# Operational Procedures

## Approved by the Ontario Soccer Board of Directors
## 2026-2027

**Last Updated: March 26, 2026**

Play. Inspire. Unite.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1 – GOVERNING DOCUMENTS ..... 4
PROCEDURE 1.0 – DEFINITIONS ..... 4
PROCEDURE 2.0 – COMPLYING WITH ONTARIO SOCCER GOVERNING DOCUMENTS ..... 13
PROCEDURE 3.0 - DEVELOPMENT OF, AND REVISION TO ONTARIO SOCCER POLICIES ..... 13
PROCEDURE 4.0 - DEVELOPMENT OF, AND REVISION TO, OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES ..... 13
PROCEDURE 5.0 – REQUEST FOR SPECIAL DISPENSATION ..... 14
SECTION 2 - REGISTRATION ..... 16
PROCEDURE 1.0 - REGISTRATION OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ..... 16
PROCEDURE 2.0 – PLAYER REGISTRATION ..... 17
PROCEDURE 3.0 – LEAGUE REGISTRATION ..... 18
PROCEDURE 4.0 – CLUB REGISTRATION ..... 18
PROCEDURE 5.0 – TEAM REGISTRATION ..... 19
PROCEDURE 6.0 – ONTARIO SOCCER IDENTIFICATION ..... 22
PROCEDURE 7.0 – SHORT TERM REGISTRATION PERMITS (STRP) ..... 23
PROCEDURE 8.0 - PLAYING FOR A TEAM TO WHICH A PLAYER IS NOT REGISTERED ..... 24
PROCEDURE 9.0 - TEMPORARY ELIGIBILITY PERMIT (TEP) ..... 25
PROCEDURE 10.0 – DE-REGISTRATION ..... 26
PROCEDURE 11.0 – AMATEUR AND PROFESSIONAL PLAYER STATUS ..... 27
PROCEDURE 12.0 – REINSTATEMENT FROM PROFESSIONAL TO AMATEUR STATUS ..... 27
PROCEDURE 13.0 – PLAYER TRANSFERS ..... 27
SECTION 3 - GAME TYPES ..... 32
PROCEDURE 1.0 - RECOGNIZED GAME TYPES ..... 32
PROCEDURE 2.0 – 11 V. 11 SOCCER ..... 32
PROCEDURE 3.0 – INDOOR SOCCER ..... 32
PROCEDURE 4.0 – SMALL-SIDED SOCCER (UNDER-14 AND OLDER) ..... 32
PROCEDURE 5.0 – FUTSAL ..... 33
PROCEDURE 6.0 - GRASSROOTS SOCCER ..... 33
PROCEDURE 7.0 - BEACH SOCCER ..... 35
PROCEDURE 8.0 - ACCESSIBLE SOCCER ..... 35
SECTION 4 – HIGH PERFORMANCE ..... 37
PROCEDURE 1.0 – HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAMS ..... 37
PROCEDURE 2.0 - PROVINCIAL XCEL & CANADA GAMES ..... 37

PROCEDURE 3.0 – ONTARIO PLAYER DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE (OPDL)....39
SECTION 5 – COMPETITIONS....40
PROCEDURE 1.0 - SANCTIONING OF COMPETITIONS....40
PROCEDURE 2.0 - TOURNAMENT DEFINITIONS....40
PROCEDURE 3.0 - TOURNAMENT CLASSIFICATIONS....41
PROCEDURE 4.0 - APPROVAL OF TOURNAMENTS....42
PROCEDURE 5.0 - TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS OF HOSTS....43
PROCEDURE 6.0 - TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS OF HOST DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS....45
PROCEDURE 7.0 - TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR TEAM PARTICIPATION....46
PROCEDURE 8.0 – TEAM TRAVEL TO TOURNAMENTS & EXHIBITION GAMES (U12 AND OLDER)....47
PROCEDURE 9.0 - FESTIVAL DEFINITIONS....49
PROCEDURE 10.0 - FESTIVAL CLASSIFICATIONS....49
PROCEDURE 11.0 - APPROVAL OF FESTIVALS....50
PROCEDURE 12.0 - FESTIVAL RULES....50
PROCEDURE 13.0 – FESTIVAL REQUIREMENTS OF HOSTS....50
PROCEDURE 14.0 - FESTIVAL REQUIREMENTS OF DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS....51
PROCEDURE 15.0 - FESTIVAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SQUAD PARTICIPATION....51
PROCEDURE 16.0 – SQUAD TRAVEL TO FESTIVALS & EXHIBITION GAMES (U-8 TO U-13)....52
PROCEDURE 17.0 - EXHIBITION GAMES....52
PROCEDURE 18.0 - APPROVAL OF EXHIBITION GAMES....54
PROCEDURE 19.0 - IDENTIFICATION CAMPS....54
PROCEDURE 20.0 - CUP COMPETITIONS....55
PROCEDURE 21.0 - ONTARIO CUP....55
SECTION 6 – LEAGUES....56
PROCEDURE 1.0 – PYRAMID FOR PLAY....56
PROCEDURE 2.0 – LEAGUE CATEGORIES....56
PROCEDURE 3.0 – LEAGUE FUNCTIONS AND OPERATIONS....59
PROCEDURE 4.0 – SENIOR LEAGUES....61
PROCEDURE 5.0 – LOCAL INTERLOCK LEAGUES....61
PROCEDURE 6.0 – JURISDICTION....61
PROCEDURE 7.0 – REGIONAL LEAGUES AND BOUNDARIES....62
PROCEDURE 8.0 – FORMATION OF LEAGUES....62
PROCEDURE 9.0 – APPLICATION TO EXPAND/RESTRUCTURE LEAGUES GOVERNED BY ONTARIO SOCCER....63

PROCEDURE 10.0 – TERMS OF LEAGUE OPERATIONS FOR LEAGUES GOVERNED BY ONTARIO SOCCER 63
PROCEDURE 11.0 – SOCCER FOR LIFE LEAGUES' DIVISIONS AND NUMBER OF TEAMS ..... 65
PROCEDURE 12.0 – PROFESSIONAL AMATEUR (PRO-AM) SOCCER ..... 66
PROCEDURE 13.0 – INTERLOCKING LEAGUE DIVISIONS ..... 67
PROCEDURE 14.0 – APPROVAL OF TEAMS TO PLAY IN AN AMATEUR LEAGUE ..... 67
PROCEDURE 15.0 – PLAYING OUT PERMISSION ..... 72
PROCEDURE 16.0 – PLAYING IN PERMISSION ..... 73
PROCEDURE 17.0 – PLAYER MOVEMENT AGREEMENTS ..... 74
SECTION 7 – MATCH OFFICIALS ..... 76
PROCEDURE 1.0 – GENERAL REGULATIONS ..... 76
PROCEDURE 2.0 – REGISTRATION ..... 76
PROCEDURE 3.0 – MATCH OFFICIALS' CLASSIFICATION AND STANDARDS ..... 77
PROCEDURE 4.0 – FITNESS TESTS ..... 79
PROCEDURE 5.0 – APPOINTMENTS ..... 79
PROCEDURE 6.0 – MATCH OFFICIALS FEES ..... 80
PROCEDURE 7.0 – REPORTS ..... 81
PROCEDURE 8.0 – ASSIGNORS ..... 81
PROCEDURE 9.0 – ASSESSORS AND INSTRUCTORS PROGRAM ..... 81
SECTION 8 - COACHES ..... 82
PROCEDURE 1.0 - LEARNING FACILITATORS FOR COACHING CLINICS ..... 82
PROCEDURE 2.0 – COURSE FEES ..... 82
PROCEDURE 3.0 - COACH CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS ..... 82

# SECTION 1 – GOVERNING DOCUMENTS

## PROCEDURE 1.0 – Definitions

**1.1** **Abuse/Maltreatment** - Definitions and Prohibited Behaviours which constitute Maltreatment can be found in the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport.

**1.2** **Acceptable Proof of Age** shall mean a birth certificate, passport, driver's licence, Ontario Photo health card, baptismal certificate and any other document which is acceptable to Ontario Soccer.

**1.3** **Act** shall mean Personal Information Protection and Electronic Document Act.

**1.4** **Administrative or Financial Directives of a Governing Organization** shall mean the directives placed in the Governing Organization's By-Laws or policies that define the administrative or financial criteria that a member must meet in order to be declared to be "In Good Standing" at a general meeting of the Governing Organization.

**1.5** **Administrative or Financial Directives of Ontario Soccer** shall mean that each member organization is required to pay each account for which payment to Ontario Soccer is overdue by 30 or more days prior to SMM or AMM meetings of Ontario Soccer.

**1.6** **Administrator** shall mean an individual who is registered with Ontario Soccer to be responsible for one (1) or more of the functions required to operate a Governing Organization.

**1.7** **Affiliate Organization** shall mean any Ontario Soccer District Association, League, Club, or Registered Organization.

**1.8** **Affiliation** shall mean the annual process that an individual or organization shall complete with their Governing Organization.

**1.9** **Appeal** shall mean the process followed in accordance with Governing Documents when an individual or organization wishes to challenge a decision of a Governing Organization.

**1.10** **Appellant** shall mean the individual or organization appealing a decision of a Governing Organization.

**1.11** **Appeals Panel** shall mean a group of individuals either appointed or elected by a Governing Organization to consider all requests for "Leave to Appeal".

**1.12** **Approved by Membership** shall mean the adoption of a motion by a majority of the votes cast by delegates present at a General Meeting.

**1.13** **Assault/Maltreatment -** Definitions and Prohibited Behaviours which constitute Maltreatment can be found in the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport.

**1.14** **Auditor** shall mean the organization that annually audits the accounts of a Governing Organization and ascertains the correctness of the Financial Statement of a Governing Organization.

**1.15** **Bylaws** refers to the Bylaws of Ontario Soccer, as amended from time to time and in force and effect.

**1.16** **Canada Soccer,** or CS, shall mean Canada Soccer which is the Governing Organization of soccer in Canada.

**1.17** **Case Manager** shall mean an individual who is responsible for the administration of Discipline/Appeals and Complaints at the District/Club level. The Case Manager must have Discipline and Appeals Certification. The Case Manager is not a Discipline/Appeals panel member.

**1.18** **Cisgender** – a term to describe a person whose gender identity corresponds with their birth assigned sex (e.g. someone whose gender identity is man and was assigned male at birth).

**1.19** **Club** is a Governing Organization that is affiliated to, and under the jurisdiction of a District Association, is a registered organization that registers all Players, Team Officials and Administrators of their organization and organizes teams. A not-for-profit Club has an elected Board of Directors. A For-Profit Club, may have a Board of Directors or shareholders.

A **Youth Club** may operate as either a registered not-For-profit or for-profit entity, but must be incorporated. The Club is the Governing Organization whose primary, long-term objective is to provide Players with development and training through the provision of necessary training facilities and infrastructure. Youth Clubs shall apply for a level of Canada Soccer Club Licensing as mandated by Canada Soccer.

A **Senior Club:** may operate as a registered not-for profit or for-profit entity and is not required to be incorporated.

**1.20** **Club Licensing** refers to the organizational development program, in accordance with Canada Soccer's Rules and Regulations whose objectives are to set clearly defined standards and expectations for Clubs, drive change in the soccer system, raise the level of all soccer organizations, and recognize excellence in the soccer community.

**1.21** **Coach** shall mean any registered person acting in the capacity of a Coach appointed by Ontario Soccer, District Association, Club or any other Ontario Soccer registered organization to coach a team or programs run by that organization, including any assistant or specialist Coaches.

**1.22** **Code** shall refer to the Ontario Soccer Code of Conduct.

**1.23** **Commercial Activity** – any particular transaction, act or conduct that is of a commercial character.

**1.24** **Complainant** shall mean the Party alleging an infraction.

**1.25** **Concurrent Sentence** shall mean multiple suspensions served at the same time.

**1.26** **Concacaf** shall mean the Confederation of North and Central American and Caribbean Associations of Football; and is a Confederation of the FIFA.

**1.27** **Conflict of Interest** shall mean a situation where a person is a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity.

**1.28** **Corporate Responsibilities** shall apply to Directors or shareholders of a registered Governing Organization. Ensuring minutes of meetings of their Governing Organization. The responsibilities must align with the Corporations Act of Ontario.

**1.29** **Co-Respondent** shall mean the Governing Organization which made a discipline or appeal decision which has been upheld on appeal, and where the Appellant is then appealing again to a higher level.

**1.30** **Days** shall mean total days, irrespective of weekends or holidays, but not including the date of the meeting, hearing or event in question or the date by which a response if any is required.

