



Dear Parents,

Welcome to Orange Junior Soccer Club! OJSC is the largest youth sports organization in the city of Orange. We have a celebrated history that spans over forty years and a bright future that includes a year-round soccer program for children 4½ to 19 years old. Our goal is to be the best youth sports organization in the country. To this end, we constantly evaluate our programs and strive to implement “best practices” in every area of our club. We are thrilled that you have inquired about our programs.

The chart below provides a side-by-side comparison of three of our most popular programs – Fall Recreational, Signature and Competitive (also known as Orange County Premier). We have many other programs, including our fabulous TOPS program (for our special needs players), our remarkable 4v4 and Spring Select programs and our superb Summer program (also known as Lancers). OJSC is truly a one-stop shop for all of your child’s soccer needs. For more information on all of our programs, please visit us at www.ojsc.org.

I hope you find this information helpful. Please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the OJSC Board Members with any comments or questions.

We look forward to seeing you on the field and for serving you for many seasons to come!

Yours in soccer,

Steve Flanagan
President
Orange Junior Soccer Club
steve.flanagan@ojsc.org



****A SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING UNWANTED RECRUITING****

Dear Parents,

Thank you for allowing your child to participate in Orange Junior Soccer Club (OJSC). I hope that your child's experience this fall was positive and that we will have the opportunity to make the experience even better in future seasons. You have my personal commitment and that of our entire club that we will continue to serve your child in an effort to be the best youth sports organization in the country.

Winter is an interesting time for soccer players. While many are looking forward to a well-deserved break others are preparing for a variety of tournaments and are trying out for teams for the upcoming spring season. I encourage you to learn about all of the exciting opportunities that exist for your child at OJSC and invite you to visit our website at www.ojsc.org. We have a place for everyone!

It is also important to note that there are many soccer clubs that are **not OJSC or Orange County Premier (OCP)**. OCP is OJSC's competitive soccer program, also known as club soccer. I urge you to make sure you know who you are speaking with about your child's soccer options. It is an unfortunate reality that each year unassuming OJSC players are lured to other clubs with false promises and half-truths. Sometimes these players do not realize they're trying out or playing for a non-OJSC team before its too late. Sadly, what appears to be an innocent sideline or parking lot conversation is turned into a predatory recruiting expedition with your child as the prey. Much of the information shared is intentionally vague, misleading or incomplete and yet parents sometimes believe they have little else to guide them. At OJSC and OCP we remain committed to getting those conversations off of the sidelines and out of the parking lots and instead providing you with open and honest information about our programs (see the attached chart for example).

I encourage you to read the attached chart, visit our website, e-mail our reputable volunteers and paid professionals with all of the questions you have and find out all there is to know about your child's soccer options. In the end we certainly hope your child will always play at OJSC or OCP. However, our club will rest assured that whatever decision you make, that we helped you make an informed one. Again, we are committed to serve your child and to help you however we can.

Yours in soccer,

Steve Flanagan
President Orange Junior Soccer Club and Orange County Premier
steve.flanagan@ojsc.org

	OJSC FALL RECREATIONAL	OJSC SIGNATURE	ORANGE COUNTY PREMIER COMPETITIVE
WHY PLAY?	<p>The name says it all! Recreational soccer is played for the pure joy of the sport. It is a great entry level experience whether your child enters at 4 or 19 years old. Recreational is perfect for players of all ages looking to enjoy the "Beautiful Game" simply for the fun of playing.</p> <p>U6, U7 and U8 teams play small-sided games to maximize touches on the ball.</p> <p>U9 and U10 teams are given opportunities to play in league tournaments and experience additional competition.</p> <p>U12 U14, U16 and U19 teams are exposed to local travel and teams from other cities. Recreational soccer provides everything a "play for fun" player could ever want.</p> <p>As with all of our programs, parents are encouraged to ask many questions of the club before deciding to play.</p>	<p>Each year many soccer families are faced with a dilemma: continue playing recreational soccer or make the big jump to competitive soccer. For those recreational players that have developed a higher level of soccer skill, the natural progression is to make the move to competitive soccer. However, this jump requires a family to make a sizable commitment in terms of both time and financial resources.</p> <p>Signature provides an opportunity to play soccer at an intermediate level, between recreational and competitive play.</p> <p>OJSC participates in a local Signature league with other nearby recreational clubs that are comprised of "all-star" teams selected by the individual clubs through a selection process determined by each participating club.</p> <p>Signature is a perfect "bridge" from Recreational to Premier. As with all of our programs, parents are encouraged to ask many questions of the club, their team manager and coach before deciding to play.</p>	<p>Orange County Premier (OCP) is our Competitive program and is also referred to as Club Soccer. OCP is the best around for those seeking a quality, developmental experience as a parent or player.</p> <p>Competitive soccer at OCP is for advanced players ("all star" caliber and above) who would like to concentrate on soccer as their primary sport.</p> <p>Players receive professional training typically from high school and college coaches with premier, college and even professional and international playing experience. Training is focused on developing players by creating a positive competitive environment within which they can realize their fullest athletic ability and personal potential. Typically players seeking to play in high school and college will at some point need to play competitive soccer.</p> <p>OCP requires a significant time and financial commitment (much less pronounced at the younger ages). Competition is always age appropriate and can be intense at the older ages. As with all of our programs, parents are encouraged to ask many questions of the club, the Program Director, their team manager and coach before deciding to play.</p>
AGES	4 -19	8-15	8-19
SEASON	August through December. All U9 and older teams play through mid-December. Certain U9 and older teams play through mid-January. All Stars play through January.	Mid-July through December. Fall is the primary season. However, most teams play both Fall and Spring (February through May) seasons.	Year-round. Most teams break for 1-2 months throughout the year (3 months at the younger ages).

