



**OYSTER RIVER  
UNITED**

**SOCCKER**

# Program Outline

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OYSTER RIVER YOUTH ASSOCIATION

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# Table of Contents

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|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Table of Contents</b>   | 2 |
| <b>Mission Statement &amp; Program Approach</b>                  | 3 |
| <b><u><a href="#">Academy Soccer General Information</a></u></b> | 4 |
| <b>Academy Program Descriptions</b>                              |   |
| <u><a href="#">U6 Coed</a></u>                                   | 4 |
| <u><a href="#">U8 Coed</a></u>                                   | 5 |
| <b><u><a href="#">Academy Soccer Tuition Information</a></u></b> | 5 |
| <b><u><a href="#">Travel Soccer General Information</a></u></b>  | 7 |
| <b><u><a href="#">Travel Soccer Tuition Information</a></u></b>  | 8 |

## **Oyster River United Soccer Mission Statement**

The Oyster River United soccer program is a progressive, inclusionary model designed to enhance skill acquisition and help players develop a LOVE of the game while promoting long-term, healthy life-style habits in a fun and age appropriate environment. We place tremendous emphasis on basic skill acquisition and individual comfort with the ball. These technical skills are the building blocks every player needs for long term success and enjoyment in soccer.

## **Approach To Soccer**

OR United's soccer program is broken into two core areas. Our Academy program offers a focus on developing an important skill base and passion for the game while practicing and playing in-house scrimmages. Players are grouped by birth year and introduced to exercises, fun games, and scrimmage related play, with and without restrictions, to encourage skill and improve soccer IQ development.

Our Travel program officially begins at the U9 level and continues to the U15 age group based on [US Soccer's Birth Year Age Matrix](#). Teams are created and assigned to specific coaches for the season. If registration numbers require multiple teams, they will be created based on the best developmental approach for the group of players we have. Teams will participate in the Northern New England Soccer League (NNESSL) to compete against other town-based soccer programs and will have the opportunity to play in at least one tournament in the fall and spring.

Both programs promote quality of play over results, strive to provide even playing time, and nurture a passion for the game.

## Academy Soccer General Information:

### Uniform Ordering |

OR United's Academy program requires a uniform that is NOT part of your program tuition. However, your uniform can be worn for multiple seasons. This will be an additional cost of \$12. With recent launch of Oyster River United, there are new sky-blue branded Academy shirts for \$12. If you have a royal blue ORYA shirt from a previous season that still fits, you are more than welcome to use that shirt again. If you order a new shirt, they will be distributed at the beginning of the season.

***To include a new uniform as part of your registration, choose the "Uniform Included" option at time of registration and choose the size that will be ordered. The size you choose will be the size you receive.***

### Team Snap |

Your volunteer coordinators will utilize Team Snap to communicate during the season. This user-friendly app helps keep your schedule straight and allows you to communicate with your coaches as well as other parents. Great for last minute schedule updates and player availability, we hope this app makes your season that much easier to keep track of! Be on the lookout for a Team Snap invitation a week or two before practices begin.

### Program Outline Disclaimer |

OR United Soccer has created the program outlines below to accommodate the program numbers historically seen at these age groups. As numbers dictate, OR United may change the program approach to offer players a developmentally appropriate program based on number of players, age groups, ability levels, etc.

## Program Details:

### 2015 & \*2016 Academy Soccer (U6)

**\*Note any 2016 player must have turned 4 by the start date of the program.**

### Program Description | Coed

OR United's youngest soccer program meets once per week and utilizes stations during each session to introduce players to fun games which focus on a specific skill being introduced. Players move from station to station, use their imaginations, build coordination and, hopefully, begin to develop a life-long passion for the sport. We're always in need of a few extra volunteers to support the program and will provide a full curriculum for coaches.

## **2013 & 2014 Academy Soccer (U8)**

### **Program Description | Coed**

This program steps up to twice per week sessions with a mid-week practice day and a Saturday morning 'game' day. Players continue to develop skills through fun games and exercises that incorporate their imaginations to get them excited about specific exercises they're being introduced to. Saturdays turn into fun, non-result based 'games' where small-sided play is the focus. Game day offers players an introduction to soccer competition in an in-house environment where quality of play and building on what was learned at practice is the primary criteria for success.

## **Academy Soccer Tuition Information:**

### **Player Tuition |**

The tuition for this program accounts for insurance (medical & liability), equipment budget, program balls, ORYA Admin & Capital Fund allocations, online payment processing & merchant account fees, Porto-potties at each location used for soccer, field maintenance which may include mowing, irrigation-related costs, fertilization schedule, spot treatments, aeration, etc., a small stipend for coach education or skills coaches, background checks, safe sport certifications annual Team Snap fees and field lining paint.