**1.31** **Delegate** shall mean an individual qualified to take part at a Members Meeting and cast one (1) or more of the votes a member is entitled to at that meeting.

**1.32** **Registration System** shall mean the electronic registration system used by Ontario Soccer to register District Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Players, Coaches, Match Officials and Administrators.

**1.33** **Directly Affected by a Decision** shall mean:

a) Any Registrant or Registered Organization against whom a decision has been made,

b) The Accused in the Discipline Hearing, and
c) The Victim of a reported misconduct that had been made against an accused.
d) Any party impacted by the decision.

**1.34** **Director** shall mean a person who is elected or appointed to serve in a position on the Board of Directors of a Governing Organization and will automatically be deemed to be registered as an Administrator of that Governing Organization.

**1.35** **Discipline Panel** shall mean a group consisting of a minimum of three persons, one of which is a trained discipline Chair, appointed by a Case Manager on behalf of a Governing Organization to hear a case in accordance with Discipline and Appeals Operating Procedures.

**1.36** **District** shall mean a distinct geographic area within the province of Ontario based on boundaries approved by Ontario Soccer Board of Directors.

**1.37** **District Association** shall mean the Governing Organization in each District; affiliated to, and under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer; consisting of the Clubs which are affiliated to it, and recognized by it, as controlling soccer in their respective Clubs.

**1.38** **Diversity** shall mean the inclusion of individuals representing more than one national origin, colour, religion, socioeconomic status, geographic location, physical ability, sexual orientation, etc.

**1.39** **Drone** – An unmanned mechanical aircraft that can navigate autonomously, with or without human control.

**1.40** **Electronic Communication Media** – Communication media that is primary for connecting with other users without a content-sharing or social networking purpose. Electronic communication media includes email, texting (SMS), Facebook, messenger, video sessions, WhatsApp, virtual meeting platforms, and other similar applications.

**1.41** **Electronic Communication or Recording Equipment** shall mean any mobile, handheld equipment (e.g., microphone, headphone, earpiece, mobile phone/smartphone, smartwatch, tablet, laptop, cameras).

**1.42** **Employee** shall mean a person who:

a) Performs work and/or services for an employer for wages; and
b) Works for regular pay, with income taxes, unemployment insurance premiums and government pension plan contributions withheld by the employer; and
c) May have a job description; participate in the employer's benefits and private pension program; or a written employment agreement with the employer; and
d) Provides tasks which are integral to the day-to-day business of the employer; and
e) Is issued a T4 slip from the employer.

**1.43** **Exhibition Game** shall mean a single sanctioned game arranged between teams of registered Players, which is which is not a scheduled League game, play-off game, cup game, tournament game or Festival game.

**1.44** **Fees Retained** shall mean that portion of the membership fees paid during the Fiscal period of the Governing Organization and retained by that Governing Organization.

**1.45** **Festival** shall mean a series of games played by Under-13 or younger age groups in accordance with Canada Soccer's Grassroot Standards and LTPD principles.

**1.46** **FIFA** shall mean the Fédération Internationale de Football Association, which is the Governing Organization for soccer globally.

**1.47** **Final Decision Making Panel –** shall mean a group consisting of either one or three persons who are appointed by a Case Manager to decide on a case in accordance with this code.

**1.48** **Financial Interest** shall mean where a Director may derive a personal profit from any activity of the Governing Organization of which he or she is a Director.

**1.49** **Focus Group** shall mean a collection of individuals from the applicable membership, chosen to review and provide feedback to the development or revision of Operational Procedures, Programs, or other subject matters.

**1.50** **Free Standing Videography Equipment** shall refer to self supportive video equipment used to record soccer games and training sessions managed by Ontario Soccer or by affiliated Leagues, Clubs or Teams within Ontario Soccer.

**1.51** **Full Team Identification** shall mean the provision of the team's name, team classification, age classification, gender and team registration number.

**1.52** **Futsal** is a small-sided indoor football game played between two teams of five Players each, one of whom is the goalkeeper.

**1.53** **Game Related Changes** are defined as material changes to Operational Procedures that affect matters connected to the rules and regulations as they pertain to the management of the game on the field of play;

a) The rules of the game;
b) Incidents that occur prior, during, or after the game;
c) The actions or activities of Registrants and Representatives.

**1.54** **Game Types** shall mean competition based on specific playing formats, equipment, facilities and rules of the game.

**1.55** **Gender binary** shall mean a social system whereby people are thought to have either one of two genders: man or woman. These genders are expected to correspond to sex assigned at birth: male or female. In the gender binary system, there is no room for diversity outside of man or woman, for living between genders or for crossing the binary. The gender binary system is rigid and restrictive for many people who feel that their natal sex (sex they were labelled with at birth) does not match up with their gender or that their gender is fluid and not fixed.

**1.56** **Gender Equity** shall mean the allocation of resources, benefits, opportunities and entitlements (including power) associated with soccer, fairly and without discrimination on the basis of gender. Gender Equity also means addressing identified imbalances.

**1.57** **Gender expression** shall mean the way an individual communicates their gender identity to others. This is done through behaviour, body language, voice, emphasis or de-emphasis of bodily characteristics, choice of clothing, hairstyle, and wearing make-up and/or accessories. The traits and behaviours associated with masculinity and femininity are culturally specific and change over time.

**1.58** **Gender identity** shall mean a person's innermost sense of their own gender. This can include man, woman, both, neither or something else entirely. Gender also refers to a variety of social and behavioural characteristics (e.g. appearance, mannerisms)

**1.59** **Governing Organization** shall mean that Registered Organization which, in the context of the rule being interpreted, is the organization delegated to act and is either an organization under whose jurisdiction Ontario Soccer operates, Ontario Soccer, a District Association, a League or a Club.

**1.60** **Governance Position** shall mean any individual elected or appointed by a Governing Organization, who is in a position of authority and is involved in any way in a decision-making process.

**1.61** **Grassroots Standards (U4-U13)** is a document developed and mandated by Canada Soccer and replaces all previous versions of the "Ontario Soccer Grassroots Standards".

**1.62** **Harassment** shall mean any comment, conduct, or gesture directed toward an individual or group of individuals, which is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, malicious, degrading or offensive. Harassment means inappropriately exerting power over another person. Harassment occurs along a continuum that ranges from mild conduct such as gestures or commands to conduct which may be physical, forceful, and violent. In certain forms, harassment may be a criminal offense.

**1.63** **Host** shall mean a Governing Organization responsible for a competition.

**1.64** **Impacted Party** shall mean any Registrant or Registered Organization who/which has suffered injury or harm as a result of another Registrant's or Registered Organization's actions.

**1.65** **Inclusiveness** means encompassing everything concerned.

**1.66** **Indoor Facility/Operators** is/are a predetermined area or place to host Ontario Soccer sanctioned indoor youth and/or adult matches and events.

**1.67** **Individuals** refers to all categories defined in the Ontario Soccer By-Laws, or the Affiliate Organizations By-Laws, as well as all individuals employed by, or engaged in activities with, Ontario Soccer or their Affiliate Organizations including but not limited to; Administrator, Coach, Director, Employee, Player, Registered Team, Registrant, Team Official, Match Official, Volunteer, Board of Director, Spectator, parent/guardian or representatives.

**1.68** **Ineligible Player** shall mean a Registrant or Non-Registrant of Ontario Soccer who participated in a soccer activity in which they were not eligible to participate.

**1.69** **Interpersonal Communication** – communication that occurs between two or more participants within a communication medium.

**1.70** **Knowingly** shall mean deliberately or consciously.

**1.71** **Leave to Appeal** shall mean the process that a party Directly Affected by a Decision, uses to request that a decision by a Governing Organization be reviewed by a higher-level Governing Organization.

**1.72** **LGBTQI2S** - An umbrella acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, intersex, and two-spirit. Other acronyms commonly used are LGBTQ+ and LGBTQ2.

**1.73** **Long Term Player Development,** also known as LTPD, shall mean the Canada Soccer model designed to, and originally prescribed by Sport for Life, now optimized for soccer, to promote Player-centric, age- appropriate development to support lifelong participation and wellness through soccer.

**1.74** **Mandatory Penalty** shall mean the fixed or set penalty specified for certain misconduct types in Discipline Policies and that must be imposed by a Discipline Hearing/Review Panel after a guilty finding for those misconduct types.

**1.75** **Match Official** shall mean an individual who is either registered with Ontario Soccer to officiate sanctioned competitions, or an individual who officiates a game in the absence of the appointed referee; a Club Assistant Referee accepted by the Match Official; or a person serving as the "Official Timekeeper" at an Indoor or Futsal game.

**1.76** **Match Official Assault** shall mean deliberate physical contact or attempted physical contact, any type of threats or threatening action, any form of violent conduct or attempted violent conduct towards a Match Official.

**1.77** **Mental Abuse** (also referred to as psychological abuse) is the use of threats, verbal insults, and other more subtle tactics to control a person's way of thinking.

**1.78** **Memorable Event** shall mean a special grassroots soccer experience designed in accordance with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards and LTPD principles, providing developmentally appropriate, inclusive, and engaging activities that foster enjoyment and long-term participation in the game. Frequency of memorable events must be in accordance with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

**1.79** **Minor** an individual under the age of 19, unless the applicable laws and regulations of their jurisdiction of residence provide otherwise; in Ontario a minor is considered to be anyone under the age of 18.

**1.80** **Moral Turpitude** shall mean any offences found in Part V of the Criminal Code of Canada (Sexual Offences, Public Morals, and Disorderly Conduct).

**1.81** **New Facts** shall mean, in the context of an Appeal, any fact that was in existence at the time of the hearing, however, was not produced when the original decision was made or that could not be discovered by due diligence.

**1.82** **Non-Game Related Changes** are defined as changes that made to any Operational Procedure so long as the change does not have a material effect on the game of soccer.

**1.83** **Not In Good Standing** shall mean a registered individual and/or member organization shall be deemed Not in Good Standing if their membership status is either suspended or expelled, if they have overdue unpaid fees, dues or other obligations to their Governing Organization or to a sanctioned member and/or competition.

**1.84** **Obligation of Loyalty** shall mean where a Director through their position, or on account of some other significant involvement, with another corporation or organization has a conflict or apparent conflict with their required loyalty to the Governing Organization of which they are in a Governance Position.

**1.85** **Ontario Soccer** shall mean Ontario Soccer; the official Governing Organization of soccer in the province of Ontario and Member Association of Canada Soccer.

**1.86** **Organization** – the organization adopting this Code, which may be Ontario Soccer or an Affiliate Organization.

**1.87** **Participants** refers to all categories of individual members and/or registrants defined in the By-laws of Ontario Soccer as well as all people engaged in activities with, Ontario Soccer including, but not limited to players, coaches, instructors, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members and Directors and Officers. Participants are subject to polices of Ontario Soccer.

**1.88** **Party** refers to the complainant or respondent of a complaint.

**1.89** **Perceived Conflict of Interest** shall mean a reasonable perception by an informed person that a conflict-of-interest situation exists or may exist.

**1.90** **Person** shall mean any family member, friend, customer, client, sponsor, colleague or legal person.

**1.91** **Person in Authority** – a Participant who holds a position of authority within Ontario Soccer including but not limited to, coaches, managers, support personnel, supervisors, and Directors. There is typically a Power Imbalance between Persons in Authority and other Participants.

**1.92** **Personal Information –** any information about an identifiable individual including information that relates to their personal characteristics including, but not limited to, gender, age, income, home address or phone number, ethnic background, family status, health history and health conditions, NCCP number, education, resumes, fitness results, credit card or chequing information, date of birth, athlete history, birth certificate, performance results, certifications, awards, height, weight, uniform size, shoe size, feedback from coaches and trainers, video footage, photographs, banking information, social insurance number, criminal records check, reference checks, beneficiaries, passport numbers, frequent flyer numbers, and discipline results. Personal information, however, does not include business information (e.g. an individuals' business address and telephone, which is not protected by PIPEDA. d) *Representatives* – Prospective members, members, players, coaches, referees, participants, managers, fans and volunteers within Ontario Soccer.

**1.93** **Player** shall mean an individual who is permitted, when registered with Ontario Soccer, in accordance with Governing Documents, to play for a Registered Team in a Sanctioned Competition.

**1.94** **Player Movement Agreement** shall mean a document signed by two Clubs under which they agree to 'play up' Players from a team of one Club to a team of the other Club in accordance with the provisions of Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures.

**1.95** **Policy** shall mean a position statement adopted by the Board of Directors to define the intent of Ontario Soccer's By-Laws, or to define an established course of action or behaviour that must be followed.

**1.96** **Power Imbalance** – A Power Imbalance may exist where, based on the totality of circumstances, a Participant has the duty of care supervisory, evaluative, or other authority over another Participant. A Power Imbalance between Persons in Authority and Other Participants.

