/2001/2002/2003 Girls – Indiana Fire Juniors Showcase
- April 4, 2105: 2003 Boys/Girls – Hosted Kentucky Youth Soccer in Friendlies
- June 13, 2015: All Age Groups – Hosted Kentucky and Ohio South in annual Friendlies (Hosted by Ohio South)

Open High School Evaluation Program

The Open High School Evaluation Program was established to satisfy the need to provide identification opportunities for players in high school to possibly join the State Pool in their age group. The Open High School Evaluation Program allows players who may have been part of the program in the past but dropped out, or who were not selected in the previous year to be re-identified or for those that have never been involved in the past but now have an interest in being identified, an avenue for selection into their respective age group State Pool. All high school players born in the three oldest age groups are extended an invitation to attend an open evaluation period for consideration to the State Pool. The open evaluation period occurs on the first two training dates of Phase 2, which begins following the completion of the Indiana High School soccer season. Participating players train in the State Pool session for their respective age group and are evaluated with and against the current State Pool players in each age group. If a player is invited to join the State Pool following the evaluation period, the cost (\$50.00) of the Open Invitation will be deducted from the State Pool Fee for Phase 2.

Junior Olympians: An Introduction to the Olympic Development Program

This program is designed to be an introduction for U10 and U11 players (2004, 2005, 2006) into the ODP System and training environment that they will encounter in future years. Junior Olympians was conducted in the North, Central, and South regions of the state in the late fall and early spring. There were three come together events scheduled this past year. First, we held the first Junior Olympians Festival at Grand Park on November 22, 2015. This included club teams, individual registrations which formed house teams, and a fun zone area. Secondly, the Junior Olympians participated against Kentucky 2004's as part of the Indiana/Kentucky friendlies in the first event (April 4, 2015). The third event was conducted during the Mini Camp on June 27, 2015 at Franklin College. This was a one day Mini-Camp event in which players were invited from the Junior Olympians participants based on their ability. This was used to further introduce the players to ODP and to talk to the parents about what ODP is. The idea was to provide a season ending event for the top players to help yield their participation in 2015-16 as part of the full ODP program. The Junior Olympian program is purely a developmental program with the opportunity to train and play with the best players in one's age group as well as receive quality instruction from Nationally Licensed Coaches. Since this program is an introduction into the Olympic Development process, no State Team is formed and this group will not travel to Regional Camp. Players who participated in this program could be invited to become the beginning State Pool in 2014-2015. Players born in 2004 will begin this process in August 2014 and attend Region II Developmental Camp in July, 2015. Cost per session to participate in an Junior Olympian Program training session was \$20.00 but we also offered a full unlimited fall or spring program for \$125.

Indiana Olympic Development Program Activity Summary August 2014 – July 2015

Phase 1: State Pool Players

Dates: Aug. 24 – Oct. 12, 2014

The 2014-2015 Indiana Olympic Development Program Calendar began on Aug. 25th with the first session of Phase 1. Phase 1 was for non-high school age players and included the following age groups: 2003, 2002, 2001, and 2000 players not in high school. Phase 1 consisted of 4 training dates (2 sessions each date) at a player cost of \$125.00.

Evaluation Program and Tryouts **Dates: Aug. 24 – Oct. 12, 2014**

New this year was the introduction of the Phase 1 ODP Evaluation Program. This program was designed to be more of a developmental program than simply a selection process. The Evaluation Program consists of 4 training dates running concurrently with Phase 1 State Pool Training. Players were identified and invited to the State Pool throughout this program. Players trained separately and at times, scrimmaged players from the current State Pool. There was also the option to participate in a one day tryout verses participating in the full program.

