

North Texas Olympic Development Staff

The North Texas Staff is a collection of coaches with varying levels of experience in the game as a player and/or as a coach. All are first class people who are excellent role models for the elite youth players in the program. As professional educators, the staff is child-centered. The development of the individual player within the framework of the team is the focus.

Staff is selected based on 1.) Integrity, 2.) Character, 3.) Experience, and 4.) Qualifications. We have a mix of backgrounds and professional experience including Collegiate Coaches, High School Coaches and Club Coaches. None of the staff are coaching the same age group that they work with on a daily basis. Club Coaches work with a different age group and gender so no preferential treatment is given to players they may coach.

The ODP coaching philosophy is player-centered using a soft approach, few words, 'one ounce of theory to a ton of practice' with lots of praise, clear, concise, simple, and honest feedback, with no shouting. Young players are given opportunities to make decisions, solve problems - we give them cues/clues not answers.

ODP provides an efficient, yet relaxed, developmental training environment where the truly gifted players will excel. The program is player development, not results, oriented. Practice is deliberate and progresses from simple to complex. Games are high level. We have found, over the years, this developmental approach speeds up learning to create the best all around experience for the elite youth soccer player.

The purpose of the NTX Olympic Development Program is to identify and develop the top players in the state, in partnership with the competitive clubs and teams statewide. Working together with our competitive leagues, clubs and teams, we complement each other and, through this process, the level of play within the state is impacted in a positive manner.

We welcome new recruits to the ODP staff with a solid track record of success in coaching.

North Texas ODP Staff

1995 BODP HEAD COACH: Kenny Jones



Education

- Masters degree in social work from the University of Arkansas, Little Rock , AR
- B.A. of liberal arts in psychology from Hendrix College

Coaching Licenses

- Holds a USSF “A” license
- US Youth Soccer National Youth License

Coaching Experience

- Currently the Head Men’s Soccer Coach University of Texas at Tyler, Tyler, TX
- Four-time ASC Coach of the Year
- Longest tenured head coach at UT Tyler
 - finishing his tenth season with the Patriots and brings an overall record of 134-38-17
 - Has led the Patriots to double digit wins in all but one season, an ASC East Division title (2003), five American Southwest Conference Championships (2005, 2006, 2008, 2010,2011) and three NCAA championship tournament appearances (2008, 2010,2011)
- North Texas Coaching Education Staff

Soccer Experience

- Collegiate: Jones played soccer for Hendrix College, where he led the team in scoring and was a three-time selection to the All-SCAC Team
- Collegiate: His senior year, he was honored as the college's Most Outstanding Male Athlete
- Semi-Pro: in the USISL for the Arkansas A's
- Youth: Conway High School and Corner Kicks Club

1995 GODP HEAD COACH: Ciro Martinez



Education

- Telecommunications Technician, Transmission Systems. Instituto Centramericano, El Salvador

Coaching Licenses

- USSF National "A" coaching license
- National Youth License U.S. Youth Soccer
- NSCAA Regional Advanced Diploma

Coaching Experience

- Served as Vice president of coaches for the Plano Youth soccer association, in Plano, TX
- Former High School, Classic league, Collegiate, and Dallas Cup referee
- Northwood University Women (Cedar Hills, TX) assistant coach from 2008-2010
- Currently assistant coach at Texas Wesleyan University Men Soccer program
- **Ciro has coached in Plano/Dallas area since 1986**
 - He coached for the Texas Longhorns from 1994 to 2007 (ages U8B/G - U18 B/G)
 - Andromeda Soccer club since July 1, 2007 to June 2010
 - Currently working with FC Dallas at the youth level program

Soccer Experience

- **Adult:** **Ciro** played in Detroit, Michigan, Cleveland, OH
 - North Texas Premier League in Dallas, TX
- **Youth:** El Salvador

1996 BODP HEAD COACH: John (JT) Thomas



Education

- Certified Core Adjunct Professor for National University, San Diego, CA
- PhD, Business Management, Madison University
- Masters of Art, Business Management, Weber's University
- B.S. Sociology, University of Maryland, Frostburg, MD