**1.97** **Pro-Am** shall mean a League level involving both professional and amateur registered Player.

**1.98** **Probationary Sentence** – relating to a period of time when an individual is not to commit any more offenses.

**1.99** **Procedure** shall mean the explicit published guidelines or details required to implement some aspects of a Policy or to cover matters related to administration of the game managed by Ontario Soccer.

**1.100** **Proposed Result** – The decision by the Case Manager on the complaint. Parties can either accept the Proposed Result or submit a Request for Reconsideration.

**1.101** **Public Communication** – Communication that is or was posted publicly, such as on a Participant's social media platform

**1.102** **Published Rule** shall mean a Statute, By-Law, Rule, Regulation, Policy, Procedure, or Law that is adopted by a Governing Organization.

**1.103** **Recorded Payment** shall mean an EFT, cheque or money order made payable to a Governing Organization.

**1.104** **Registered** shall mean a current record exists for a named individual or organization named in the Ontario Soccer registration system of a registered Governing Organization.

**1.105** **Registered Organization** shall mean an organization which registers with Ontario Soccer, as a District Association, League, or Club.

**1.106** **Registered Team** shall mean a group of registered Players who have been assigned to a roster by its Governing Organization in order to play in Sanctioned Competition.

**1.107** **Registrant** shall mean an individual registered with Ontario Soccer, as well as an individual engaged in authorized activities with Ontario Soccer or a Registered Organization.

**1.108** **Registrar** shall mean the person(s) authorized by a Governing Organization to validate the registration of all its participants on its teams.

**1.109** **Registration Form** shall mean the form which meets Ontario Soccer minimum requirements and is provided by a Governing Organization either in hard copy or digital form.

**1.110** **Registration System** shall mean the electronic registration system used by Ontario Soccer to register District Associations, Clubs, Leagues, Players, Coaches, Match Officials and Administrators.

**1.111** **Representatives** shall mean individuals employed by, or engaged in activities on behalf of, Ontario Soccer, or Registered Organizations, including: Administrators, Coaches, Directors, Employees, Match Officials, Players,

Registrants, Registrars, Team Officials, Contractors, Volunteers, Managers, Committee Members, and Officers.

**1.112** **Respondent** shall mean the Governing Organization which made the decision, which is being appealed at a given Appeal Hearing or the alleged infracting party.

**1.113** **Responsible Coaching Movement** – shall mean the call to action for sport organizations, parents, and coaches to enact responsible coaching across Canada – on and off the field.

**1.114** **Sanctioned Organization** shall mean an active soccer organization that is a registered member of Ontario Soccer or with a member organization.

**1.115** **Sanctioned Competition** shall mean a competition which has obtained the approval of the required Governing Organization(s) in accordance with Governing Documents.

**Sanctioned Participation** shall mean that a Registered Team has obtained the approval of the required Governing Organization(s) to participate in a sanctioned competition.

**1.116** **Sex** shall mean the classification of people as male, female or intersex. Sex is usually assigned at birth and is based on an assessment of a person's reproductive system, hormones, chromosomes and other physical characteristics, most notably by external genitalia.

**1.117** **Sexual orientation** describes human sexuality, from gay and lesbian to bisexual and heterosexual orientations. A person's gender identity is fundamentally different from and not related to their sexual orientation. Because a person identifies as trans does not predict or reveal anything about their sexual orientation. A trans person may identify as gay, lesbian, queer, straight, or bisexual.

**1.118** **Social Media** – Communication media that permits users to create or generate content, share that content, and network with other users. Social media includes YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, Tumblr, TikTok, Snapchat, Twitter, and other similar websites and applications.

**1.119** **Soccer Related Activity** shall mean any, or all, of the following acts or actions by a Player, Team Official, Match Official, Administrator or Director including, but not limited to:

a) Coaching Players at games and practices, managing, playing, practising, officiating, or
b) Acting as an Administrator in any activity that falls under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer by any party either in person or by proxy, or
c) Representing their applicable Governing Organization at another Governing Organization's meetings or voting at such meetings, or
d) Managing or participating in an Ontario Soccer administered program;

Soccer Related Activity does not apply to the following:

a) Attending a Discipline Hearing as an accused, or
b) Attending an Appeal Hearing (provided that the appeal being made is against her/his suspension from all soccer related activity), or
c) A Director of an incorporated organization performing corporate responsibilities related to that corporation, or
d) An employee performing her/his employee responsibilities.

**1.120** **Squad -** A squad, or match day roster, shall mean a group of Grassroots players selected from the Club's player pool at that age group for a given match.

**1.121** **Statement of Claim** shall mean a document filed with the court that sets out the claims of the other party (plaintiff) indicating what you (defendant) may owe them and why they are making the claim. The statement of claim starts legal proceedings.

**1.122** **Subject Matter Expert Group** shall mean a group of Subject Matter Experts from Ontario Soccer department staff and/or Operational Committees chosen to develop and review Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures in designated sections.

**1.123** **Suspended Sentence** shall mean the defendant will serve a period of probation and receive a guilty verdict.

**1.124** **Team Identification** shall mean the provision of the team's name, team classification, age classification, gender and team registration number (if applicable).

**1.125** **Team Official** shall mean anyone registered to a team as a Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Assistant Manager, or Club Head Coach, Technical Director or Technical Staff (such as a Goalkeeper Coach, Athletic Therapist etc.).

**1.126** **Team Position Status** shall mean that a Club is entitled to operate a team in a division of a League in accordance with the provisions of Ontario Soccer Policies on 'Team Movement.'

**1.127** **Tournament** shall mean a series of games involving Under-14 or older aged teams between a minimum of 4 teams participating and played within seven (7) consecutive days or over no more than three (3) weekends during a playing season.

**1.128** **Transgender Player**: A person whose gender identity (their internal sense of being male, female, both, neither, nor somewhere along the gender spectrum) differs from gender they were assigned at birth. For the purpose of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a Player may register with the gender team with which the Player identifies.

**1.129** **Trans** shall mean an umbrella term that describes people with diverse gender identities and gender expressions that do not conform to stereotypical ideas about what it means to be a girl/woman or boy/man in society. It includes but is not limited to people who identify as transgender, transsexual, cross dressers (adjective) or gender non-conforming (gender diverse or genderqueer).

**1.130** **Two-spirit** shall mean an English umbrella term used by some indigenous people rather than, or in addition to, identifying as LGBTQ. This term affirms the interrelatedness of all aspects of identity - including gender, sexuality, community, culture, and spirituality.

**1.131** **Unsanctioned Event** shall mean any form of competition which does not have the authoritative permission or approval of the applicable Governing Organization.

**1.132** **Unsanctioned Organization** shall mean an organization that is not a member of Ontario Soccer or its member organizations.

**1.133** **Valid Photograph** shall mean a photo of the person being registered and must be an accurate impression of the person being represented as per the requirements in the Registration Operational Procedures.

**1.134** **Victim** shall mean any Registrant or Registered Organization who/which has suffered injury or harm as a result of another Registrant's or Registered Organization's actions.

**1.135** **Violent Conduct** is when a Player uses or attempts to use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not challenging for the ball, or against a team-mate, Team Official, Match Official, spectator or any other person, regardless of whether contact is made.

**1.136** **Vulnerable Participants** – Includes children/youth (minors) and vulnerable adults (people who, because of age, disability or other circumstance, are in a position of the dependence on others or are otherwise at a greater risk than the general population of being harmed by people in positions of trust or authority).

**1.137** **Workplace** refers to any place where business or work-related activities are conducted. Workplaces include, but are not limited to, the Ontario Soccer or Affiliate Organizations' office, work-related social functions, work assignments outside the office, work-related travel, and work-related conferences or training sessions.

**1.138** **Youth Aged Match Official** shall mean a registered Match Official under the age of 18, who is appointed to officiate, or is officiating, a game in a youth or grassroots age division.

## PROCEDURE 2.0 – Complying With Ontario Soccer Governing Documents

**2.1** Except where indicated within these Operational Procedures, all Governing Documents of District Associations, Clubs and Leagues shall comply with Ontario Soccer's Governing Documents.

## PROCEDURE 3.0 - Development Of, And Revision to Ontario Soccer Policies

**3.1** Any member of the Board of Directors, an Ontario Soccer Committee, District President Chair on behalf of the Voting Members Council or Chief Executive Officer, or staff delegate, may propose a new policy, a revocation of an existing policy or a change to a policy through a written notice and submitted to the Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Soccer. The notice will include:

a) The current text of the existing policy (if a policy is being revised or revoked)
b) The proposed text for the existing policy or new policy
c) The reason or rationale for revision, revocation, or creation of a policy

**3.2** Once received in writing by the Chief Executive Officer or staff delegate, the notice shall be placed on the agenda of the next Board of Director's meeting for their review and action.

## PROCEDURE 4.0 - Development Of, And Revision To, Operational Procedures

**4.1** Operational Procedures change process shall be managed by Ontario Soccer Governance Committee through Ontario Soccer staff.

**4.2** **Game Related Operational Procedures**

**4.2.1** Game Related Operational Procedures revisions shall involve the assistance of the Voting Members Council as defined in Article 9.3 (f) of Ontario Soccer's Bylaws.

**4.2.2** Game Related Operational Procedures or a change to an existing Game-Related Operational Procedures shall be initiated and submitted by July 1 as part of a **biennial** review process. The proposal shall be submitted no later than July 1 on the appropriate published electronic form, with the rationale for each change. Requests shall be sent to the Ontario Soccer Governance Committee care of the appropriate Ontario Soccer staff member by any of the following: Ontario Soccer Board, staff, or the Voting Members Council.

**4.2.3** By August 1, all submitted Game Related Operational Procedure changes are collated by Ontario Soccer staff and sent to the applicable Subject Matter Expert Group for review. The Subject Matter Expert Group will complete its review and recommendations by August 31.

**4.2.4** By September 15, submitted Game Related Operational Procedure changes as well as the position of each Subject Matter Expert Group will be sent to the Voting Members Council for review and recommendation.

**4.2.5** By October 15, the Voting Members Council will have conducted its conduct its review of all Game Related changes and through its Chair, sends its feedback and recommendations to the Governance Committee or designated staff for review and final preparation.

**4.2.6** By November 15, the Governance Committee prepares a final draft of Game Related Operational Procedure changes for the Board of Directors for their third quarter (Q3) meeting.

**4.2.7** The Board of Directors shall have the obligations under Bylaw article 9.3 (f) regarding changes to the Operational Procedures and shall:

a) approve the changes; or
b) not approve the changes; or
c) refer the recommended change back to the Governance Committee for further consideration including further consultation with the Voting Members Council.

**4.2.8** Any change that has been implemented as a result of this process will not be eligible for further amendments for a period of two (2) years from the date of the change being implemented. Procedure 4.5 below may be activated if required.

**4.3 Non-Game Related Operational Procedures**

**4.3.1** New Non-Game Related Operational Procedures or changes to existing Non-Game Related Operational Procedures shall be submitted by July 1 as part of a **biennial** review process and completed on the appropriate Change Request electronic form, with the rationale for each change. Submissions will be managed by the Ontario Soccer Governance Committee through the Chief Executive Officer. All submitted Non-Game-Related Operational Procedure changes are collated by the Chief Executive Officer or designate.

**4.3.2** After review by the Chief Executive Officer, the recommended changes will be sent Board of Directors for their final review and action at their Q3 Board meeting.

**4.3.3** The Board would possess the authority to approve the new Non-Game Related Operational Procedures or changes to the existing Non-Game Related Operational Procedures and have the following options:

a) approve the change; or
b) not approve the change; or
c) refer the recommended change back to the Chief Executive Officer for further consideration.

**4.4 Implementation Timelines**

**4.4.1** All approved Operational Procedures shall be published on the Ontario Soccer website no later than January 15, with implementation with implementation commencing with the upcoming Outdoor season, unless otherwise specified.

**4.5** Notwithstanding 4.2.2 and Article 9.3 (f) of the Ontario Soccer Bylaws, Game Related Operational Procedures may be amended by the Board at any time either at a Members Meeting of with the majority support of the Voting Members at a Voting Members Council Meeting, at which the Chair of the Voting Members Council or their representative is in attendance so that they can present and defend the change at the Board meeting where the changes are considered.

**4.6** Should the Provincial Government, Federal Government or Canada Soccer mandate legislation or regulations that affect any Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures, immediate changes will be made to the Operational Procedures as approved by the Ontario Soccer Board of Directors and the membership of Ontario Soccer will be notified immediately.

