



MICHIGAN STATE YOUTH SOCCER ASSOCIATION

MSYSA MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Find all information at michiganyouthsoccer.org

MAY 2025

Welcome to the Michigan State Youth Soccer Association's (MSYSA) monthly newsletter! Stay in the loop with the latest game updates, major announcements from US Youth Soccer, and highlights you won't want to miss. Whether it's big news or key recaps, we've got you covered! Stay informed. Stay inspired. Stay in the game!

PREODP & ODP 2025/26 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Michigan ODP is thrilled to announce the addition of our first-ever PreODP event on June 21, 2025, created specifically for our newest age group - players born in 2015. PreODP is designed to ease young players and their families into the Olympic Development Program by providing a preview of what the State Team tryouts are like. Many first-time participants register without fully understanding the format or expectations, and this new program aims to bridge that gap. With PreODP, players will gain valuable insight and confidence ahead of tryouts, and parents will walk away with a better understanding of how the program works and what it offers.



Looking ahead, ODP State Team Tryouts for the 2025/2026 season will be held July 25-26, 2025, for players born between 2009-2015. Early bird registration runs from May 1 to May 30, offering families a chance to save \$25. This year's tryout weekend will also feature a fun and welcoming atmosphere with Travelin' Tom's Coffee Truck, Burger Spot, and Kona Ice on site for refreshments, along with appearances from Pryde Athletics & Physical Therapy and MAS+ by Messi. It's the perfect mix of soccer, community, and excitement.

We're also proud to unveil our new seasonal ODP logo - stay tuned as 2025/2026 spirit wear will soon be available in our online store. If you have any questions about PreODP or the tryouts, feel free to contact the [MSYSA State](#)



DIRECTORS ACADEMY 24/25 RECAP & 25/26 CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

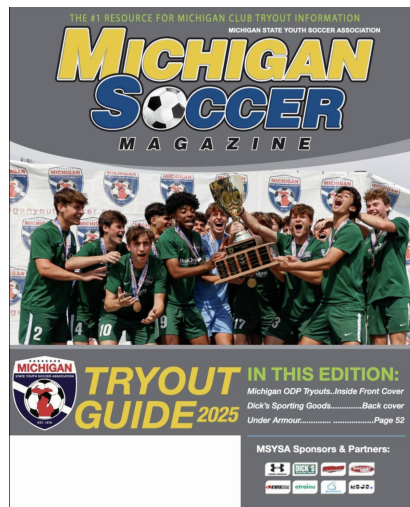
The 2024/2025 Director's Academy season brought another exciting year of youth soccer, filled with strong performances and intense matchups across the board. Week after week, teams showcased their development and dedication, creating an environment of close, competitive play that pushed players and coaches to continually raise their

game. From start to finish, the season was defined by its balance, with matches often decided by narrow margins and last-minute moments that highlighted the growing talent across Michigan. This level of consistent, quality competition speaks volumes about the hard work being done at the club levels and sets a strong foundation for continued player growth in future seasons.

The 2025/2026 Directors Academy season will feature 30 exceptional clubs from across Michigan, each selected for their commitment to player development, coaching excellence, and fostering a competitive environment. The clubs accepted into this year's program are: Cap City, BC Fire, Detroit City FC Youth, Detroit City FC South Oakland, Eastside, Kingdom, Lakeshore, Legends, Liverpool, MFA Revolution, Michigan Burn, Michigan Hawks, Michigan Jaguars, Michigan Rangers, Michigan Stars, Michigan Tigers, Michigan Wolves, Midland, Midwest United, Nationals, PASS, Plymouth Reign, Portage, Royal Oak, Saline, SCOR, TKO, TBAYS, United, and Vardar. This diverse group represents a wide range of communities and playing styles, all contributing to the strong, balanced competition the Director's Academy is known for. With such a talented and dedicated group of clubs, the upcoming season is sure to offer high-level matchups, player growth opportunities, and another memorable year of youth soccer in Michigan.

MI SOCCER TRYOUT PUBLICATION

Click [here](#) for the 2025 MI Soccer Tryout Publication!



STATE CUP & JUNIOR STATE CUP PRELIMINARY GAMES COMPLETE



With preliminary games wrapping up on May 4, the field is not set for the next stage of the 2025 MSYSA State Cup and Junior State Cup competitions. For the State Cup, the quarterfinal brackets have been finalized, including U13 Girls Elite and Premier divisions, as well as U13-U18/19 Boys Elite and Premier divisions. These exciting matchups will determine which teams advance in the knockout rounds taking place in Saginaw, as the race for the state title intensifies. We are excited to welcome all qualifying teams to Saginaw for the first round of knockout matches on May 17 and look forward to a great weekend of competition.

In the Junior State Cup, the Round of 16 and Quarterfinals are officially locked in for each age group. This includes: U10 Girls/Boys, U10/U11 Girls/Boys, U11 Girls/Boys Division 1, U11 Girls/Boys Division 2, U12 Girls/Boys Division 1, U12 Girls/Boys Division 2.

As always, we'd like to remind all players, coaches, and spectators that MSYSA's Referee Abuse Policy will be strictly enforced throughout the event. Let's work together to ensure a respectful and positive environment for everyone involved.



ODP FRANCE TRIP TO PARIS, FRANCE 2026!