Coaching Licenses

- Holds US Youth National License
- Holds USSF "A" License
- Holds NSCAA Premier Coaching License
- Holds NSCAA level I and II

Coaching Experience

- John has spent time coaching in California, Florida, Virginia, Maryland, Washington D.C., West Virginia, Texas, Hawaii, Japan, Korea, and Italy
- 1996/1997, the assistant coach for the professional league team, the Hawaii Tsunami
- Cal-South's Olympic Development Program
- 1985 -2002 while serving his country in the United States military, John coached the United States, All Navy, All Army and All Marine teams, winning gold and silver medals in the Armed Forces Soccer tournaments
- Former USYSA Assistant Director of Coaching Education
- 94 GODP North Texas Head Coach

Soccer Experience

- Collegiate: Davis and Elkins College, one year
- Collegiate: University of Maryland, Frostburg State, three years
- Semi-Pro: San Antonio Heat, Indoor Pro Soccer

1996 GODP HEAD COACH: Fleur Benatar



Education

- Master of Science, Kinesiology Exercise Physiology, University of North Texas, Denton, TX
- B.S. Kinesiology and Health, University of North Texas, Denton, TX

Coaching Licenses

- USSF National "A" coaching license
- National Youth License U.S. Youth Soccer

Coaching Experience

- Current Head Soccer Coach at Texas Woman's University
 - 2005, 2007, 2009 Lone Star Conference Tournament
 - 2001 Sun-Belt Conference Champions
- 11 years NCAA collegiate experience DI & DII in DFW
- Over 16 years of coaching club soccer in prestigious North Texas

Soccer Experience

- University of Arkansas 1994-1996
- University of North Texas 1996-1997
- Richardson HS, Captain 1992-1994
- Sting Soccer Club 1993-1994
- D' Feeters Soccer Club 1993-1988
- ODP 1991-1994

1997 BODP HEAD COACH: Bryan Thompson



Education

- B.A. Business Administration – Marketing & Organizational Behavior

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF “B” Coaching License

Coaching Experience

- Head High School Coach Wylie East High School
- 96 Boys ODP Head Coach NTSSA
- 97 Boys ODP Head Coach NTSSA
- Region 3 Staff Coach

Soccer Experience

- National Team: U23, U20, U17 USSF. U20 national team finished 4th at U20 world cup 1989
- Collegiate: Academic All-American, 1989 & 1990 SMU Male Athlete of the Year
- Club: Comets

1997 GODP HEAD COACH: Derek Leader



Education

- Masters of Education, Sports Science (incomplete) Ashland University
- B.A. Music, Education, University of Akron, Akron, OH

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF "A" License
- NSCAA Premier License
- International Coaching Diploma, Victoria Coaching Institute, (British Columbia, Canada)

Coaching Experience

- Associate Head Women's' Coach SMU
- 12 years as the Women's' Head Soccer Coach and Assistant Director of the prestigious IMG Soccer Academy in Bradenton, FL
- U-16 girls' Head Coach for the Region III Olympic Development Program (ODP) since 2000
- Assistant Coach for the men's and women's teams at Ashland University, OH
- Head Coach for the Ohio-North ODP team
- A clinician with the Ohio-N state staff and coaching courses
- Former Head Coach with the Emerald Soccer Club in Cleveland
- USSF National Instructional Staff
- Former Assistant Coach Bradenton Academics (PDL)
- Former Head Coach Bradenton Athletics (W-League)

Soccer Experience

- Youth: Ohio Club Soccer; Stow High School
- Adult : Multiple Leagues

1998 BODP HEAD COACH: Chad Rakestraw



Education

- B.A. in History & Political Science
- Teachers certificate in social studies and physical education

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF “C” Coaching License

Coaching Experience

- Currently the Head Coach at Coppell High School
- Previously the Head Coach at Northwest High School; Partnered in leading team to their first ever 5A playoff berth during first year

Soccer Experience

- Collegiate: Went on to be a captain at Midwestern State University where team played in 2 National tournament berths, making it to the Elite 8 both years
- Semi-Pro: PCSL, a semi-professional league with the Okanagan Challenge in British Columbia
- Youth: Grew up playing club for the Challenge and the Hawks out of DFW
 - Captained and played in 4 Dallas Cups, one semi-final & had one quarter-final appearance
 - Captained and played for Denton Ryan High School, and had one state tournament appearance in 2001