## PROCEDURE 5.0 – Request For Special Dispensation

**5.1** All requests for Special Dispensation from existing Operational Procedures must be submitted in the following way:

a) Submitted digitally through a Special Dispensation Request form with all applicable information.
b) Submitted to the Chief Executive Officer or designate through a Member Organization (Voting Member - District Association or Non-Voting Member - Associate Member)

All requests will be assigned to the applicable Subject Matter Expert Group for review and recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer or designate.

**5.2** Final approval will be given by the Chief Executive Officer or designate and will be communicated to all affected parties and Ontario Soccer Board of Directors through the Chair of the Board.

# SECTION 2 - REGISTRATION

## PROCEDURE 1.0 - Registration Of Organizations and Individuals

**1.1** **All** individuals must be registered with Ontario Soccer, through an affiliated Club or Member Organization prior to participating in any soccer activity.

Registration is a prerequisite for recognition as a member and for eligibility in any sanctioned event or program including:

- Recreational programs at all ages
- Competitive programs
- Development programs
- Training sessions

An individual or organization is only registered with Ontario Soccer after the applicable data has been entered into Ontario Soccer's registration system and all applicable payments made in accordance with the organization's procedures.

**1.2** A District Association shall:

a) Register with Ontario Soccer through the annual Membership Renewal Process
b) Register all Clubs, Leagues, and Administrators
c) Be responsible for ensuring and reporting that its Clubs have provided copies, either digitally or otherwise, of all of their registrations of Leagues, Divisions, Teams, Players, Team Officials and Administrators to Ontario Soccer
d) Be responsible for ensuring and reporting that its Leagues have provided copies, either digitally or otherwise, of all of their registrations of divisions and Administrators to Ontario Soccer.

**1.3** A Club shall:

a) Register with its District Association through the annual Membership Renewal Process
b) Register all Leagues, Divisions, Teams, Players, Team Officials and Administrators with Ontario Soccer

**1.4** A League shall:

a) Register with its Governing Organization through the annual Membership Renewal Process
b) Register all of its divisions and Administrators.

**1.5** Ontario Soccer shall register Players involved in National and Provincial Team programs who are not already registered with Clubs.

**1.6** **Club Team Officials**

- A person may not be registered as a Team Head Coach for more than two (2) Competitive teams, Youth or Senior, in any one (1) season.
- Each Club Team may have a Team Manager(s), Assistant Manager(s), Assistant Coach(es), Goalkeeper Coach(es), and Fitness Coach(es) as (a) Team Official(s).
    - Each Team Official must be registered with Ontario Soccer through the registration system and shall be responsible for the Team they are assigned to.
    - Only a Team Official, meeting the certification requirements for that age, division and classification shall be eligible to participate in a game, be listed on the team match day roster, and be present in the team's bench area.
    - A Club with Teams registered in a District level grassroots league shall register all of their qualified Team Officials in the Ontario Soccer registration system in order to be eligible to participate in a match/competition, be listed on the team Match Day Roster, and be present in the Team's technical area.

**1.7** All Club Teams entered into Ontario Soccer's Registration System must be identified using the following team naming convention methodology.

**1.7.1** Youth Team: Club (full name or Acronym), Gender (M or F), YOB, League, Division, Team Identifier

**1.7.2** Adult Team: Club (full name or Acronym), Gender, Category (Open, O35, O30, Masters), League, Division, Team Identifier

## PROCEDURE 2.0 – Player Registration

**2.1** **Player Registration Categories:**

- Grassroots - U13 and younger
- Youth - U14 to U18
- Senior

**2.2** When registering with Ontario Soccer, an original government issued or officially recognized proof of age must be provided by the Player to the Club. The burden of proof of age shall rest with the Player.

**2.3** A Player on a team playing in an amateur League is registered by their Club with that Club's District Association. A Player on a team playing in a Pro-Am League is registered by their Club with Ontario Soccer. A Player who is not registered with a Club and who is involved in a National and/or Provincial Team program is registered by Ontario Soccer and notification provided to their District upon registration.

**2.4** The processing and validation of Player registration, transfers, reinstatements and other transactions pertaining to Player registration shall be approved by the applicable Governing Organization(s). Such authority may not be delegated to Clubs or Leagues.

**2.5** As part of the registration process, the Club will allocate Players to teams for Players playing on an Under-14 or Older Aged Team, in a competitive League, a District Recreational League or a Sanctioned Competitive Competition(s).

**2.6** Grassroots Development Players (U13 and below) will be registered into Ontario Soccer's registration system and are not required to be assigned to a squad (team). This allows Players to be registered and to move freely between squads, based on their developmental requirements.

Grassroots Recreational players (13 and below) will be registered into Ontario Soccer's registration system and may be assigned to a squad at the Club's discretion.

**2.7** At a Club's discretion, and with District approval, when registering its recreational Players into Ontario Soccer's registration system, it may assign Players into player pools.

**2.8** A Player is registered and insured only after they have completed Ontario Soccer's Registration process including signing the approved waiver form. **Their registration is valid once it has been entered into Ontario Soccer's registration system**. The effective date of registration shall be the day and time that the registration has been entered.

**2.9** A Player's *"Player Assignment To Team"* designation by its Club on an outdoor team for competition purposes is terminated on December 31 or when the Club de-registers the Player in Ontario Soccer's registration system, whichever occurs first.

**2.10** A Player's *"Player Assignment To Team"* designation by its Club on an indoor team for competition purposes is terminated on May 31 or when the Club de-registers the Player in Ontario Soccer's registration system, whichever occurs first.

**2.11** An amateur Player may register for the outdoor season with the following limitations:

a) A grassroots Player may only be registered at any one (1) time with only one (1) Club;
b) A youth Player may have only a maximum of three (3) registrations, with one (1) or more Clubs, only one (1) of which may be a competitive team; and

c) A senior Player may register on an unlimited number of teams, with one (1) or more Clubs, only one (1) of which may be a competitive team.
d) A player may only have one League1 registration

**2.12** An amateur Player may register for the indoor season with the following limitations:

a) A grassroots Player may only be registered at any one (1) time with only one (1) Club. ;
b) A youth Player may have a maximum of three (3) registrations, with one (1) or more Clubs,
c) A senior Player may register on an unlimited number of teams, with one (1) or more Clubs,

Notwithstanding the above:

a) A Player may not play for more than one (1) team in the same division or cup of any competition.
b) A League may limit the eligibility of a Player registered on teams in other Leagues from playing in its League.

**2.13** A professional Player may register on a maximum of one (1) professional or **Pro-Am** outdoor team and one (1) professional or Pro-Am indoor team.

**2.14** With the written permission of its District Association, for local League recreational competition only, a Club may:

a) Permit a Player of demonstrated lower ability to play for a lower age level team within its local recreational league than the age division they should be registered to. The age difference must not exceed two (2) years; and
b) Place individuals with a disability at the appropriate age level.
c) The above a) and b) are at the discretion of the District Association through a qualified technical assessment.
d) For playing down within Grassroots Competition the evaluation process can be found Ontario Soccer Player Development

**2.15** Players U14 and older may be registered to play on a team in an older age division. Stipulations for Players U13 and younger to play to an older age division are listed in the Grassroots Procedures of Section 3 - Game Types.

**2.16 Registration**

a) Notwithstanding Ontario Soccer Registration Operational Procedures, and applicable League Operational Procedures, failure to present an Ontario Soccer approved proof of Registration at a game shall not automatically render a Player ineligible to play in that game.

b) Notwithstanding Ontario Soccer Registration Operational Procedures, an amateur Player who registers with a team playing in a Pro-Am League will not be permitted a transfer during the playing season unless the League's Governing Committee grants the Player an exemption to this Procedure.

**2.17 Temporary Registrations**

At the discretion of the Pro-Am League, Temporary Eligibility Permits may be permitted and shall be validated by Ontario Soccer.

## PROCEDURE 3.0 – League Registration

**3.1** A League must be registered before any of its divisions are registered and before any teams are placed in those divisions.

## PROCEDURE 4.0 – Club Registration

**4.1** A Club must have an account in Ontario Soccer's registration system in accordance with Ontario Soccer Policies in order to register any of its teams and Players.

**4.2** Each Club must register with its District Association through the Annual Membership Renewal Process (inclusive of the Club Licensing system) and in accordance with their District and Ontario Soccer Governing Documents. The Club's membership status may be changed by their Governing Organization at any time.

**4.3 Club Branding**

All Club "competitive level" teams which includes, Indoor and Outdoor, at all age levels, competing at the District, Regional, Provincial or National Levels (including tournaments and championships) shall be identified on the field of play by its official Club name and/or emblem and be displayed by its Clubs' common colours. No third party or affiliated soccer organization markings or colours are permitted to be a part of a Member Club's branding.

**4.4 Club Licensing**

a) Ontario Soccer, under the directives of Canada Soccer's Rules and Regulations shall operate a Club Licensing System.

b) Amateur Clubs who operate a youth programme must at minimum requirement, hold a "Quality Soccer" Club Licence.

c) Any new Club applying for membership for the first time, who is unable to meet the minimum standard for Club Licensing, can be granted "Interim Membership" by their District Association, as long as the Club applies and receives Club Licensing within one year of acceptance.

**4.5** **Club Reviews** - Ontario Soccer and the applicable District Association, or the applicable District Association, have the right to conduct financial and/or participant registration reviews upon 30 days' written notice to the Club. The Club is required to participate fully in the review, and failure to complete the request may result in discipline, fines, or sanctions in accordance with Ontario Soccer's and/or the applicable District Association's governing documents.

## PROCEDURE 5.0 – Team Registration

**5.1** A team is registered annually by its Club to play in sanctioned competition(s). A team is registered only after its registration data has been entered in Ontario Soccer registration system.

**5.2 Tournament Team**

A tournament team must be registered with its Governing Organization as a recreational or competitive team to participate in tournaments.

**5.3** When registering a team, a Club must provide the following information:
a) Team Officials assigned to the Team (identify the Team contact);
b) Team identification;
c) Players assigned to the team;

**5.4** In the team age division Under-21 and lower, each Player on:
a) An outdoor team cannot exceed the stipulated age before January 1 preceding the current outdoor playing season; and
b) An indoor team cannot exceed the stipulated age before January 1 during the current indoor playing season.

**5.5** In the team age divisions Over-30 and over, each Player on:
a) An outdoor team must exceed the stipulated age before January 1 preceding the current outdoor playing season; and
b) An indoor team must exceed the stipulated age before January 1 during the current indoor playing season.

A League may choose to permit an exception for a maximum of two (2) Players who are one (1) year younger than the required age. This exception must be included in the playing rules of the League.

**5.6** In Open Age divisions, teams may contain players of any age over the age of 16.

**5.7** Club shall register its Players on its teams, subject to the following maximum and minimum limits.

| Team Status | Player & Team Classification | Team Playing Season | Maximum Limit | Minimum Limit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amateur | Grassroots Player Classification: 3V3 (No GK) (for Outdoor/Indoor/Futsal U6 & U7 Squads ONLY) | Outdoor Indoor | As there are no registered 'teams' in Grassroots Soccer, there is only a Match Day Maximum - 9 Players (ideal 6 players) | NOTE:<br><br>There will be no maximum and minimum limits to each squad as there is no "Player Assignment To Squad" for Under-13 and younger aged Players.<br><br>There will only be "Match Day Maximums".<br><br>Players registered with the Club are eligible to play in the appropriate age and gender classifications for each squad. |
| | Grassroots Player Classification: 4V4 (No GK) (for Outdoor/Indoor/Futsal U8 & U9 Squads ONLY) | Outdoor Indoor | As there are no registered 'teams' in Grassroots Soccer, there is only a Match Day Maximum - 12 Players (ideal 8-10 players) | |
| | Grassroots Player Classification: 5v5 (With GK) (for Outdoor/Indoor/Futsal U8 & U9 Squads ONLY) | Outdoor Indoor | As there are no registered 'teams' in Grassroots Soccer, there is only a Match Day Maximum - 12 Players (ideal 8-10 players) | |
| | Grassroots Player Classification: 7v7 (With GK) (for Outdoor/Indoor/Futsal U10 & U11 Squads ONLY) | Outdoor Indoor | Match Day Maximum - 14 Players (ideal 10-12 players) | |
| | Grassroots Player Classification: 9v9 (With GK) (for Outdoor/Indoor/Futsal U12 & U13 Squads ONLY) | Outdoor Indoor | Match Day Maximum - 18 Players (ideal 14 players) | |