Junior Olympians Program **Dates: Fall 2014 and Spring 2015**

The Junior Olympians program hosted training sites across the state during the fall, spring and including three events for them throughout the year. The “come together” events included a fall festival (November), Friendly games against Illinois and Kentucky (April) and a one day Mini-Camp (June). In 2014-2015 the Junior Olympians program was led by Tony Hriczo. He were assisted by other talented coaches across the state of Indiana. The Junior Olympians program conducted sessions in the following locations: Avon, Columbus, Crown Point, Elkhart, Evansville, Ft. Wayne, Grand Park, South Bend, West Lafayette, South Indianapolis, Terre Haute, and Zionsville.

Phase 2: State Pool Players **Dates: Oct. 26, 2014 – February 8, 2015**

Phase 2 introduced the high school age players and included the following age groups: 2003, 2002, 2001, 2000 1999, and 1998's. Phase 2 consisted of 7 training dates (2 session each date) both outdoor and indoor at a player cost of \$200.00. Phase 2 also included participation of all of our age groups in the Veterans Invitational (Evansville) in November, 2014 for both genders. Indiana Olympic Development Program entered 9 boys teams and 8 girls teams in the VIT this past year.

Phase 3: State Team Pool Players **Dates: February 22 – June 13, 2015**

Beginning with Phase 3, each age group, except the 2002's, was reduced to 25-30 (single team age groups) and 50-60 (double team age groups) players after the final training session in Phase 2. All players invited to continue as part of Phase 3 were either named to the State Team to attend Regional Camp or as an alternate. The naming of the State Team (18 players) and alternates (all remaining players in age group pool) occurred following the Kentucky/Ohio South Friendlies on June 14, 2014. All players in the 2002 State Pool were invited to continue training in Phase 3 and attend Regional Camp. Phase 3 consisted of 7 dates (2 sessions each date) at a player cost of \$200.00.

Phase 3: 2003 and Junior Olympians Indiana/Kentucky Friendlies **Date: April 4, 2015**

The 2003 age group and Junior Olympians, both boys and girls, participated in ODP friendly games with Kentucky at Richard Wigh Soccer Park in Columbus, Indiana. The event was a success as each age group and gender played small sided games (4v4 or 5v5) during the first session and 8v8 games during the second session. It was great to see our youngest players enjoying a day of competition with Kentucky ODP.

Phase 3: Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio South Friendlies **Date: June 13, 2015**

All of our age groups (1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003) participated in friendlies vs. Kentucky and Ohio South. This year the event was hosted by the Ohio South Soccer Association. It was a fun day of great competition against Ohio South and Kentucky.

Mini Camp: State Team and Alternate Players**Dates: June 26 – June 28, 2015**

Mini-Camp is designed to be a residential experience for all players, both State Team players and Alternates, and was held on the campus of Franklin University. The goals of Mini-Camp focused on team building on and off the field; preparation of the State Teams for competition at camp; and provided an intense training environment for players on their journey of continued development. The players arrived in the afternoon of June 26th and departed by 12:00 pm on June 28th. Each team had 4 field training sessions, along with team meetings at night. On Saturday evening we had the players participate in the “Mini Camp Got Talent” competition where each age group had to perform a skit or song. The cost for Mini-Camp was \$150.00 per player. .

Region II Showcase Tournament**Dates: July 9-12, 2015****2003 Developmental Camp****Dates: July 13-16, 2015**

During the summer of 2015, Indiana ODP sent 10 (5 boys, 5 girls) State Teams to participate in their respective age group Region II Showcase/Tournament held in Rockford, Illinois. Age groups included the 1998's, 1999's, 2000's, 2001's, and 2002's. The 2003 age group participated in the Developmental Camp also held in Rockford, Illinois. Following the Region II camps in July, Indiana Olympic Development Program placed the following young men and women on Region II Pools:

Boys Region II Pools

- 1998: Jacob Gruber (Indianapolis – Indy Premier/IFJ), Jordon Morris (South Bend – Indiana Invaders), Joe Ontiveros (South Bend – Jr. Irish), Bawiuk Lian-Phaten (Indianapolis – Westside United), Samuel Schmidt (Zionsville – IJF), Mitchell Thielen (Westfield – FC Pride), Andrew Thomasson (Columbus – IFJ), Mason Volker (Lawrenceburg – Total Futbol Academy)
- 1999: Grant Gold (Carmel – IJF), Eric Hollenkamp (Columbus – Westside United), Ethan Lee (Carmel – Hoosier FC), Landon Mallot (New Castle – FC Pride), Adrian Miller (Jennings County – Hoosier FC), Easton Sandefur (Evansville – Hoosier FC);
Extended Pool: Nemanja Gvozdic (Evansville), Jaron King (Indianapolis), Levi King (Indianapolis)
- 2000: Graham Rieg (Carmel – IJF),
- 2001: Alexander Bales (Indianapolis – Dynamo FC), Gabriel Byrd (Danville – USAi)
- 2002: Andrew Finkam (Carmel – Pre Academy), Kirezi Freddy (Indianapolis – Dynamo)
Extended Pool: Jonathon Bowen (Ft. Wayne), John Guckien (Zionsville), Blake Marcotte (Munster), Robert Wilson (Bloomington)

Girls Region II Pools

- 1998: Alexis Marks (Granger – IJF), Courtney Jones (Carmel – Ohio Elite), Abebech Tekele-Wold (Ft. Wayne – FW United), Kaylan Williams (Marion – FW Sports Club)
- 1999: RYanne Brown (Indianapolis – IFJ), Mary Claire Burnett (South Bend – Jr. Irish), Greer Glover (Carmel – ZYSA), Riley Henry (Zionsville – ZYSA) MacKenzie Kincaid (Noblesville – IFJ), Kristina Lynch (South Bend – IFJ)
- 2000: Rachel Dewey (Indianapolis – IFJ), Abigail Isgar (Indianapolis – FC Pride), Katie Soderstrom (Carmel – IFJ), Julianna Stureman (Ft. Wayne – IFJ), Hannah Tillett (Huntington – FW United), Brooke VanDyck (South Bend – IJF), Mackenzie Wood (Granger – IFJ)
- 2001: Morgan Halliwill (Ft. Wayne – IFJ), Annah Hopkins (Evansville – IFJ South)
- 2002: Morgan Parker (Carmel – Total Futbol Academy), Elizabeth Stureman (Ft. Wayne – IFJ)

Indiana Players – Region II Events

The following players from Indiana participated in the following Region II events:

1999 Girls Thanksgiving Interregional (Boca Raton, FL)

Dates: November 20-26, 2015

Ryanne Brown (1999 All Star Team), Riley Henry, Kristina Lynch (1999 All Star Team – Golden Boot w/3 goals)

2000 Girls Thanksgiving Interregional (Boca Raton, FL)

Dates: November 20-26, 2015

Katherine Soderstrom, Brooke VanDyck, Mackenzie Wood

2002 Boys Casa Grande (Arizona)

Dates: November 26-30, 2015

Kirezi Freddy (2002 All-Star Team)

1998 Boys Florida Interregional (Bradenton, FL)

Dates: December 3-7, 2015

Jacob Gruber (1998 All Star Team), Andrew Thomasson (1998 All Star Team), Mason Volker

1999 Boys Florida Interregional (Bradenton, FL)

Dates: December 3-7, 2015

Eric Hollenkamp (Columbus – Westside United)

2000 Girls Costa Rica Trip

Dates: February 25 – March 3, 2016

Abigail Isgler, Hannah Tillett

U17 Women's National Team Training Camp (Lakewood Ranch, FL)

Dates: January 3-10, 2016

Ryanne Brown

Overall this past year was a very exciting year for the Indiana Olympic Development Program in regards to growth of player and coach development. We continue to strive to make Indiana ODP the best program in the country. As the Indiana Olympic Development Program moves forward in the future we will re-evaluate the program following the July Regional Camps.