COMMITMENT LEVEL	Seasonal; although during the season, attendance and full participation is expected.	Seasonal to Year-round. During the season attendance and full participation is expected. Greater commitment is related to greater training and competition and demand for roster positions.	Year-round. Attendance and full participation is expected. Greater commitment is related to greater training and competition and demand for roster positions.
REGULAR SEASON GAMES	10 game Fall regular season beginning the weekend after Labor Day. U9 and above play post-season tournaments (possibly 3-9 games). Games are typically on Saturday but scheduling constraints, weather or tournaments may require games to be played on Sunday.	10-12 game Fall regular season beginning the weekend after Labor Day. All teams play in post-season tournaments (1-4 games). 10-12 game Spring regular season between mid-March and late May. Games are typically on Saturday but some Sundays may be scheduled. Scheduling constraints, weather or tournaments may require games to be played on Sunday.	10-14 game Fall regular season beginning the weekend after Labor Day. All teams play in a post-season tournament (1-8 games) as well as State/National Cup. 5-12 game Spring regular season between mid-March and late May. Games are on Saturdays and Sundays.
TOURNAMENTS	U9 and older teams may participate in additional tournaments.	Teams may participate in additional tournaments.	Teams play between 2-10 additional tournaments during the year (typically during the Winter, Spring and Summer).
TRAINING	Typically 2 practices per week with recreational team coach. Players are encouraged, but not required, to attend additional training sessions offered by Orange County Premier and led by professional trainers.	Two practices per week. Teams typically train with Signature team coach. Teams may train with professional trainers. Players are encouraged, but not required, to attend additional training sessions offered by Orange County Premier and led by professional trainers.	Two or three practices per week. Teams train with OCP's professional trainers. Players are expected to participate in club-wide training sessions (weekly – Fridays - from July through September).
COST	\$125 per player for the Fall season. Players generally pay an additional \$35 in team fees to cover the costs of referees, jersey lettering, banners and team parties.	Fees can range from \$350-\$700 per YEAR. Teams can collect a maximum of \$350 per player for the Fall season. Teams that participate in the Spring season may charge additional fees. Teams may incur additional expenses that must be paid for through fundraising and sponsorship.	Fees can range from \$800 - \$1,600 per YEAR and are established by each team in their pre-season budget. Teams have wide discretion on their budget. Teams are encouraged to participate in club and team fundraisers and to identify sponsors to keep player costs low.
PLAYING TIME	All players must play one half of every game. This requirement can be modified based on attendance at practice.	All players must play one half of every game. This requirement can be modified based on attendance at practice.	No minimum required time.
TRAVEL	U6-U9 games are played in Orange. U10 and older games are played in Orange and neighboring cities (furthest is typically Whittier or Long Beach). Tournaments may be further away than regular season games.	Home games are played in Orange and away games in neighboring cities (furthest is typically Whittier or Long Beach). Tournaments may be further away than regular season games.	Home games are played in Orange and away games are typically in neighboring cities but depending on the competition level of the team, can be played at significant distances. Tournaments may be further away than regular season games.

PLAYERS	All eligible players are drafted or placed onto teams. U9 and older teams are formed through a draft.	Players must try-out each season. Try-outs are held in February and April. Rosters are selected by team's coach with OJSC's approval.	Players must try-out each season. Try-outs are held in February and April. Rosters are selected by team's coach with OCP's approval.
TEAM APPROVAL	OJSC determines the number of teams.	OJSC determines the number of teams and approves individual teams for participation.	OCP determines the number of teams and approves individual teams for participation.
COACH/TRAINER APPROVAL	Coaches are volunteers approved by OJSC. All coaches must maintain at least a Calsouth YM-1 license.	Coaches are volunteers approved by OJSC. All coaches must maintain at least a Calsouth E license.	Team Managers are volunteers approved by OJSC. Coaches/trainers are typically OCP contractors but may be volunteers (e.g., qualified coaches bridging from Signature). All coaches/trainers must maintain at least a D License.
NEED MORE INFO?	www.ojsc.org Rich Gartman Vice President of Fall Recreation rich.gartman@ojsc.org	www.ojsc.org Eddie Alviso Vice President of Signature eddie.alviso@ojsc.org	www.ocpremier.org Erick Hurtarte Program Director erick.hurtarte@ocpremier.org