



OLDHAM LEGENDS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND POLICIES

Program Description

The Oldham Legends soccer program is intended to provide a positive, rewarding soccer experience at a competitive level typically between the Oldham recreational program and our local premier select soccer program, Thoroughbreds Soccer Club. The program emphasizes fun, skill development, teamwork and good sportsmanship.

The Oldham Legends soccer program is designed for U11 and older players that share a raised level of soccer playing interest and ability with a desire to participate in additional training and competition opportunities not normally provided through recreational programs. The program also includes players not able to commit to the Thoroughbreds Soccer Club or other premier soccer programs in the area.

The program is designed to keep travel, cost and time commitments less than that of a premier soccer program. Eligible players must attend open tryouts and then be invited to join a team.

General Information

1. Oldham Legends soccer teams are select soccer teams formed by OCYSA in accordance with KYSA and OCYSA rules and policies, for a full seasonal year. A director appointed by the OCYSA Board oversees the Legends program and has authority over all coaches and teams.
2. OCYSA provides registration services and collect the following player's fees: OCYSA registration fees, KYSA registration fees, KSSL registration fees, uniform fees, player training fees, and referee fees for league games (5 maximum). Teams must collect and pay all tournament fees independently of OCYSA.
3. OCYSA will provide uniforms for all teams. Uniform fee will include two jerseys, shorts and socks. All teams will wear the same uniform. Uniform colors will include at least one of the following OCYSA official colors: green, gold, or blue.
4. The OCYSA Board shall determine the annual fees to be paid by Legends teams. All fees must be paid before a player can practice and play with a team.
5. Parents of Legends players are expected to join all other OCYSA parents in volunteering a minimum of 2 hours a season per player to support the organization. A parent team manager must be identified to handle team communication and administrative responsibilities.
6. Oldham Legends coaches, players and parents must abide by the KYSA Youth Soccer Code of Conduct at all games and practices.
7. OCYSA reserves the right to grant policy exceptions or make changes to program policies and procedures without prior notice.

Coaching

1. Legends head coaches are volunteers with several years of successful youth soccer coaching experience that have completed at a minimum, the USYSA "E" coaching certification course (coaches are allowed to earn certification during the first seasonal year of coaching Legends Soccer). Many coaches are parents of players on a team. OCYSA strongly recommends that Legends coaches earn the USYSA "D" coaching license and Assistant Coaches earn the USYSA "E" coaching certification.
2. Only head coaches approved by OCYSA are allowed to coach Legends soccer teams. Adults interested in coaching a Legends soccer team must submit a written request to the Legends program director for consideration.
3. OCYSA will provide each Legends teams a minimum of five (5) team training sessions during the season, directed by a professional trainer. The Legends program director will coordinate training schedules. Team coaches must assist the trainer during training sessions.
4. OCYSA recommends the use of Thoroughbred Soccer Club coaches for supplemental training and encourages team participation in Thoroughbred player development training courses and camps.

Coaching (*Continued*)

5. Legends coaches must follow OCYSA coach and player development curriculum and guidelines. Coaches will not be allowed to violate the purpose of the Legends soccer program (i.e., purposely training a team to compete at the premier soccer level; setting policies that do not limit time and cost commitments of families; etc.).
6. All OCYSA coaches are expected to encourage and support the movement of players to other levels of play (higher or lower), if it is considered to be in the best interest of the player.
7. All Legends coaches must participate in the tryout process and assist with player selection.
8. Children of Legends coaches will receive a discount on their seasonal registration fees.

Player Selection and Team Formation

1. The intent of the Legends player selection process is to identify players with an increased level of soccer playing ability and interest that would benefit from playing at an intermediate level of soccer. The final decision regarding player selection for a team remains with the Legends program director. The Legends program director will organize and direct the player selection process and insure the process is fair and that all players are treated with respect.

OCYSA does not guarantee that an eligible player, including returning players, will be asked to join a Legends team.

2. Parents or guardians of players wishing to tryout for a Legends soccer team must submit a pre-registration form to OCYSA as instructed each spring (and fall if offered).

To help insure that the decision to tryout for Legends soccer is in the best interest of the player, OCYSA strongly recommends that parents or guardians of players discuss the decision with their current coach and the OCYSA Director of Coaching or Legends program director prior to tryouts.

3. All players considering Legends soccer, including returning Legends players, must attend scheduled tryouts. No player will receive a formal invitation to join a Legends team prior to the completion of tryouts.
4. Players selected to play Legends soccer will be notified by email and/or at www.ocysa.org after the completion of tryouts.
5. Legends soccer teams will be formed in accordance with OCYSA, KYSA and USYSA select team formation rules and policies.
6. OCYSA will only allow one (1) Legends girl's team and one (1) Legends boy's (mixed) team to be formed in any age group U11 and older. Teams will only be formed if the pool of selected players meets the Legend soccer minimum roster requirements.

There is no guarantee that a team will be formed in each group, or in each gender.

7. It is the intent of OCYSA to have a minimum of 2/3 of the players on a team roster born within the birth year of the team's registered age level, as defined by USYSA. Playing up one (1) age group is allowed with the approval of the Legends program director. Playing up two (2) age groups is only allowed for players 12 years of age and older with the approval of the Legends program director.
8. Minimum and maximum number of players on Legends team rosters are as follows:
 - U11 & U12- 11 to 16 Players
 - U13 & Older- 14 to 18 Players
9. In accordance with KYSA competitive rules, representatives of both the Thoroughbred Soccer Club or Legends soccer teams may not actively recruit registered players from each others teams during a seasonal year. Recreational league players are not to be actively recruited once recreational team rosters have been formed for the fall or spring season. Recreational league players may be actively recruited between the fall and spring seasons.

KYSA and OCYSA allow players to dual register as recreational and competitive players. However, recreational players registered as competitive players are not allowed to compete in state approved recreational tournaments.

Player Selection and Team Formation (*Continued*)

10. To allow prospective players the opportunity to consider all levels of soccer play in OCYSA, Legends teams will not host spring tryouts until the completion of Thoroughbred Soccer Club spring tryouts.

Player Registration

1. After receiving an invitation to join a Legends team, players must be registered through the OCYSA registration process and pay all OCYSA fees. In addition, players must submit the following paperwork to their coach or team manager (these forms are only required once during a seasonal year).
 - Notarized KYSA Medical Form
 - Copy of a player's birth certificates
 - Player portrait photo for player cards
2. Legends teams must submit all the above information including the KSSL Registration Form, by a date announced by the Legends program director.
3. Fees and registration paperwork for additional players must be submitted at the time they join the team during the year. Teams should allow 7 days for completion of registration process before player can play.

Other OCYSA Requirements

1. Teams should practice no more than two (2) times during a week that includes league, tournament or practice games. Teams should practice no more than three (3) times during a week with no games scheduled. Practices should last no more than 90 minutes for U11 through U12 teams; no more than two hours for older teams.
2. All coaches should strive to have all players receive 50% of the playing time during a game.
3. Teams entered in competitive league play (KSSL) should not enter more than two (2) tournaments a season.

Approved by OCYSA May 14, 2007