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INTENDED FOR INVITED U13 & U14 PLAYERS



P O R T L A N D T I M B E R S

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# DISCOVERY PROGRAM SENIORS



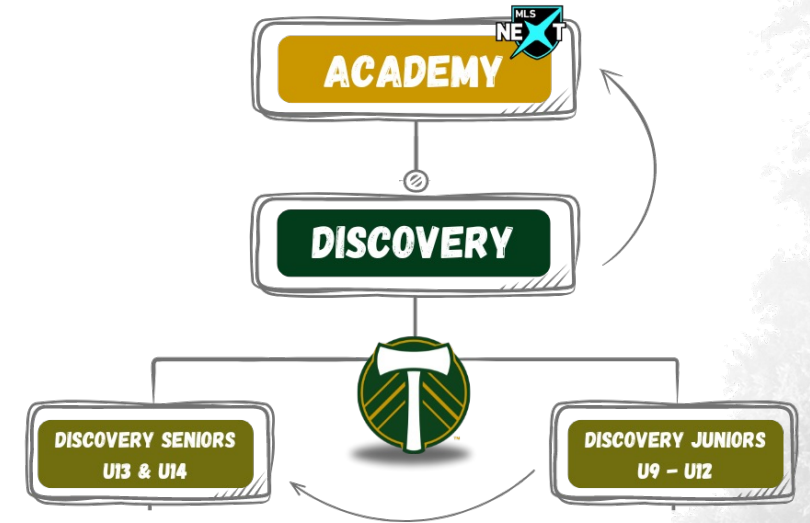


## DISCOVERY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Portland Timbers intend to lead the way with MLS Next soccer training in the region, providing an MLS youth training environment for local competitive players.

The Portland Timbers Discovery has 2 training and player identification programs:

- **Discovery Juniors.**  
Intended for players at the U9, 10, U11 & U12 age-groups.
- **Discovery Seniors.**  
Intended for competitive players at the U13 & U14 age-groups.



The Discovery Program is a development focused supplemental training program that serves as an introduction for players to the Portland Timbers Player Pathway and strives to give every young player the best holistic training experience.

Both the Junior & Senior Discovery Programs are used for the Timbers Academy staff (U15, U16 & U18) to discover future professional players, but more importantly, for players to discover and develop their talent through game exploration, high level training, proven educational methods and top-level coaching.





## ABOUT

The Discovery Seniors Program provides a professional pathway for elite players with the potential to become a Homegrown player for Portland Timbers. The Discovery Program sets the standards for player development, and player identification within the Pacific Northwest.

## WHO IS IT FOR

Elite players in the U13 & U14 age groups. Discovery Seniors is an invite only program

## HOW ARE PLAYERS INVITED & IDENTIFIED

The Discovery Program Manager will scout youth events held within the state such as Discovery Juniors, ODP, as well as attend local Club games & collaborate with local Club Directors and Coaches on player recommendations to invite players into the program.

## GOALS

- Player Development: Explore player potential
- Introduction to Timbers principles of play: individual, unit & team intentions
- Identify & prepare players for the Timbers MLS Academy teams





## PROGRAM DETAILS

The Discovery Seniors program is intended for promising player prospects at the U13 & U14 age-groups. The identified and recommended players across both age-groups will come together to train at the Timbers Training Facility across 2 training blocks throughout the year.

Selected players will receive up to 10 training sessions in either Training Block 1 or Training Block 2.

The primary goal is to identify players for the Timbers MLS Academy teams.

The Discovery Seniors Program has been the single most successful route into the Academy teams during the past three years, providing over 95% of Academy players since its implementation. The Discovery Seniors Program continues to be a fully funded program including all travel events.

