

OLYMPIC SOCCER ACADEMY
TEAM OLYMPIC – Travel Club Team
Handbook 2023-2024



Olympic Soccer Academy Mission Statement:

“Developing the Next Generation of Soccer Stars by providing the right atmosphere, the right coaching methods & the right culture for proper development of each and every player, both personally & professionally.”

Training Motto:

“100% Effort for every drill, EVERYTIME”

We Place a Heavy Focus on Fitness & Fundamentals

Because Olympic Soccer Academy is not a “one-size-fits-all” club, we believe that there should be different developmental opportunities at different age groups and at different levels of experience. By using age-appropriate training and education, we help young athletes develop & build strong soccer fundamentals & a strong foundation for good sportsmanship, teamwork, respect and a proper sports perspective. Our program is designed to help players compete at a high level both on and off the field.



Contact Information

Andreas Papakostas	Director of Operations	815-263-3597
Dave Hynek	Camps/Clinic & Club Coach	815-545-1660
Laurie Papakostas	Administration Manager	815-954-5503

All emails directed to: olympicsocceracademy@gmail.com

All administration related to: laurieosa@gmail.com

Address: **Olympic Soccer Academy**
PO Box 1373
Plainfield, IL 60544

Website: www.PlayOlympicSoccer.com

GK Website: www.olympicGKacademy.com

Facebook Fan Page: www.facebook.com/OlympicSoccerAcademy

Facebook Fan Page: www.facebook.com/olympicGKacademy

Team Colors: **Red & White**

Traveling Club Team Name: **TEAM OLYMPIC**

Uniforms: **Soccer2000**
224 Ogden Ave
Downers Grove, IL 60515
630.241.9500

Practice Facilities: Christ Community Church – **Outdoors**
Heritage Grove Middle School – **Outdoors**
Just for Kicks – **Indoors**
Romeoville Athletic Center – **Indoors**
Sportszone (Bubble) - **Indoors**

Home Games: Soccer Fields at Plainfield Park District

League: **IWSL** (*Illinois Women Soccer League*)

www.IWSL.com

YSSL (*Young Sportsmen Soccer League*) www.yssl.org

Practice

- Please have players at practice 10 minutes earlier
- Players must bring appropriate size, inflated ball, shin guards, cleats & water
- Players cannot wear game uniform for practice
- Players must not wear any of our competitor's club apparel
- Players to wear their club practice T-shirt
- Players to use the bathroom prior to coming to practice (not allowed inside church)
- No parent participation during practices
- Apply sunscreen and/or mosquito repellent as needed
- No jewelry or reading glasses. Must wear sports goggles
- You can drop off your child but please be ready to pick up your child on time
- We will practice in all conditions including rain except:
 1. Flooded Field
 2. Lightning/Thunder
 3. 36 degrees or lower
 4. 96 degrees or higher
- Any cancellations will be communicated via tex/email
- If child has an inhaler, make sure they have it with them
- All practice bags are placed nicely in the team designated area.

If player will not be on time for practice, please notify the coach preferably 30 minutes prior to practice time by text. Coaches will not check cell phones once practice begins unless of an emergency. Any player that will miss practice must let coach know ahead of time. Parents must have their cell phones available if you are dropping off your kid. Players must make up any practice missed with another team.

Game Day

- Please arrive at Game Day 30 minutes earlier. Team warm up drill starts on time
- Bring both game shirts but have your game day uniform on. **DO NOT FORGET YOUR SHIN GUARDS or CLEATS**
- Bring water bottle & appropriate inflated soccer ball
- Please do not bring any of our competitor's club apparel
- Please use bathroom prior to leaving
- Sports goggles only. No jewelry allowed
- After each game, team will have a 5-minute meeting
- All game bags are placed nicely behind our bench.

If player will not be on time, please notify the coach preferably 1 hour prior to game time by text. Coaches will not check cell phones once game begins. Any player that

will miss a game must let coach know days ahead of time. **No parent, other team players or siblings allowed at our team's bench.**

Playing Time

If your child is on **TEAM OLYMPIC**, THEY WILL PLAY. There is no equal playing time. Some kids will play more than others and it will be based on:

- Skills
- Fitness level
- Training Habits
- Effort/Attitude
- Discipline/Respect/Leadership/Commitment
- Level of improvement
- Attendance
- Position they play

We will use practice to determine decisions so **PRACTICE EFFORT** is extremely important.

Expectation of PARENTS

- No coaching your children during practices or games
- Encouragement is expected
- Please review Coaching vs Cheering Sideline Guideline
- No remarks or negative comments at your children, **Team Olympic** players, coaching staff, referees, opposing players, opposing coaching staff, opposing parents
- We encourage parents and family members to wear Team Olympic or Olympic Soccer Academy spiritwear
- To address any questions with your children regarding practice, playing time, development issues, please contact coach on days where there is no practice or games. **Please respect the 24 hour Approach Rule.**
- Please do not spread any disagreements or non-verified "rumors" with other parents. We will not focus on what goes on outside of our kids practice/game.
- Parents will not recruit or promote other clubs, camps during our full year program. Any tampering during the season will be caused for fines/dismissal.

Please refer to the Parent's Code of Conduct Contract that you signed for more details.