| Team Status | Player & Team Classification | Team Playing Season | Maximum Limit | Minimum Limit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amateur | Youth Outdoor Competitive Player/Team Classification: (for U14, U15, U16, U17 & U18 Teams ONLY) | Outdoor | 20 Players | 11 Players |
| | Youth Outdoor Recreational Player/Team Classification: (for U14, U15, U16, U17 & U18 Teams ONLY) | Outdoor | 20 Players | 11 Players |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Youth Indoor (small sided) Player/Team Classification: (for U14, U15, U16, U17 & U18 Teams ONLY) | Indoor | 18 Players | 7 Players |
| | Youth Indoor (11v11) Player/Team Classification: (for U14, U15, U16, U17 & U18 Teams ONLY) | Indoor | 20 Players | 11 Players |
| | Youth Futsal Player/Team Classification: (for U14, U15, U16, U17 & U18 Teams ONLY) | Indoor | 18 Players | 5 Players |

| Team Status | Player & Team Classification | Team Playing Season | Maximum Limit | Minimum Limit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Amateur | Senior Outdoor Competitive Player/Team Classification | Outdoor | 25 Players | 11 Players |
| | Senior Outdoor Recreational (11-a-Side) Player/Team Classification | Outdoor | 25 Players | 11 Players |
| | Senior Outdoor Recreational (5-a-Side) Player/Team Classification | Outdoor | 25 Players | 5 Players |
| | Senior Indoor (small sided) Player/Team Classification | Indoor | 25 Players | 7 Players |
| | Senior Indoor (11v11) Player/Team Classification | Indoor | 25 Players | 11 Players |
| | Senior Futsal Player/Team Classification | Indoor | 25 Players | 5 Players |

| Team Status | Player & Team Classification | Team Playing Season | Maximum Limit | Minimum Limit |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Professional or Pro-Am | A Club with one (1) Professional/Pro-Am Senior Outdoor Competitive Team | Outdoor | As per Canada Soccer Operational Procedures and Ontario Soccer's Terms Of League Operations with Professional/Pro-Am League. | As per Canada Soccer Operational Procedures and Ontario Soccer's Terms Of League Operations with Professional/Pro-Am League. |
| | Senior Outdoor Recreational (11-a-Side) Player/Team Classification | Outdoor | | |
| | A Club with two (2) Professional/Pro-Am Senior Outdoor Competitive Teams | Outdoor | | |
| | Senior Indoor (small sided) Player/Team Classification | Indoor | | |

**5.8** A Club must register, by no later than April 15, the minimum eleven Players required on each Team playing in a Youth Regional Division.

**5.9** A Player who identifies as a woman may register and play on a women's team, men's team or a mixed team. A Player who identifies as a man may register and play on a men's team or a mixed team. This rule is binding on all Leagues, cup competitions, tournaments and exhibition games under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer, and all its member organizations.

**5.10 Club Team Officials**

- A person may not be registered as a Team Head Coach for more than two (2) Competitive teams, youth or senior, in any one (1) season.
- Each Club Team may have (a) Team Manager(s), Assistant Manager(s), Assistant Coach(es), Goalkeeper Coach(es), and Fitness Coach(es) as (a) Team Official(s)
- Each Team Official must be registered with Ontario Soccer through the registration system and shall be responsible for the Team they are assigned to.
- Only Team Officials meeting the certification requirements for that age division and classification shall be eligible to participate in a game, to be listed on the team game day roster and be present in the team's technical area.

**5.11** Each member Club must ensure at least one (1) Head Coach or Assistant Coach registering a team, on a roster, in one (1) of the following leagues or cup competitions:

a) Provincial, Regional and District Competitive League (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal)
b) Ontario Cup Competition - Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal

**Is required to complete and hold a valid:**

i. Soccer for Life (and/or higher licensing voluntarily or as required by an individual league or cup competition)
ii. Respect in Sport Activity Leader certification;
iii. Making Head Way in Soccer
iv. Both Making Ethical Decisions & Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation
v. NCCP Emergency Action Plan
vi. NCCP Rule of Two
vii. Complete the screening requirements of the position

**5.11 Gender Diversity**

For the purpose of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a Player may register with the gender team with which the Player identifies.

**5.12** A Pro-Am Club (League1 Ontario) which is affiliated as an Associate (Non-Voting Members) of Ontario Soccer may, with the permission of Ontario Soccer, operate Senior Club Teams or Youth Club Team(s) providing that the team(s) fully comply with Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures. All registration processes involving the Players and Team Officials must be validated by the District Association or Ontario Soccer, this includes Team registration, Player and Team Official registration. Temporary Eligibility Permits and Short Term Registration permits also require validation by the District Association or Ontario Soccer.

## PROCEDURE 6.0 – Ontario Soccer Identification

**6.1** Players and Team Officials are identified on the roster generated by the registration system. This roster contains the photo ID, birth year and eligibility date for each Player or Team Official. Team Officials are responsible for producing a copy of the roster with photos at all competitions.

Failure to present the completed Ontario Soccer validated roster when requested to do so shall render the Team ineligible to play in that competition. .

**6.2** Any Player who wishes to play up to a team in a sanctioned competition must show proof of registration to be included on the match day roster.

**6.3** A valid photograph shall mean a photograph that meets the photo specifications of Passport Canada which will include the following:

- The photograph shall be a Passport Canada style photo.
- The photograph must have been taken in the past six (6) months.
- The eyes must be open and clearly visible.
- Glasses may be worn as long as the eyes are clearly visible.

- Sunglasses are unacceptable.
- The photo must show a full front view of the face with both edges of the face showing clearly.
- Black and white or colour photos are acceptable.
- Hats or head coverings are not permitted except when worn for religious reasons.

## PROCEDURE 7.0 – Short Term Registration Permits (STRP)

**7.1** A "Short Term Registration Permit" **(STRP)** is a temporary registration with Ontario Soccer which shall only be used by Players who are not registered with Ontario Soccer or a Provincial Association affiliated to Canada Soccer. Notwithstanding the fact that this is considered a registration with a specific team, it shall not be included in the count of total number of Players registered with a team.

**7.2** A Player who was previously registered with a Club during the current playing season and who was de-registered by that Club shall not be eligible to obtain a "STRP" to play for that Club during the current playing season.

**7.3** A "STRP" entitles a non-registered Player to play three (3) league games for a Registered Team during a thirty-day period or for the specific purpose of playing in a tournament.

**7.4** A Player may obtain two (2) "STRP" during one (1) playing season for non-tournament use. There is no limit to the number of times a Player may be listed on the "STRP" during one (1) playing season for tournament use. The short term registration period for each shall not overlap. Each "STRP", in the current season, must be with a different Club. An outdoor playing season and an indoor playing season shall be considered different playing seasons.

**7.5** The "STRP" shall be obtained and validated by the District Association to which the team's Club is affiliated or to which the tournament is being held.

**7.6** The District Association shall validate and issue a copy of the "STRP" and ensure that the form has both, the starting date and the expiry date of the short term registration period. The Player may use the "STRP" to play in any three (3) games or within a tournament for the team stipulated on the form and which occur during the short term registration period. Once the Player has played in her/his third game or conclusion of the tournament the District Association shall terminate the "STRP" by revising the expiry date to the date of the third game.

**7.7** A copy of the "STRP" shall be affixed to the team sheet submitted to the Match Official at each short term registration game. Prior to submitting the copy of the "STRP" to the Match Official, the team must write the date of the game on the "STRP".

**7.8** A Player using a "STRP" must also obtain "Ontario Soccer Identification"" which must be available for presentation at the trial game in which they are playing. Failure to present the "Ontario Soccer Identification" shall render the Player ineligible to play in that game.

**7.9** A "STRP" shall be permitted, subject to the competition rules, at League games, exhibition games, and tournament games but not in cup games.

**7.10** When making application for a "STRP", a Player shall:

a) Complete an Ontario Soccer "STRP" form complete with full name and age, using the required online form;
b) If the Player is playing on short term registration basis for a competitive team, supply a recent passport-sized photograph which shall be uploaded to the "STRP";
c) Indicate the starting date and the expiry date of the thirty-day short term registration period.

**7.11** A League or a District Association or the competition rules may impose limitations on the use of "STRP", provided that the limitations are applied consistently.

## PROCEDURE 8.0 - Playing For A Team To Which A Player Is Not Registered

**8.1** A Player registered on an Under-14 or older aged team may play for a team to which they are not registered only under one (1) of the following conditions:

a) They play with a "Temporary Eligibility Permit" **(TEP):** (Currently registered with a Club affiliated to Ontario Soccer or Canada Soccer.)
   i. plays up in a League game for a higher-level Club Team of a Club other than one (1) with which they are registered,
   ii. plays as a guest Player in a tournament (subject to tournament rules) or exhibition game (subject to the agreement of both teams) with a Club other than one (1) with which they are registered

b) They play with a "STRP"**;** (not affiliated to Ontario Soccer or Canada Soccer)
   i. plays as a guest Player in a tournament (subject to tournament rules) or exhibition game (subject to the agreement of both teams)

c) They play as a **CALL UP** Player with permission of their Club, for another Club Team within the same Club to which they are registered, subject to the following:
   i. plays up in a League game or a cup game for a higher-level Club Team
   ii. plays as a guest Player in a tournament (subject to tournament rules) or exhibition game (subject to the agreement of both teams) with a Club Team within the same Club.

   ***NOTE:*** *A League or District Association, or the competition rules, may impose limitations on such movement within a Club, provided that the limitations are applied consistently).*

d) Their Club permits them to play for another team within the same Local League in which they are registered to play.

e) A Senior League may permit Player movement both upwards (i.e., to a higher-level team) and downwards (i.e., to a lower-level team) between senior teams of the same Club and such movement shall be subject to that League's published rules.

f) They play for a Canada Soccer, Ontario Soccer, District Association, or League Select Team.

g) Their Club permits them to play for a Professional Team (i.e., a higher-level Club team) with which their Club has a "Player Movement Form Agreement - Amateur and Professional".

h) A youth Player registered with a Club that operates youth teams is permitted by their Club to play for a higher- level Club Team in a Club that operates senior teams, subject to a "Player Movement Form Agreement - Senior Amateur and Youth Amateur" between the two (2) Clubs, or

i) With the permission of the District Association, a youth Player registered with a Club that operates youth teams is permitted by their Club to play for a higher level Club Team in another Club that operates youth teams, subject to a "Player Movement Form Agreement – Youth to Youth" between the two (2) Clubs.

**8. 2** In all cases in which a Player is playing for an outdoor competitive team or an indoor team, the Player must possess an Ontario Soccer Identification and have such available for presentation at the game in which they are playing. Failure to present the identification shall render the Player ineligible to play in that game.

**8.3** A higher-level team shall be defined as a team which meets any of the following criteria:

a) Registered in a higher team age classification;
b) Registered in a higher Player classification (recreational/development);
c) Registered in a higher team classification (Club team/District team/Regional team);
d) Playing in a higher League level; or
e) Playing in a higher division of the same League

A Player who has been suspended for one (1) or more games in League play shall not be permitted to "play up" as per Ontario Soccer Discipline Policy.

**8.4 Playing with a squad with which you are not registered**

An Under-13 and younger age Player may play with a squad with which they are not registered under the following conditions:

a) They use a Short-Term Registration Permit:
   i. May only be used by Players who are not registered with Ontario Soccer or a Provincial Association affiliated to Canada Soccer
   ii. Must be used in accordance with Operational Procedures.
b) Movement of Players may occur between recreational to development programs within the same Club provided the Player abides by the maximum number of competition days per week.
c) Grassroots Player Movement Agreement
   i. With permission of the District Association and Ontario Soccer a Grassroots Player Movement Agreement may be signed by two (2) Clubs under which they agree to allow Players to play for an affiliated Club that offers a suitable program at the specified age group as a result of the other affiliated Club not being able to provide an equivalent program.

**8.5** The hierarchy of age classifications, Player classifications, team classifications, and League levels shall be as follows:

| Team Age's Classification | Player Classification | Team Classification | League Levels |
|---|---|---|---|
| Open Age | Professional | Competitive | National League |
| Under-21 | Senior Amateur | Recreational | Provincial League |
| Under-20 | Youth Amateur | | Regional League |
| Under-19 | | | District Competitive League |
| Under-18 | | | District Recreational League |
| Under-17 | | | Local League |
| Under-16 | | | |
| Under-15 | | | |
| Under-14 | | | |

***NOTE:*** *The above levels are in descending order from the top. The hierarchy of "division levels" shall be determined by each League.*

**8.6** If a Player is registered as both a competitive Player and a recreational Player, they may only play up to a higher-level team, from the competitive team registration.

**8.7** Grassroots Players are not permitted to "Play Up" or act as a trial Player.

**8.8** A Tournament Team, either "competitive" or "recreational", does not fall within the hierarchy of League divisions. Therefore, a Player registered to a Tournament Team may not "play up".