1998 GDP HEAD COACH: Cassidy Acuff



Education

- B.S. in Business Administration from UT-Dallas, Dallas, TX
- Currently pursuing her master's in Kinesiology with a Sports Psychology concentration

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF "B" License

Coaching Experience

- Cassidy Acuff begins her second year on the University of North Texas soccer staff
- Won the regular season Sun Belt Championship 2011
- Served as the head coach for the 95 Girls North Texas State Team from '06-'10
- Former Assistant Soccer Coach at Dallas Hockaday School 2005-10
 - Won the Southwest Preparatory Conference in 2007 and 2008

Soccer Experience

- Collegiate: Purdue University and played in the Big Ten
 - Transferring back home to finish her college career at the University of Texas at Dallas
 - Led the Comets to the regional finals of the NCAA Division III tournament that same year
 - She was also named team captain in 2003 and 2004
 - Defensive Player of the Year in 2003
- Youth:
 - Club - Texans played in North Texas, winning the State Cup twice
 - High School - SPC for Hockaday in 2000

1999 BODP HEAD COACH: Vassar Cates



Education

- B.A. in General Studies, West Texas A and M
- Certificate in Counseling, Tarrant City Community College

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF "C" License

Coaching Experience

- Head Coach for Boys at All Saints Episcopal High School Varsity
- NTSSA Staff Coach ODP 98 boys

Soccer Experience

- Collegiate: Four years at West Texas A & M Division II. Two elite eight appearances in 2000-2001
- Semi-Pro: Spent two summers training with teams abroad in Chester England and Dublin Ireland for Shamrock Rovers. 03-04 played with the Dallas Sidekicks in their last ever, professional year before disbanding. Currently playing for the DFW Tornadoes Semi-Pro Indoor team
- Youth: Tascosa High School and High Plains Drifters Club

1999 GODP HEAD COACH: Jeff Hill



Education

- Masters of Education, in Education Leadership, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX
- B.S. in Kinesiology, Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX
- Barwise Junior High School 8th grade teacher (Speech, Health, Pre AP, Science)

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF "C" License
- National Youth License U.S. Youth Soccer
- NSCAA National Youth License

Coaching Experience

- Currently coaching with the Wichita Falls Xpress Soccer Club
- NTSSA ODP State Staff 2004 - present
- NTSSA Coach Education Lead Instructor
- Clinician at the North Texas AGM
- Presenter at the US Youth Soccer National Convention in 2010
- Coaching in every level of the 94-99 ODP age groups on both the boys and girls side
- Assistant coach of the National Championship winning North Texas 91 girls
- Head Coach 1993 NTX ODP runners up for National Championship 2010
- Coaching in every level of the 94-99 age groups on both the boys and girls side

Soccer Experience

- Jeff grew up playing soccer but his playing days were cut short due to several knee injuries
- Youth: Xpress Soccer Club

2000 BODP/GODP HEAD COACH: Gary Williamson



Education

- Master of Business Administration, Louisiana State University
- Master of Science Sports Psychology and Human Performance, Michigan State University
- Post Graduate Certificate Education, University Of North Wales
- B.A. Education with Physical Education, University Of North Wales

Coaching Licenses

- National Youth License U.S. Youth Soccer
- "A" License, U.S.S.F.
- English F.A. Full Qualifying License

Coaching Experience

- State Coach North Texas 2000-2011
- National Staff Instructor U.S.S.F.
- Director of Coach Education and Player Development Oklahoma 1996-2000
- Technical Director Baton Rouge United Jaguars, 1989-1996
- Football Development Director English F.A.
- Head Coach Regional Team Boys 1983, birth year
- National Championship Ma Guire Cup runner-up, Jaguars U19
- Three National Championships Directing NTSSA ODP 96B, 91G, 92G

Soccer Experience

- National: Wales Universities 1st XI B.U.S.A.F.
- Collegiate: University of North Wales 1st XI
- Semi-Pro: Welsh League
- Youth:
 - Blackpool and Fylde U18 1st XI.
 - St. Georges High School
 - Clifton Athletic Club

