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ODP Administrator's Report 2004-05 Season

The summer months of June and July are busy times for the players and staff involved with ODP. The region 1 Tournament and the Region 1 ID camps are the two primary events on the annual ODP calendar. Brief summaries of both events follow:

TRYOUTS

Initial tryouts for the 1991 (U14) and 1992 (U13) age groups were held on Saturday, September 25th, at locations in Binghamton, Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse. A total of 200 players tried out across the four locations, 28 in Binghamton, 35 in Buffalo, 113 in Rochester, and 24 in Syracuse. From that group, 184 players were invited to attend the callback tryouts in Rochester the following weekend, and 101 were ultimately selected for the pools.

Tryouts for the 1988 (U17), 1989 (U15) and 1990 (U15) age groups were held on Saturday, December 5th, at the Webster Indoor Soccer Arena. A total of 170 players tried out across the three age groups. From that group, 66 players were selected to join the pools.

INDOOR PLAY DAY

NY West organized and hosted the **1st Annual Region 1 ODP Indoor Play Day**. The event was held in Scranton, PA (and indoor facility within our state boundaries was not available). The event was a day of friendly matches between the '91 and '92 pools from NY West, PA West, and EPYSA. The event was a big success all around, and received high praise from players, parents and the staff from each State Association. Based on the success of this first event, plans are underway for the **2nd Annual Region 1 Indoor Play Day**. Word has spread fast about the success of this event, and we have already received commitments from West Virginia and New Jersey, and have had inquiries from Delaware, Rhode Island and Connecticut. As a result, the 2nd Annual Play Day, will actually become a Play Weekend – with one weekend for the girls and one weekend for the boys.

A similar event is being planned for the 3 oldest age groups. This event will be held on the new field at Sahlen's Sports Park in Buffalo, and will include NY West, PA West, EPYSA, and the Provincial Teams from Ontario and Quebec.

REGION 1 TOURNAMENT

As in the past, the 2005 Region 1 ODP Tournament was held in Princeton, New Jersey, at a variety of venues. NY West sent 14 teams to the tournament (7 girl's teams and 7 boy's teams). The players and staff represented NY West with pride and class, and all age groups had positive experiences.

The '90 Girls (U15) and the '88 Girls (U17) both won their groups and advanced to the semi-finals in Delaware. The '90s ran into a very talented Virginia squad and lost 4-0, and the '88s (helped out by several players from the '89 pool) gave New Jersey everything they could handle, before a late goal gave New Jersey a 2-1 victory.

The experience was an excellent one for the players and the families and the staff, and we look forward to sending more representatives to the semis in years to come.

REGION 1 ID CAMPS

If it's July and it's HOT, it's time for the Region 1 ID camps! About 200 NY West players participated in the Regional Camps this year (about 110 girls and 90 boys). That represents about 75% of the players who were eligible to attend.



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In terms of players “making” the Regional pools, NY West had one of its best years in recent memory. Twenty-one players were selected to the various Regional pools - sixteen girls and 5 boys. Two of the girls and one boy were also invited to participate in the National team camps.

Players selected to Regional pools:

- **1987 Girls** – Madison Gates, Stacia Hartung and Marci Pasenello
- **1988 Girls** – Jill Arnault and Jessica Remmes
- **1989 Girls** – Grace Bernard and Gretchen Miller (invited to National Camp)
- **1990 Girls** – Jessie Dulski, Jill Guzylak and Laura Hansen
- **1991 Girls** – Ashley Hughes and Ashley Walsh (invited to National Camp)
- **1992 Girls** – Briana Smith, Kylie Strom, Maddie Tiddick and Angela Williamson

- **1988 Boys** – Chris Roland
- **1990 Boys** – Nate Bourdeau
- **1991 Boys** – Gale Agboussomonde and Michael Reidy
- **1992 Boys** – Brendan Kazmierski (invited to National Camp)

Players invited to attend National Team Camps

- 1989 Girls – Gretchen Miller
- 1991 Girls – Ashley Walsh
- 1992 Boys – Brendan Kazmierski

Players invited to the ODP Interregional Events

- 1989 Girls – Gretchen Miller (playing with the National Team)
- 1990 Girls – Jessica Dulski
- 1990 Girls – Jill Guzylak
- 1991 Girls – Ashley Walsh

Careful readers might notice that 6 of the 21 NY West players selected to Regional pools are goalkeepers, including a goalkeeper in every girl's pool except the '88s (our GK in that age group was injured and couldn't attend camp, or our record may have been perfect!) Our goalkeeping staff (head coach Chris Hershey and assistants Mike Idland, Madison Gates and Pete Mastrogiovanni) deserves a round of applause for their work with these players.

ODP STAFF EDUCATION

We'd also like to extend out congratulations to the following ODP Staff members who have recently upgraded their USSF licenses:

- Rob DiCenzo – B License
- Jim Hewlett – C License
- Mike Idland – C License

WEBSITE

The ODP website continues to undergo changes as we work to make it a more efficient resource for our players, staff and parents. Progress has been slower than planned, but should pick up over the next several weeks. As always, suggestions and feedback are encouraged, and would be more than welcome.

2005-06 PLANNING

Plans are well underway for the 2005-06 ODP season. The most significant change to the program for next year will be the addition of more indoor training sessions. The change is in response to an



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overwhelming feedback that the reduction in training time offered this past year was NOT viewed favorably. As a result, plans are in the works to increase the number of indoor sessions from four to eight, doubling the training sessions we offered last year. Indoor rental fees are expensive, and this change will cause a slight increase in the overall cost of the program for 2005-06.

2005-06 TRYOUTS

Tryouts for the 1992 (U14) and 1993 (U13) age groups were held in four locations across NY West on the weekend of September 24th and 25th. Callback tryouts will be held the following weekend in Rochester. Final numbers are still being tabulated, but there was a significant increase in players attending the tryouts.

Tryouts for the U15, U16 and U17 age groups will be held the weekend of December 3rd and 4th in Rochester.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dave Matthews
ODP Administrator, NYSWYSA