## PROCEDURE 9.0 - Temporary Eligibility Permit (TEP)

**9.1** Any Under-14 and older Player registered with Ontario Soccer or another Provincial Association affiliated to Canada Soccer is eligible to obtain a "Temporary Eligibility Permit", which shall entitle the Player to play for a

registered Club Team of a Club other than the one (1) with which they are registered in a game of any registered League or sanctioned competition.

**9.2** A Player registered on a Club Team shall be allowed a “TEP" to play on a District Association's team in a Provincial League or Regional League providing that they are a resident of the District.

**9.3** A "TEP" being used to play for an amateur team must be validated by the District Association with which the team, from which they are playing up, is registered. A District Association may not delegate to any other organization or individual the function of validating such document. A District Association may not validate a “TEP" unless all sections of the form have been properly completed. The validation of a “TEP" being used to play for a professional team is subject to League Procedures.

**9.4** A Player using a “TEP" in order to be eligible to play for an outdoor competitive team or an indoor team must also possess an Ontario Soccer Identification available for presentation at the game. Failure to present the Identification shall render the Player ineligible to play in that game.

**9.5** A “TEP" is not valid for amateur cup competitions.

**9.6** A Player shall be entitled to three (3) “TEP" to play for an amateur team during each playing season. An outdoor playing season and an indoor playing season shall be considered as different playing seasons. The maximum number of “TEP" to play for a professional team is subject to League Procedures.

**9.7** The District Association with which the team, from which they are playing up, is registered shall be responsible for maintaining a record of the number of “TEP" assigned to the Player when playing for an amateur team.

**9.8** In a tournament, a “TEP" must be used by any Player playing for a Club Team, other than one (1) with which they are registered, subject to the following conditions:

a) The tournament rules permit guest Players.
b) The number of guest Players does not exceed the tournament rules or Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures.
c) If the tournament is classified as permitting competitive teams only, the Player has an Ontario Soccer Identification available for presentation at each game in which they play.
d) The “TEP" entitles the Player to play in all of the games in the tournament; and
e) The District Association has stipulated for which tournament the “TEP" is valid.

**9.9** A League or a District Association or the competition rules may impose limitations on the use of “TEP", provided that the limitations are applied consistently.

**9.10** The policies governing “TEP" for play on a professional team are outlined in League Operational Procedures.

## PROCEDURE 10.0 – De-Registration

**10.1** A Player may be de-registered for any of the following reasons:

a) The Player’s League playing season has ended.
b) The Player has been injured

**10.2** A Player shall be de-registered by one (1) of the following methods:

a) Automatic de-registration of an outdoor Player by Ontario Soccer's registration system on December 31 and automatic de-registration of an indoor Player by Ontario Soccer's registration system on May 31;
b) The Club/District de-registers the Player in Ontario Soccer's registration system with the effective date of de-registration being the date the information is entered.

**10.3** A Player who has been de-registered during the playing season may NOT register as a new Player (a Player can only register as a new Player if deemed to be in good standing and submitting a transfer form to their former Club).

## PROCEDURE 11.0 – Amateur And Professional Player Status

**11.1** Players who are not in receipt of any remuneration other than the actual expenses incurred during the course of their participation in, or any activity connected with, soccer shall be regarded as amateur.

**11.2** Travel and hotel expenses incurred through involvement in a match and the costs of a Player's equipment, insurance, and training may be reimbursed without jeopardizing a Player's amateur status.

**11.3** Any Player who receives remuneration in excess of the allowable expenses stated in 9.2 in respect of participation in, or an activity connected with, soccer shall be regarded as professional.

**11.4** The amateur/professional status of Players shall be determined in accordance with the procedures and regulations of the National Association with which they are registered.

**11.5** Canada Soccer shall keep an official register of the professional/semi-professional Players under its jurisdiction.

**11.6** A Player leaving a National Association shall not be described as professional/semi-professional unless they were last registered as such by that National Association.

## PROCEDURE 12.0 – Reinstatement From Professional To Amateur Status

**12.1** A Player last registered with any National Association as a professional Player must apply for Reinstatement to Amateur Status before being registered as an amateur Player.

**12.2** The procedure for approving the reinstatement of a Player from professional to amateur status shall be as set out in Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations and in accordance with any additional requirements as set out in this section.

**12.3** Each application must be made on the official Ontario Soccer Temporary Reinstatement form and supplied by the District Association with which the Player's new Club is affiliated.

**12.4** A Player who is registered as a professional Player may be temporarily reinstated to play amateur indoor soccer or Futsal, subject to the following conditions:

a) The application shall be on a Player Reinstatement Form which the Player will obtain from his District Association;
b) The Player shall submit the form to the District Association with which they wish to register as an amateur indoor or Futsal Player;
c) The application form must be accompanied by a "letter of permission" from the Club with which the Player is under contract as a professional Player;
d) The application form must be authorized by the League of which the Player's professional team is a member;
e) The reinstatement applies to indoor soccer and Futsal only; and
f) The Player remains under contract, for outdoor soccer purposes, with the Club with which they have registered as a professional Player.

## PROCEDURE 13.0 – Player Transfers

**13.1** A Player may not register to play in any foreign competition while holding an Ontario Soccer registration. A player may transfer their registration from Ontario Soccer to the foreign organization through the ITC Process.

**13.2** A Player shall be entitled to the following transfers if they are deemed to be in good standing:

a) **Between teams within the same Organization** – Two (2) transfers only during the current playing season. However, a Player once transferred cannot be transferred back to the Team for which they were originally registered until a period of thirty days has elapsed.

b) **Between Organizations within the same District Association** – Two (2) transfers only during the current playing season within the jurisdiction of a District Association. However, a Player once transferred cannot be transferred back to the team for which they were originally registered until a period of thirty days has elapsed.
c) **Between Organizations in Different District Associations** - One (1) transfer within the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer, unless approved by Ontario Soccer with a valid rationale.
d) If the Player de-registers and registers with an organization outside of their District Association, the Player may not return to their former team within the playing season.
e) **Inter Provincial Transfers** – One (1) transfer between Ontario Soccer and any other Provincial Association, except that in the event of a Player having been transferred under section a) and b) finding it necessary to return to the jurisdiction under which they was originally registered, they shall be allowed to transfer their services back to the team for which they was last registered.
f) **International Transfers** – Based on the appropriate administrative processes in place by FIFA and Canada Soccer.
g) Under the FIFA transfer rules, an international transfer is not required and may not be asked for Players on trial. The Player's official registration does not change.

**13.3** No Registrant or Registered Organization shall unreasonably limit the right of a Player to transfer to the team of his choice, between organizations affiliated with Ontario Soccer. The procedure for obtaining a transfer shall be as follows:

a) The Player shall complete the applicable transfer application form.
b) The Player shall give written notice of his intention to transfer to the Club, which operates the team with which he is currently registered.
c) The Club shall have seven (7) days maximum to sign the transfer form.
d) If the Club does not sign the form within seven (7) days, the Player may appeal to their District Association, without fee, in accordance with Appeals Procedures. Such appeal must be submitted within seven (7) days after the seven-day period specified has expired.

**13.4** Notice of all transfers as provided above shall immediately be sent to the releasing organizations and to Ontario Soccer. The Player so transferred shall be eligible once registered, to play all games for the team to which his transfer has been granted.

**13.5 Inter-Provincial Transfers**

A Player moving from one (1) province to another province, under the jurisdiction of Canada Soccer, shall not be registered until the Player receives in writing a clearance from the Provincial Association under which the Player was last registered.

**13.6 Inter-Provincial Transfers for Players transferring out of Ontario**

a) When another Provincial Association advises Ontario Soccer that a Player has requested a transfer to that Province, Ontario Soccer shall immediately advise in writing, the District Association (with which the Player was last registered) that a transfer has been requested.
b) After being advised by Ontario Soccer about the Inter-Provincial Transfer (IPT) request, the District Association shall immediately advise the Club with which the Player was last registered in order to obtain a statement from that Club that the Player has no further obligations to the Club and is free to transfer.
c) A District Association shall respond to Ontario Soccer within seven (7) days after it receives the written notification from Ontario Soccer about the Inter-Provincial transfer request.
d) If the District Association does not respond within seven (7) days, Ontario Soccer shall:
    i. Assume a compliance position by the District Association and Club; and
    ii. Advise the Provincial Association that the Player has no further obligations to her/his former Club and is free to transfer.
e) If a Club or District Association has a valid reason for delaying the issuance of an Inter-Provincial Transfer, the District Association must advise Ontario Soccer in writing, the reason why the transfer should not be issued or should be delayed. Upon receipt of such a request, Ontario Soccer shall immediately advise the other Provincial Association about the reasons for not issuing or delaying the transfer.

**13.7 Inter-Provincial Transfers for Amateur Players transferring into Ontario**

a) When a Player was last registered to play in another Provincial Association other than Ontario an Inter Provincial Transfer is required to release the Player from the Province with which they were previously registered.
b) The Club with which the Player is looking to register within Ontario should complete Ontario Soccer's Inter Provincial Transfer form and send it to the District Association with which the Club is affiliated to.
c) The District Association processes the Inter Provincial Transfer form and sends it to Ontario Soccer. Ontario Soccer sends the Inter Provincial Transfer form to the other Provincial Association requesting the Player's release.
d) Once the release is approved by the other Provincial Association, Ontario Soccer will notify the District Association of the Player's ability to transfer and register with their desired Club.
e) Players are not allowed to register until they receive confirmation of approval from Ontario Soccer

**13.8 International Transfers**

International Transfer Certificates (ITCs) are only necessary for Players aged 10 and over. An amateur or professional/semi-professional Player who has previously registered with another National Association requires an International Transfer Certificate issued by that National Association before the Player is eligible to register under the jurisdiction of Canada Soccer. [FIFA Policy] International Transfers

An amateur or professional/semi-professional Player who has become eligible to play for a Club affiliated to a National Association may not qualify for a Club affiliated to another National Association unless the latter National Association has received an International Transfer Certificate issued by the National Association which the Player wishes to leave.

**13.9 International Transfer Certificates for Players Transferring to Canada**

**13.10** Each application for an International Transfer shall be on an online form approved by Ontario Soccer and supplied by the District Association with which the Player's new Club is affiliated.

**13.11** The procedure for approving the international transfer of a Player shall be:

a) The application form shall be completed and signed by the Player and their new Club; and shall be submitted to the new Club's District Association.
b) The new Club's District Association is required to:
    i. Check that the application form is in order;
    ii. Approve the application form;
    iii. Forward the application form to Ontario Soccer with all necessary documentation
c) Ontario Soccer is required to:
    i. Forward the application form to Canada Soccer.
        i. Refer to the a Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations on Player Transfer available here.
d) Canada Soccer is required to:
    i. Review and process ITC application request from Ontario Soccer with the applicable foreign Governing Organizations
    ii. For further details, refer to the Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations on Player Transfers available here.

**13.12 International Transfer Clearance for Players transferring out of Canada**

When Canada Soccer advises Ontario Soccer that a Player has requested a transfer to another Country, Ontario Soccer shall immediately advise in writing, the District Association (with which the Player was last registered) that a transfer has been requested.

**13.13** A District Association shall immediately advise the Club with which the Player was last registered and request a statement from that Club that the Player has no further obligations to the Club and is free to transfer.

**13.14** A District Association shall respond to Ontario Soccer within three (3) days after it receives the written notification from Ontario Soccer about the International Transfer Clearance request. Ontario Soccer shall assume a compliance position by the District Association and Club and advise Canada Soccer if a response is not received within three (3) days.

**13.15** If a Club or District Association has a valid reason for delaying the issuance of an International Transfer-the District Association must advise Ontario Soccer in writing, the reason why the transfer should not be issued or should be delayed. Upon receipt of such a request, Ontario Soccer shall immediately advise Canada Soccer about the reasons for not issuing the transfer.

**13.16** If Ontario Soccer does not respond to Canada Soccer within seven (7) days of a request by Canada Soccer for an International Transfer for a Player, Canada Soccer shall assume a compliance position and shall immediately issue the International Transfer Certificate (for that Player) to the other National Association.

**13.17** In the case of a refugee Player, the Club shall write a letter to Ontario Soccer and send a copy of such letter to its District Association. The letter must include:

a) The name, date of birth, address, gender and telephone number of the Player;
b) The name, address, and telephone number of the new Club with which they wish to register;
c) The Player status and Player classification of which the Player wishes to register in Canada;
d) The name of the Player's former Club (with which they were last registered);
e) The name of the National Association to which they were last registered and the year of that registration; and
f) The Player status and Player classification when the Player was last registered with their former Club and former National Association.