GOALKEEPER HEAD COACH: Jess Jobe



Education

- Master of Science, Kinesiology Dallas Baptist University (in progress)
- B.A. Sports Management, Fontbonne University St. Louis

Coaching Licenses

- USSF National "D" coaching license
- NSCAA Regional Goalkeeping Diploma

Coaching Experience

- Assistant Coach, Dallas Baptist University Women's Soccer
- ODP Staff Coach, North Texas Soccer (2010-Present)
- Goalkeeper Coach, University of North Texas Women's Soccer
- Assistant Volunteer Coach, Fontbonne University Men's Soccer
- U12 Club Coach
- Advanced Goalkeeper Sessions for all levels

Soccer Experience

- Georgia Southern Men's Soccer, NCAA Div. I (2005)
- Fontbonne University Men's Soccer, NCAA Div. III (2006-2008)
 - SLIAC Tournament Champions (2006)
 - NCAA Tournament (2006)
 - Regular Season SLIAC Champions (2008)
 - 3 SLIAC Tournament Final Appearances
 - Two years Team Captain
 - 3 Time All-Conference Honors
 - 2 Time All-Tournament Team Honors
 - All-Region Team Honorable Mention (2007)
- Multi-Sport Athlete with Varsity Letters in Soccer, Basketball, and Golf

NORTH TEXAS ODP ASSISTANT COACHES

Age Group	Coach	Interesting Soccer Fact
95G	Tyler Powell	Head Men's' Coach Texas Wesleyan University; "A" License
96G	Keri Hanks	ODP Alum Herman Trophy winner Notre Dame
97G	Lauren Shepherd	Former SMU Captain
98G	Becca Moreno Carley Phillips	School Counselor; National "D" License Current Coach at Plano West – Girls Soccer
99G	Natalie Holovach Heather Palmer Tom Wombough	Assistant Women's' Coach TWU National " D" License Six Dan Black Belt Karate; "C" License
2000G	Andre Lo Susie Quezada Emma Wright Kaitlyn Eidson	Played in Hong Kong; "A" License Played for Mexican National Team Graduate Assistant Coach TWU; National 'D' License Captain SMU
95B	Joseph Juarez	Assistant Men's' Coach UT Tyler
96B	Blas Guerrero	"A' License; Assistant Physical Therapist, Emphasis corrective exercise
97B	Kevin White	Playing Semi – Pro Texas Tornados
98B	Joey Rodriguez James Balcom George Berre Reni Castro	Head Coach Arlington Sam Houston High School Assistant Coach Coppell High School Head Coach North Dallas High School Head Coach Pebble Creek Montessori School
99B	Erik Schaal Justin Neese Jonathan Murillo	Tried out in Germany "A" License Assistant Coach College UT Tyler Coaches Liverpool FC
2000B	Young Kang Gil Kang John True	Korean Youth National Team Ex Pro Bayern Layverkusen; U17 U.S.A National Team Assistant Coach Wylie East High School
Goalkeeping	Brian Sarber Jimmy Garcia	National "D" License National "D" License

West Texas ODP Staff

WTX BODP/GODP HEAD COACH: Warren Cottle



Education

- BS Kinesiology and Math Angelo State University
- MS Kinesiology University of Texas at the Permian Basin

Coaching Licenses

- Holds USSF “A” Coaching License

Coaching Experience

- Head High School Midland High School
- Head Coach West Texas Sockers PDL
- Director of Player and Coaching Development Midland Soccer Association
- Past President Texas Association of Soccer Coaches

WEST TEXAS ODP ASSISTANT COACHES

Coach	Interesting Soccer Fact
Warren Coddle	Head Coach Midland High School
Ben Henry	Head Coach San Angelo Central
Chris Bryant	Head Coach Midland Lee High School
Keith Nix	Head Coach Lubbock High School
Chad Peterson	Head Coach Odessa Permian High School
Gibbs Keaton	Texas Tech Women’s Assistant
Ashley Gordon	Texas Tech Women’s Assistant. “A” License