PLAYER EXPECTATION

See Player's Code of Conduct Contract that your children signed for more details. Player not allowed to be a guest player for any other club team without written consent of coach or OSA Director of Coaching. We also don't allow our players to play for another club during our full year program. No player can practice with an organized club during their full year program.

PreSeason Conditioning

- 1 week (3 x)
- Focus on speed, agility, coordination, conditioning
- Bring LOTS OF WATER
- No shinguards or soccer ball needed
- Wear your training shirt
- No competitor club's apparel
- Same policies as "Practice"
- Preseason occurs for fall preparation

Sponsorship Opportunities

- Check our website www.PlayOlympicSoccer.com under Sponsors tab

Fundraisers

Throughout the year, we will be having fundraising events to help raise money for the club. The money that is raised is used to get the players to bond outside of practice and games... We host an end of the year party where we have players and families come together for food and a friendly scrimmage of parents vs players.

Spiritwear

Spiritwear orders will be available to order 2-3 times throughout the year. You will be notified via email.

Olympic Soccer Academy Logo

In an effort to protect the Olympic Soccer Academy logo, we are advising to enforce guidelines for use of our marks. These guidelines will ensure that our logo is used

properly and consistently. Doing so protects our brand value, which means written requests for use of our logo or name will be needed. They can be submitted to Olympic Soccer Academy, andreaspapakostas@comcast.net. All written use requests should identify how the mark will be used (e.g. on sweatshirts, shirts, etc.) and include a copy of all artwork. The board will review and you will be informed of your request's approval or denial. Please do not get any print or embroidery of our log without approval.

Volunteerism

We welcome parents who want to be involved in helping our academy/club grow. As we continue to grow, we will have departments that will involve parents that will help in the following:

- Yard Signs
- Attract more Sponsors
- Fundraising
- Flyers/Marketing

Uniform

Uniforms are ordered from Soccer2000. Make sure you get your uniform size slightly bigger since kids are developing and growing... We will change style of uniforms every 2 years...

1. Jerseys will always be tucked into shorts whenever you are wearing the uniform.
2. Shinguards are always covered by uniform socks.
3. Arrive at games fully dressed.
4. Prepare your game uniform and bag the night before.
5. Do not wear or bring your game uniform to practice.
6. If uniform is ripped or number comes off, please visit Soccer2000 for solutions or to purchase a new one.

Injuries/Sickness

Our coaches will not play doctors and we don't take "diagnosis" from parents. If a player does not come to practice due to an injury, we will need clearance from a doctor to resume practice or to play. Players who say they are hurting during practice, the coach will allow them to rest. If that "hurt" hasn't cleared by next practice or next session, the player will not be able to participate and will need to be cleared with a doctor notice. If a player has a cold or is congested, as long as they do not have a

fever, they are able to participate. If a player has a fever, please do not bring them to practice. No player will be able to participate in practice or in a game if the fever has not been cleared for 24 hours or if they are on medication prescribed by a doctor (over the counter medication will not count). If a practice is missed 2 consecutive times, we will need a doctor note for clearance to participate. We take injuries and illness serious and the only ones playing doctors are DOCTORS.

Player Evaluation

At the end of the first season, our coaching staff will conduct evaluations and will send out at the end of the season a report that will show improvement and areas where the players may want to concentrate on to improve and develop their skills... Evaluations will be emailed to parents. You will have an option to participate in the parent/player/coach meeting.

Fees/Payments

Our club pays for fees in advance. Please read and understand the policies on fact/fee sheet. Understand late fee procedures and also prorated refunds only if they apply.

Multiple Sports/Other Organized Soccer

We don't restrict players especially in the younger age groups to only play one sport. If the player can commit to our practices and games, and still be able to play another sport, we are fine with that. However, no player on Team Olympic can play with another soccer travel club or organized soccer club while playing for us.

Our Coaches & Selection

Our coaches go under a vigorous interview process to make sure they fit the philosophy of our player development program. We do this through an interview process, background check, reference calls as well as watching them in action. It is crucial to us that not only are they licensed, but they are able to relate to the kids in the age group we will have them coach. Also important to be able to relate to the kids in the level of play we will have them coach. Coaches will be evaluated on a number of items including, but not limited to, their ability to teach skills effectively, employ positive coaching principles and treat each child fairly. They will be reviewed on implementing technical and tactical lesson plans and also their bedside manners...

Player discipline/expulsion

If any player receives a red card, it will be the players/parents responsibility to pay for the fees accrued by a red card violation. Team Olympic will then assist parents by picking up the player's pass from the league's offices. If a coach feels a player is having any issues with abiding by player code of conduct, during practices or games, the player will be addressed by coach and if coach feels it is significant enough, the coach will notify the parent... Suspension includes any of the following less playing time, no playing time, no practice or all of the above.

Weather, Cancellations & Rescheduling

Soccer games may be played regardless of the weather conditions. Games will only be canceled if the fields are not playable, lightning occurs or any reason the referee feels it should not continue. Club and coach will do what it takes to reschedule the game. Please remember, although it may be raining in your part of town, it may not be raining at our field or the field against our competitors. All games will be played unless notified by coach. There are no credits or refunds when practices are cancelled due to weather. There are no credits or refunds when all games are not played in a season due to weather. Credits and prorated refunds may apply to any tournaments that are cancelled due to weather.

All NSF checks returned will have a \$30 fee charged.