**13.18** Ontario Soccer shall forward the above information to Canada Soccer which will refer the matter to the FIFA Players' Status Committee. Based on its investigation, the FIFA may issue a document equivalent to an International Transfer Certificate. If such is the case, Canada Soccer would then authorize the Player's registration in Canada and advise Ontario Soccer. Ontario Soccer would advise the Player and the Player's new District Association. If FIFA does not issue this document, the Player may not register in Canada unless he obtains an International Transfer Certificate from his former National Association.

**13.19** In the event it is discovered that a Player, who was last registered in another country, has registered in Canada without an International Transfer Certificate:

a) The Player shall be declared an ineligible Player;
b) Any games in which the Player played shall be forfeited to the opposing team, in accordance with the competition's rules; and
c) The Player shall be subject to disciplinary action.

**13.20** A professional Player may be loaned between two (2) professional teams. The "**Loan Agreement**" is subject to the following conditions:

a) The agreement must be signed by the Player and both teams;
b) Copies of the signed agreement must be distributed to the Player, both teams, the League(s) and Ontario Soccer;
c) The agreement shall stipulate the time period of the loan and specify which date the Player must be returned to the loaning team;
d) The team receiving the "Loan Player" must agree to pay, during the loan period, the Player's salary, as per the original contract, or as per an amount re-negotiated between the Player and the team receiving the "Loan Player"; and
e) The amount of the salary must be stipulated in the “Loan Agreement.”

### 13.21 International Club Trial Request

Players invited to have a formal trial with an overseas Club shall follow the following process:

a) Player requests permission from their Ontario Soccer affiliated Club
b) Club requests permission from District Association (providing name, Ontario Soccer number, dates of trial and name/location of overseas Club)
c) District Association verifies requests and forwards it to Ontario Soccer
d) Ontario Soccer processes the request to Canada Soccer
e) Canada Soccer provides written permission which is passed back down through to the Player through the same chain of organizations as in a) to d)

Request should be put through in a timely manner in order to process in advance of the trial.

# SECTION 3 - GAME TYPES

## PROCEDURE 1.0 - Recognized Game Types

**1.1** Ontario Soccer recognizes the following Game Types:

a) 11 v 11 Soccer
b) Small Sided (excluding Grassroots Soccer and inclusive of 3 v 3 tournaments)
c) Grassroots Soccer (U13 and younger ages)
d) Futsal
e) Beach Soccer
f) Accessible Soccer
g) Indoor Soccer
h) e-Soccer

## PROCEDURE 2.0 – 11 V. 11 Soccer

**2.1** The Operational Procedures for 11 v 11 Soccer are included in various existing Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures and must be played in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game.

**2.2** Outdoor Full-Sided Soccer is a game consisting of eleven Players, one (1) of whom is a goalkeeper, which is played on an outdoor field.

## PROCEDURE 3.0 – Indoor Soccer

**3.1** **Indoor Soccer** is a game played in an indoor facility with touchlines, walls or boards. Like the Outdoor game, it can be full-sided (11v11) or small-sided.

## PROCEDURE 4.0 – Small-Sided Soccer (Under-14 And Older)

**4.1** A Small Sided soccer competition in the Province of Ontario must be played in accordance with the Ontario Soccer's Playing Rules of Small-Sided Soccer.

**4.2** Outdoor Small-Sided Soccer is a game played with less than eleven Players, and which is played on an outdoor field.

**4.3 3 on 3 Soccer Tournaments**

**4.3.1** **3 on 3 Soccer** (sometimes called Ultimate 3 on 3) is played on a smaller than regulation soccer pitch, typically 30 yards wide by 40 yards long, and can be played outdoors or indoors. Its primary form of competition is the tournament format.

**4.4 Team Eligibility for Competitions**

**4.4.1** In 3 on 3 competitions, the teams are comprised of Ontario Soccer registered Players who are not required to be registered with the same team playing in the competition.

**4.5 Team Composition**

**4.5.1** Teams consist of 3 to 6 registered Players, playing in a 3 on 3 format, with no goalkeeper.

**4.5.2** The team provides the competition host with their list of 3 to 6 registered Players that will be the official team roster for the competition. The team roster list will consist of First Name, Last Name, Date of Birth and Ontario Soccer ID Number of each Player.

**4.5.3** Teams may also list a Coach or Manager.

## PROCEDURE 5.0 – Futsal

**5.1** A Futsal competition in the Province of Ontario must be played in accordance with the "Futsal Laws of the Game" as approved by the IFAB which can be obtained from the FIFA website.

**5.2** The following modifications to Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures apply to Futsal Competitions:

**5.3 Team Composition:**

**5.3.1** A team may dress no more than 14 players in a Futsal match.

**5.4** Club Policy 1.4 (i.e., requirement for Club to have minimum of four (4) youth teams) does not apply to a Club operating Futsal team.

**5.5** Competitions shall be officiated by a minimum of two (2) Match Officials, one (1) of which is a Referee and the other a Second Referee. A Third Referee and a Timekeeper may be appointed as required. Competitions involving U8 – U11 age groups, assignors should make every effort to appoint two (2) Match Officials, however, can appoint a single Referee if two (2) are not available.

## PROCEDURE 6.0 - Grassroots Soccer

**6.1** Ontario Soccer Grassroots Soccer refers to all soccer played in Ontario by Players between the ages of Under-4 to Under-13.

**6.2 Grassroots Matrices**

Ontario Soccer mandates that all Grassroots Soccer be organized and played in accordance with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

**6.2.1** Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards shall be developed by Canada Soccer and maintained by Ontario Soccer's Player Development Department.

**6.3 Festivals**

All competitions for Grassroots Soccer shall be in accordance with the Festival Procedures and Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

**6.4 Playing with an older age group squad**

An Under 13 and younger aged Player may only play with an older age group under one (1) of the following conditions:

a) A Player is evaluated to play with an older age group:
   i. under-8 and under-9 Players wishing to play with an older age group must complete the U8 and U9 Fast Tracking/Player Evaluation.
   ii. under-10 and under-11 Players wishing to play with an older age group must complete the U10 and U11 Fast Tracking/Player Evaluation.
   iii. under-12 and under-13 Players wishing to play with an older age group must complete the U12 and U13 Fast Tracking/Player Evaluation

b) Players who are fast tracked cannot play back down into their own age group for the duration of the current registered season.

c) Fast Tracking/Player Evaluation forms are located on the Fast Tracking page.

d) Grassroots Players are prohibited from being evaluated to play more than 1 year older.

**6.4.1** If a Player is evaluated and approved to play with an older age group that Player shall be registered in that age group exclusively. Grassroots Players can only play up one (1) year and the Technical

Director of the Club must sign off on the Player movement and there must be rationale as to why there is Player movement.

Player movement request can include two (2) successive seasons for a full 12 months, and Evaluation shall be valid for the season or seasons as recommended by the evaluator and approved by the District (i.e.: outdoor/indoor or indoor/outdoor).

Only Technical Directors, who hold either Canada Soccer's Children's Diploma or Ontario Soccer's Technical Director Diploma can evaluate and sign off on Fast-Tracking Player Evaluation forms. These individuals must observe the Player in an appropriate environment (game or training) to appropriately complete their assessment.

**6.4.2** Under no circumstance may a Club, Team Official, or other third-party individual complete or submit a Fast-Tracking Player Evaluation form under the name of an appropriately licensed Technical Director. This includes any form of digital or physical signature without direct authorization and oversight.

As such, all involved parties must adhere to the required observation and authorization procedures, and Districts must be able to verify the authenticity of the submitted assessment by a qualified Technical Director.

Ontario Soccer, at its sole discretion, may audit the evaluations completed by appropriately qualified third-party evaluators.

**6.4.3** An Under 13 and younger aged Player may only play with a younger group under one (1) of the following conditions:

a) A Player is evaluated to play with a younger age group:
   i. Under-9 Players wishing to play with a younger age group must complete the U8 and U9 Play Down Evaluation Form.
   ii. Under-10 and Under-11 Players wishing to play with a younger age group must complete the U10 and U11 Play Down Evaluation Form.
   iii. Under-12 and Under-13 Players wishing to play with a younger age group must complete the U12 and U13 Play Down Evaluation Form.
   iv. Players who are playing down cannot play back up into their own age group for the duration of the current registered season.

b) Play Down Player Evaluation forms are located on the Fast Tracking and Play Down page under Grassroots Resources on the Ontario Soccer Website.

## 6.5 Playing Down

**6.5.1** If a Player is evaluated and approved to play with a younger age group, that Player shall be registered in that age group exclusively. Grassroots Players can only play down one (1) year.

Only Technical Directors, who hold either Canada Soccer's Children's Diploma or Ontario Soccer's Technical Director Diploma and can evaluate and sign off on Play Down Player Evaluation forms. These individuals must observe the Player in an appropriate environment (game or training) to appropriately complete their assessment.

**6.5.2** No single Grassroots Player Pools may have more than three (3) players fast-tracked to play-up or down.

## 6.6 Grassroots Pilot Programs

Ontario Soccer may conduct Grassroots Pilot Programs throughout the Province to evaluate on a short-term basis how a new program may work on a large scale across the Province. These Pilot Programs will be developed and executed by Ontario Soccer in conjunction with specified District Associations or designated focus groups.

**6.7 Heading Protocol**

Ontario Soccer's heading recommendations for youth Players, specifically at the Grassroots ages are outlined in Grassroots Soccer - Heading Resources.

## PROCEDURE 7.0 - Beach Soccer

**7.1** A Beach Soccer competition in the Province of Ontario must be played in accordance with the Beach Soccer Laws of the Game as approved by the FIFA Beach Soccer Committee.

**7.2 Registration**

All Players must be registered in the Ontario Soccer Registration system at the time of the competition. Players registered to separate teams and/or Clubs shall notify their teams, Clubs and District Association of their intention to enter a Beach Soccer Competition.

**7.3 Team Composition**

**7.3.1** Teams consist of 5 to 10 registered Players, playing in a 5 on 5 (4 Players +1 goalkeeper) format.

**7.3.2** The team provides the competition host with their list of 5 to 10 registered Players that will be the official team roster for the competition. The team roster list will consist of First Name, Last Name, Date of Birth and Ontario Soccer ID Number of each Player.

**7.3.3** Teams may also list a Coach or Manager.

**7.4 Team Eligibility for Competitions**
In Beach Soccer competitions, the teams are comprised of Ontario Soccer registered Players who are not required to be registered with the same team playing in the competition. The team entry shall be submitted by an Ontario Soccer Registrant and not by a Club or registered team.

## PROCEDURE 8.0 - Accessible Soccer

**8.1** **Accessible Soccer** is an overarching title for seven (7) internationally recognized soccer versions for athletes with a disability. The seven (7) versions are: Blind 5-a-side soccer, Paralympic 7-a-side soccer, Deaf soccer 11-a-side (and futsal), Special Olympics soccer, Learning Disability (individual on the Autism spectrum) soccer, Power chair soccer and Amputee soccer. Each version provides a World Championship.

**8.2** Ontario Soccer will support the integration and inclusion of all Players with a disability to participate in an environment that is safe, fun and challenging.

**8.3** Ontario Soccer recognises the established laws of the game associated with the following types of accessible soccer:

1. Special Olympics Football through Special Olympics Ontario
2. Blind soccer (5-a-side) through the International Blind Sport Federation
3. Para soccer (7-a-side) through– International Federation of CP Football/Powerchair Football (wheelchair) through Fédération Internationale de Powerchair Football Association
4. Amputee soccer through the World Amputee Football Federation

**8.4** Ontario Soccer may use its discretion to enable participants with a disability to play soccer in an age group other than the groups dictated by their birth date, including "playing down."

**8.5** Ontario Soccer provides clear guidance to District Association and Club Technical Directors regarding the decision-making process for a Player to 'play down.'

**8.6** Programs specific to any disability will follow the rules of that disability group as defined on the international federation's website (IBSA, IFCPF, and Special Olympics etc.)

**8.7** Programs that combine athletes with a disability and able-bodied athletes will, where required, seek guidance from the applicable disability specific group as per Operational Procedures 7.2 above.

**8.8** All participants must be registered in Ontario Soccer registration system.

**8.9** Where a reciprocal agreement exists between Ontario Soccer and another organization identified in Operational Procedures 8.2 above, then registration with either party must be confirmed to ensure the Player's well-being is addressed.