- ID Events: March & August Discovery Fest (invite only)
- Training Block 1: Fall Sept - Nov - 10 training sessions (mid week) at the Timbers Training Facility
- Training Block 2: Spring Jan - March – 10 training sessions (mid week) at the Timbers Training Facility
- Training Kit: Free
- Timbers Academy coaches lead all training sessions
- U14 Patterson Cup, Kansas or MLS Next U14 Fest (yearly in May / June)





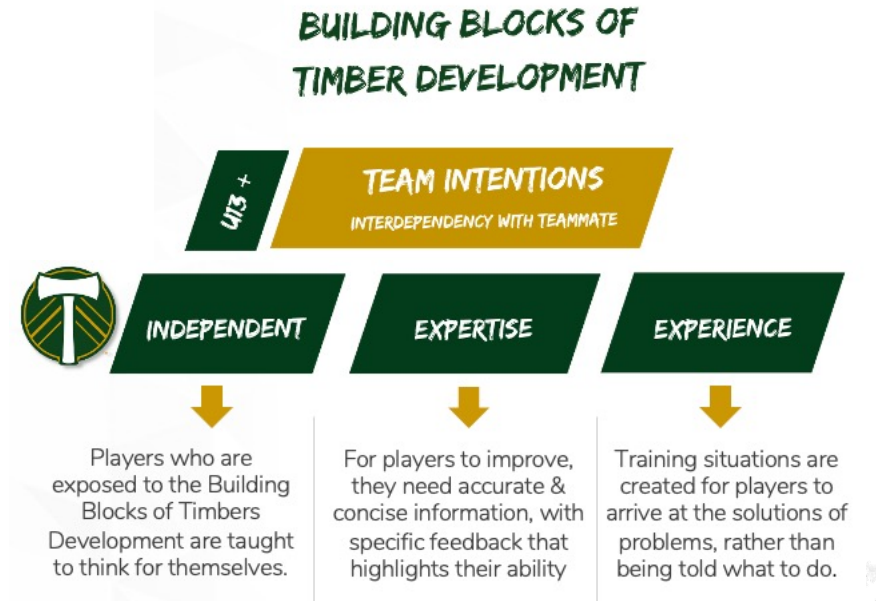
## DISCOVERY SENIORS ENVIROMENT

The Discovery Senior Program offers a competitive MLS Academy level of training across the U13 & U14 age-groups.

Invited players can expect a challenging training environment that is intended to give players the insight into the principles of play within the Portland Timbers Academy.

The focus of these sessions will be clear: development of the top pre-academy aged players through game exploration, high level training, proven educational methods and top-level coaching.

Players are constantly being evaluated within the program. Throughout each training block players can be added or removed from the program.



At the U13 & U14 age-groups players will be introduced “Team Intentions” through the Timbers Academy Game Model & Principles of play: “Building Blocks of Development”





## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Does Discovery Junior or Discovery Seniors replace a players club team?**

No! Both programs are in place to provide identification and competitive training opportunities, different from the club team structure, for players who would like to compete in the Timbers Academy someday. Players are encouraged to make club a priority.

### **What are the benefits of participating in the Discovery Seniors?**

The Discovery Senior program is used as a player identification tool for future Timbers Academy MLS teams. The training curriculum is designed by the Timbers Academy staff and players are evaluated and identified by the Timbers Academy staff. The Discovery Senior program is also fully funded meaning there is zero costs to parents for their child to participate.

### **Do you hold tryouts for the Discovery Seniors?**

No, we do not hold any form of “tryouts”. See the answer below

### **How are players invited and selected for the Discovery Seniors?**

The Discovery Program Manager will scout youth events held within the state such as Discovery Juniors, ODP, as well as attend local club games and collaborate with local Club Directors and Coaches on player recommendations to invite players into the program.

### **How do I know if my Club has received an invite for my player to join the Discovery Senior program?**

Your local club will receive a letter of invitation for the player via email. The local club will then send the invitation to the player and his family to participate in the program. All invitations are sent out, at least, 2 weeks prior to the first training session of the program.

### **What local youth Clubs do you work with?**

We aim to work with all local high level youth soccer Clubs in our area.

### **How does ODP fit into the Timbers Player Pathway?**

ODP is managed by OYSA and is a program the Timbers Academy support. Not every player can be offered the opportunity to train within our U13/U14 Discovery Senior program however, ODP is a high-level program that offers supplemental training (outside of Club soccer) for players U13-U19. Our staff continue to monitor, identify and scout players within the ODP pools.

### **Where can I find more information on the Discovery Seniors?**

All information and tryout registration can be found at [www.timbers.com](http://www.timbers.com). Or contact our Youth Programs Director Michael Jamieson via email: [mjamieson@timbers.com](mailto:mjamieson@timbers.com)