Your player tuition was developed with input from, and approved by, your volunteer Soccer Advisory Group members.

### **ORYA Admin |**

This encompasses all expenses of which most are non-sport specific and allow the organization

to operate. The admin portion of player fees go toward ORYA employee salaries, workers compensation & Board liability insurance, bookkeeping & accounting services, temporary/intern staff stipends, office equipment & supplies, employer paid taxes, payroll service fees, employee benefits, postage, printing & reproduction, advertising, IT support & computer services, service subscriptions & annual dues, telephone, internet, web hosting, web support, bank charges, business travel & meals, charitable contributions, mileage/toll/parking reimbursements and other items from year to year.

### **ORYA Board Designated Savings |**

ORYA's Board Designated Savings (BDS) supports new initiatives, large scale programs, and/or facility improvements. The BDS is sustained by donations, grants, and program registration fees. BDS ensure ORYA's steady growth and, over time, investment in larger projects. All of ORYA's programs benefit from the BDS. Expenditures from ORYA's BDS must support the organization's mission and be approved by the Board of Directors. ORYA admin fees will only count towards those that are a part of a full ORYA team.

### **Why is there a fee difference between each town?**

When ORYA receives funding from the communities we serve, it directly subsidizes the participation of our in-house, recreational programs for members of that specific community. The differences between each residency-rate is a direct reflection of the expected or actual funding from each community in the budgeted year. If one community has a lower player fee, it means that community has chosen to reduce your participation fee in youth, recreational athletic programs. Travel-based programs are not subsidized by town funding.

ORYA continues to evaluate ways to reduce expenses as well as explore opportunities to increase organizational fundraising. If you or your business would like to donate to or otherwise support ORYA with volunteer hours, in-kind services, materials, or supplies and equipment please reach out to the ORYA Director, Matthew Glode, at [director@oryarec.org](mailto:director@oryarec.org).

## **Travel Soccer General Information |**

ORU sets roster caps for each age group based on league guidelines. If the cap is reached, all subsequent players will be registered as 'Training Only' at a discounted rate until there are enough players to form a second team. NOTE - roster preferences will be given to players from the primary served communities of Durham, Lee, and Madbury as well as players who have played in previous seasons until the registration deadline. Travel team registrations are originally capped at 12 for 7v7, 16 for 9v9, and 18 for 11v11.

### **Age Groups | 2012-2006 Birth Years (U9-U15)**

Our travel program offers players the opportunity to compete in the Northern New England Soccer League (NNESSL) – a town travel-based league. Our no-cut approach creates birth year-based teams and utilizes dedicated, volunteer coaches in a fun learning environment. Recognizing that we have many multi-sport kids, players are simply encouraged to visit with their coach(es) about potential practice and game conflicts. Teams may participate in a Columbus Day or Memorial Day tournament depending on player and coach availability and some birth years may be combined based upon final registration numbers.

OR United's U9 & U10 Travel programs utilize a blended model of our skill building Academy Program and our Travel Soccer Program. Players will experience a more structured practice session where building technical skills and love of the game are still the number one priority, but tactical concepts such as "shape" are introduced in small sided play. Participants will practice twice a week and have the opportunity to test their skills and learn age appropriate tactics with Saturday 7v7 games against local towns. This blended model ensures the proper foundation is set for players to enjoy success for years to come. After our registration deadline, volunteer coordinators will communicate with all registered players to introduce their volunteer coach(es) and the make-up of their team.

**\*\*\*U9 & U10 Training Only:** For those who choose to not take part in weekend games, a training only option is available at a lower cost. These players will practice twice a week with the U9/U10 travel program as described above.

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## **Practices & Games |**

Your practice schedule will ultimately depend on your volunteer coach(es) availability, but we do our best to try and avoid program conflicts when possible. Travel teams typically practice twice per week (Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs) at Tibbetts Field or another local option.

Games are held over the course of 6-8 weeks, weather dependent, and roughly half are home and half are away. Games are scheduled for Saturdays and each season ends with a league tournament or jamboree.

## **Tournaments |**

While all travel seasons will end with either a league-sponsored tournament or jamboree, many teams will choose to participate in a mid-season tournament over Columbus Day or Memorial Day weekends. Recognizing that not every player chooses to participate in a mid-season tournament, travel soccer uses a pay-to-play model instead of building the cost into the registration fee to promote greater fairness. The additional cost will simply be the tournament entry fee divided by the number of players participating, in most cases the cost will fall between \$30-\$35 per player.

## **Uniform Ordering |**

OR United's Travel Soccer program requires a uniform that is NOT part of your program tuition. Your uniform can be used from season to season, so you only need to purchase if you are new to the program, need a new size, or to replace a single item. Uniform order information will be shared via email and is accessible from the website.

## **Team Snap |**

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