



Thursday, April 03, 2008

MEMO

To: 2007 Region II 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993 and 1994 Pool Members

From: Marshall Murray, Region II Boys ODP Administrator
Tom Turner, Region II Boys' ODP Head Coach
Region II Boys' ODP Coaching and Administrative Staff

Re: Thank You for Your Participation!

Last year, each of you took part in your State and Regional Olympic Development Programs (ODP). As a result of being selected by your State Coaches and your performance at the Region II ODP Camp, you were identified and chosen to be an ODP Pool Member. Some of you were fortunate enough to be selected by your Regional Coach to participate in one of the following Region II ODP Events:

- 1) 1992, 1993 and 1994 *Thanksgiving Interregional Tournaments* held at Disney World ([National Team Coaches attended this event](#))
- 2) 1990 and 1991 *Christmas Interregional Tournament* held as part of the prestigious Disney Showcase ([National Team Coaches and numerous College Coaches attended this event](#))
- 3) 1990 Costa Rica Tour (February 10 – 17, 2008)
- 4) 1992 *International Festival* held in Barcelona Spain (February 23rd – March 2nd) ([National Team Coaches attended this event](#))
- 5) 1993 Barcelona, Spain Tour (February 23rd – March 2nd) ([National Team Coaches attended this event](#))
- 6) 1991 Germany and Austria Tour (March 17 – 25, 2008). ([Scouted by Bayern Munich, Bavarian, Barcelona, VFB Stuttgart, Nuremberg, 1860 and other European Pro Clubs](#))

Many of you who participated in these tournaments have expressed to the ODP coaching and administrative staff that you felt that these events have contributed greatly to your continued soccer development. Whether or not you had the opportunity to travel with your ODP Regional Team on one of the above trips, we hope that your soccer training and development with your State ODP and at the Regional ODP Camp has benefited you and enhanced your soccer skills. **Here is the story of one of your fellow**

Region II ODP players and his journey with the Region II Olympic Development Program. We are sure that there are many similar stories out there just like his.

“I decided to try out for my State’s ODP because I realized that I needed to work harder to continue to improve my overall game -- especially my tactical play. After training in the pool throughout the winter months, I was fortunate to be selected as part of the team. We traveled to Rockford with high hopes and team unity, and had a very good showing at the Tournament. I was honored to discover that I had been invited to remain as a part of the Regional Pool Holdover Camp. The sessions were well - balanced between training and actual games.

Throughout my time as an ODP participant, I have worked with several Division I, II, and III - level College Coaches. They have challenged me to always give my best effort, and I now have a better idea of what to expect when I transition from High School to College-level soccer and hopefully beyond.

Beginning last fall, I began to receive letters and information packages from some of the top-rated Men’s Soccer Programs in the country. All of them had seen me at the Regional Camp. I will always be grateful to the US ODP Region II for setting me on the path to my dreams.

I volunteer as an assistant coach/trainer for youth in my community and have recommended the ODP highly to them and their parents. This summer, four of these players will try out for the first time. I am sure that they will have a positive experience as well.”

-Region II ODP '91 Pool Player

We are very busy preparing for this summer’s ODP Camps and Tournaments, and hope to see all of you return for what will surely be an outstanding learning experience! As in years past, you will have the opportunity to continue to develop your individual skills as you are trained by college coaches, A-Licensed coaches and Invited coaches from the Bavarian and Bludenz Soccer Clubs. And just as important, you will be given a chance to match your skills against some of the best players in the Midwest.

We also want to urge you to stay involved in your State’s ODP which is the vehicle by which you may be identified and selected to attend the summer’s ODP Camps and Tournaments. Your continued involvement at the State - level is the path which may lead to your being selected as a member of the Regional Pool.

This summer, we are very pleased to inform you that we have invited members of the National Team Coaching staff to serve as ODP Coaches. Over the past several years, we have been fortunate to have at least one or two of the National Team Coaching staff work with us at our camps. This has proven to be quite beneficial to our Region II players.

We hope that you will take advantage of the opportunity to be trained and evaluated by the National Team and ODP Coaching staffs. We are sure that you would agree that this is a fine opportunity to be involved in a program that, for many years, has proven to help so many of our Region II players achieve their SOCCER GOALS!

We want to thank you for your past participation in the United States Olympic Development Program and look forward to welcoming ALL of you back to camp this summer. We wish you the best of luck in all of your club games, and hope that whenever you are on the pitch, you will work hard to leave your best game on the field of play.