In March 2026, MSYSA's Olympic Development Program (ODP) will embark on an unforgettable international experience with a trip to France in partnership with Premier International Tours. This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity allows selected ODP players to immerse themselves in the culture of one of the world's top soccer nations while competing against international teams. Players will have the chance to explore iconic French landmarks, including the Eiffel Tower, and experience top-tier training and competition in a European setting that supports both player growth and global soccer exposure. The trip also includes cultural excursions and guided tours, ensuring a well-rounded experience both on and off the field.

This incredible journey reflects MSYSA's commitment to providing elite development experiences that go beyond the pitch. The France ODP trip not only enhances soccer skills through international play but also fosters independence, cultural awareness, and team bonding. For full details, including

itinerary highlights and travel arrangements, visit the [MSYSA ODP Trip page](#). If you're interested in learning more or have questions, please don't hesitate to contact the MSYSA [State Office](#) for additional information.

SPRING REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The final payment for MSYSA Spring 2025 Registration is due by May 23, 2025. Payments can be made by check, payable to MSYSA, and mailed to our office at 9401 General Dr, Suite 120, Plymouth, MI 48170. Clubs may also pay via ACH; however, ACH payments will only be processed with express written permission from a club representative sent via email - they will not be processed automatically. For more details, please refer to the [MSYSA 2024-2025 Fee Structure](#).

MSPSP

Planning for the MSPSP Fall 2025 - Spring 2026 season is underway, with key dates and details not available for participating teams and those interested in joining the league. Fall 2025 registrations open Tuesday, May 20, 2025, and teams must be registered by Wednesday, July 2, 2025.



Player registration and roster submissions are due by Saturday, July 12, 2025. Clubs and teams should ensure they complete all steps in GotSport, including submitting their registration fee (\$475/team), an affiliation form, and the Club Code of Conduct. Teams must also have completed rosters and ensure all coaches, managers, and players meet risk management and contract requirements. While rosters can be adjusted throughout the late season, late-addition fees apply after the July 12 deadline (\$25/player before the season, \$50/player once the season begins).

The Fall 2025 season will include Girls U13-U19 and Boys U13-U15 Supplemental age groups. Referee fees are shared between teams per match, with the total cost depending on age group, ranging from \$85 per match for U13/U14 to \$105 for U17-U19. In cases where referees do not show, teams will be refunded those fees. Clubs interested in joining MSPSP for the first time can explore entry options via Direct Membership, Affiliate Membership, or affiliation through a select league. More information about joining, as well as registration guides and FAQs, can be found at [MSPSP](#). Stay tuned for more updates on MSPSP and GLPL in the coming weeks!

Soccer Parenting Blog: Pay-to-Play in Youth Soccer

In a thought-provoking article on

SoccerParenting.com, Simon Date, CEO of Chattanooga Football Club, takes a critical look at the "pay-to-play" model that dominates youth soccer in the United States. Drawing from his experience within both grassroots and professional soccer environments, Simon explains how this model often prioritizes financial accessibility over talent development, effectively sidelining countless younger athletes who can't afford the high costs associated with club fees, travel, and training. He highlights the imbalance this creates in youth soccer, where potential is too often overlooked due to economic barriers rather than nurtured based on skill and passion.



Simon argues that for American soccer to grow and truly reflect the diversity of its communities, there must be a shift toward more inclusive, development-focused systems. He encourages clubs and stakeholders to reconsider how they define success and to adopt models that remove financial hurdles while staying committed to developing well-rounded players. His perspective is a call to action: if we want to create a soccer environment rooted in equity and opportunity, structural changes are necessary. To read more and explore Simon's full insights, visit the article [here](#).



Soccer Parenting Blog: Soccer Tryouts: Here to Help

As soccer tryout season approaches, SoccerParenting.com has shared helpful advice for players and parents to make the most of this important time. This article highlights that tryouts are about more than just technical skills - they're also an opportunity for players to demonstrate character, preparation, and a positive mindset.

Arriving early, being organized, and approaching the day with confidence can help players stand out. Simple actions like introducing themselves to coaches, showing enthusiasm, and giving full effort in every drill go a long way in leaving a lasting impression.

This article also emphasizes the role of parents during tryouts. Supportive encouragement without added pressure allows players to focus, enjoy the process, and learn from the experience. Coaches appreciate players who show focus, energy, and coachability throughout the session. Overall, tryouts are a valuable opportunity for growth on and off the field. For more insight and a full guide, visit the article [here](#).

MSYSA PARTICIPANT SAFETY

All MSYSA members must adhere to the



MSYSA Athlete and Participant Safety Program. If you become aware of any alleged violations by an MSYSA participant, you can use this reporting form. Additionally, any allegation of child abuse, sexual misconduct, or retaliation must be reported to the U.S. Center for SafeSport here or by phone at (833) 587-7233 within 24 hours. Allegations of child abuse must also be reported to law enforcement.

All respective Adult Members, including Adult Athletes (18+), are required to take the SafeSport training each year and receive a background check clearance. The process for Adult Athletes is different than what is required for Adult Team Officials. Instructions for both groups can be found on the Risk Management Resources page of our website.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Champions keep playing until they get it right."

-Billie Jean King

KEEP IN TOUCH

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Michigan State Youth Soccer Association, Inc. | 9401 General Drive Suite 120 | Plymouth, MI 48170 US

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