# SECTION 4 – HIGH PERFORMANCE

## PROCEDURE 1.0 – High Performance Programs

**1.1** High Performance Programs across all soccer modalities shall include:

a) Provincial Team and Canada Games Competition
b) Ontario Player Development League (OPDL)
c) Talent on Location Days (TOLD)
d) Provincial Projects Trials
e) Provincial Screening Competition
f) Authorized preparation camps and competitions

## PROCEDURE 2.0 - Provincial XCEL & Canada Games

**2.1 Appointment of Team Staff to Provincial & Canada Games Teams**

**2.1.1** Ontario Soccer shall circulate an invitation to serve as a Provincial Team and or a Canada Games Team Coach or Manager at least 10 days prior to the appointment deadline

**2.2 Provincial XCEL Programs including Canada Games Teams**

**2.2.1 Program Responsibility**

Ontario Soccer shall be responsible for providing opportunities for Players and Coaches to reach a Provincial, National, and International Standard of Play.

Ontario Soccer shall be responsible for and operate the Provincial XCEL Program and Canada Games Program.

Talent-On-Location Days (TOLD), the Ontario Player Development League (OPDL), and where applicable League1 Ontario shall provide the opportunities for Players and Coaches to participate in a Province-wide High-Performance Program and act as the primary method of detection for Players to participate in the Provincial XCEL and Canada Games Programs.

**2.2.2 Scope of the Programs**

The Program shall consist of Male and Female Youth Teams.

**2.2.3 Program Duration**

The Provincial XCEL Program shall operate annually which includes preparation for, and participation in, Inter-Provincial competition which will include at Under-14 to Under-16 unless otherwise announced by Ontario Soccer.

**2.2.4 Player Selection**

**Provincial XCEL Player Selection**

Provincial Players shall be scouted by and/or written, electronic or verbal recommendation by the following persons:

- National Staff Coach
- Provincial Technical Staff
- Member Organization Technical Director
- Ontario Soccer Master Coach Developer
- Ontario Soccer Development Staff
- Member Organization Coach
- Professional Club Technical Staff

The persons listed above must hold a Canada Soccer National B or Youth Licence (or foreign equivalent) as a minimum level of coaching qualification.

A Player is required to be registered with an Ontario Soccer member organization (Club) in order to be eligible for Provincial and Canada Games Teams.

#### 2.2.4.1 Canada Games Team Player Selection

The Canada Games Age Groups, as set by the Canada Games Council & Canada Soccer, shall be scouted by and recommended by verbal, written or electronic communication by the following persons:

- National Staff Coach
- Provincial XCEL Technical Staff
- Member Organization Technical Director
- Ontario Soccer Coach Developer
- Ontario Soccer Development Staff
- Member Organization Coach
- Professional Club Technical Staff

Canada Games council determines the athlete selection criteria each quadrennial cycle and therefore player selection is subject to change for which Ontario Soccer must comply.

### 2.2.5 Coach Selection

Coach selection for the Ontario Soccer Provincial XCEL, Inter-Provincial Competition and Canada Games Teams are selected by Ontario Soccer's Development Department. They must be recommended by the Director of Development and approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

### 2.2.6 Coach Qualifications

The Head Coach minimum requirement is the National B Licence or Youth Licence. Canada Games requires the Coaches and/or staff to have a minimum of nine (9) competitive development modules. The Canada Games Council may also have additional requirements with which the Coach and or staff will need to comply with in order to be eligible to be assigned.

A Technical Director or High-Performance Manager from an OPDL Licence Holder as well as any Coaches assigned to an OPDL team, are not eligible to be the Coach of a Provincial XCEL Team or Canada Games Team.

Non-OPDL Club Technical Staff and Coaches may be considered, as long as the team is of the opposite gender or, if of the same gender, the team is at least one (1) year younger or older than the Provincial XCEL or Canada Games Team with which they are coaching.

### 2.2.7 Budget/Financial Policies

These policies will be set by Ontario Soccer and under the jurisdiction of the Chief Financial Officer.

### 2.2.8 Team Travel

All team travel will require prior approval by the appropriate Ontario Soccer staff member.

## 2.3 Scheduling Competitions for Provincial and Canada Games Teams

**2.3.1** Athletes selected to Provincial XCEL Teams and Canada Games Teams may not participate in Club events, training or competition during the following time frames:

- 48 hours prior to authorized preparation camps/weekends and competitions
- During authorized preparation camps/weekends and competitions
- 24 hours after authorized preparation camps/weekends and competitions

Club teams with three (3) or more Players represented in a single Provincial XCEL Team are eligible to have their games rescheduled if it conflicts with the schedule of Provincial XCEL or Canada Games Teams events resulting in the Players in question not being available to play for their Club teams

## PROCEDURE 3.0 – Ontario Player Development League (OPDL)

**3.1** The Ontario Player Development League (OPDL) is the province's standards-based, youth high performance program that combines top level competition with strict high performance training standards. This innovative exciting youth high performance program is an important component of the overall movement to adopt the core principles of Long Term Player Development (LTPD) across soccer at large in Ontario and Canada. OPDL encompasses the U13 to U17 age categories.

**3.2** The OPDL program is administered in accordance with all OPDL Governing Documents, developed and maintained by Ontario Soccer's Soccer Development Department, and published annually. The OPDL Governing Documents can be found here: OPDL.ca

# SECTION 5 – COMPETITIONS

## PROCEDURE 1.0 - Sanctioning Of Competitions

**1.1** When an organization is applying for sanctioning of a competition, the Organization acting as Host must provide the information required on the appropriate application form, in accordance with the Procedures for Tournaments, Festivals, Cup Competitions, and Exhibition Games.

**1.2** A Club must apply to its Governing Organization, as stipulated in the Operational Procedures for Team Travel, for permission for one (1) of its Registered Teams to participate in a sanctioned tournament, Festival, cup competition, or exhibition game. The Club must provide the information required on the appropriate application form.

**1.3** A Club's team may play in a municipality sponsored competition which is not a sanctioned competition, subject to the approval of its District Association. However, Ontario Soccer Insurance program shall not be in effect for any of the participants.

**1.4** Each competition may only be classified under one (1) type of competition status, competition classification, competition playing season, and competition gender and must specify which age division(s) the competition will include.

**1.5** An indoor team, futsal team and outdoor team can enter any indoor, futsal or outdoor tournament providing that the team was actively registered on the first day of the competition and is allowable by the tournament host.

**1.6** In the case(s) where there is a maximum age limit, a participating team's age classification shall not exceed the competition's age classification.

**1.7** In the case(s) where there is a minimum age limit, a participating team's age classification shall not fall short of the competition's age classification.

**1.8** Youth competitions are not permitted to offer cash prizes.

## PROCEDURE 2.0 - Tournament Definitions

**2.1** A Tournament shall consist of a series of games between a minimum of four (4) teams:

a) Involving Under-14 or older aged teams
   i. Under-12 and Under-13 can participate in tournaments considered Memorable Events in accordance with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.
b) Played within no more than seven (7) consecutive days or over no more than three (3) weekends during a playing season

**2.2** A Tournament Host must be one (1) of the following:

a) Ontario Soccer
b) A District Association
c) An Affiliated Club
d) An Affiliated League
e) An Unaffiliated Organization (in accordance with these Operational Procedures).

**2.2.1** Hosting Requirements for Under-12 and Under-13 Tournaments

a) A District Association
b) An affiliated Club which holds a National Youth Club License and OPDL License.
c) An affiliated Club which holds a Member Association Level 2 License.

**2.3** A Tournament Host may host more than one (1) class of tournament at the same time. A Team is eligible to participate in only one (1) of those tournaments.

**2.4** Events hosted in a District Association, in accordance with the Grassroots Standards Guide, will limit the number of events that a given organization can host for grassroots soccer. A District Association may limit the number of tournaments a Tournament Host may host in that District in each playing season.

**2.5** The Ontario Cup "Tournament Rounds" shall be exempt from the above.

**2.6** A tournament may be played under the rules of any of the following types of soccer:

a) 11v11 Soccer played under the Laws of The Game
b) Small-sided soccer played under Ontario Soccer's Playing Rules of small-sided soccer
c) Futsal played under the FIFA Futsal Laws of The Game
d) Beach soccer subject to the tournament rules and FIFA Beach Laws of The Game
e) Accessible soccer

## PROCEDURE 3.0 - Tournament Classifications

**3.1** It is expected that tournament hosts are to provide adequate and appropriate competition to their participating Teams.

**3.2 Professional Tournaments**

Professional Tournaments are open to teams in Professional and Pro-Am Leagues.

**3.3 Open Tournaments**

Open Tournaments are open to teams in Professional and Pro-Am Leagues and to amateur teams.

**3.4 Tournaments Hosted by Unaffiliated Organizations**

Subject to Ontario Soccer approval, an Unaffiliated Organization may host a tournament.

**3.4.1** Unaffiliated Organizations must complete a Tournament Application Form on Ontario Soccer's Competition and Travel Management System (CTMS) and attach tournament rules at least 35 days prior to the event date.

**3.4.2** Unaffiliated organizations must provide Short-Term Registration Permits to the District in which the tournament will be hosted 45 days prior to the event start date.

**3.4.3** Unaffiliated organizations must provide an insurance certificate indemnifying Ontario Soccer in the amount of $10 million minimum. For events that partnered with a Club, the insurance certificate must indemnify the host Club, host District and Ontario Soccer. This certificate needs to be attached within the Tournament Application Form.

Ontario Soccer reserves the right to deny any tournament application from an unaffiliated organization.

**3.4.4** Upon District approval, Unaffiliated Organizations must complete a Tournament Application Form on Ontario Soccer's Competition and Travel Management System (CTMS) and attach tournament rules at least 35 days prior to the event date.

Tournament rules acceptable to Ontario Soccer shall be submitted; and must include the following:

- Age divisions
- Team eligibility
- Number of games for each team
- Duration of games

- Number of Players dressed in each game for each team
- Substitution rules
- Match Official game fees
- Protest rules

**3.4.5** The tournament may be open to registered and unregistered teams providing that:

1. All Players are currently registered with Ontario Soccer: On an annual basis or

    a) On a short-term registration basis or,
    b) The Players are registered with teams from outside Ontario which have received written approval from their Governing Organization to participate in the tournament.
    c) There is a certificate of Sport Specific Travel Insurance provided with the application.

2. For Charitable/Commercial events, an insurance certificate indemnifying Ontario Soccer is required. For events that partnered with a Club, the insurance certificate must indemnify the host Club, host District and Ontario Soccer. This certificate needs to be attached within the Tournament Application Form.

    a) Participants will be required to sign the Ontario Soccer Waiver and Release of Liability form. The tournament host must submit the physical forms to Ontario Soccer within 30 days following the event.
    b) Charitable event criteria are met when the hosting organization is a charity and are raising funds for their organization. Charities will be required to provide their charitable organization number to Ontario Soccer. If the host organization is not a charity, the event will be categorized as a commercial event. Different fees apply for each category.

| Organization Type | Required Fee |
|---|---|
| Commercial Event | $500.00 |
| Charitable Event | $250.00 |
| Affiliated College/University | $100.00 |

**3.4.6** The competition is part of an International/National/Provincial Multi-Sport Games or Special Event

**3.4.7** Ontario Soccer reserves the right to deny any tournament application from an unaffiliated organization.

**3.5** At the discretion of the District Association, Under-14 to Under-18 teams may be denied registration as a team to enter tournaments.

## PROCEDURE 4.0 - Approval Of Tournaments

**4.1** A TOURNAMENT APPLICATION FORM (TAF), must be used when applying for approval to hold a tournament. The TAF is available online here Ontario Soccer Forms.

**4.2** The Tournament Host Organization requires the approval of the following Associations:

| Tournament Level | TAF Submission | 1st Approval | 2nd Approval | 3rd Approval | 4th Approval | 5th Approval |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **International** | 90 days | District Host | District Tournament Location | Ontario Soccer | Canada Soccer | Concacaf |
| **North American** | 60 days | District Host | District Tournament Location | Ontario Soccer | | |
| **Inter Provincial** | 60 days | District Host | District Tournament Location | Ontario Soccer | | |
| **Inter District** | 21 days | District Host | District Tournament Location | Ontario Soccer | | |
| **District** | 21 days | District Host | District Tournament Location | | | |

*If a Tournament Host Organization submits its TAF after the above deadline, an Administration Fee may be applied, and the tournament may not be approved.*

***NOTE:*** *In most cases, the District Association of the Tournament Host Organization will be the same District Association as the District in which the tournament is being played. Therefore, the second approval will only be required if the Tournament Host Organization is playing all or part of the tournament in a District other than the one (1) with which it is affiliated.*

**4.2.1 Approval Fees and Penalties**

| | Required Fee | Tournament Approval Submission Timeline | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **International TAF** | $125 | 89 - 30 days before tournament | 29 - 10 days before tournament | Less than 10 days before tournament |
| **TAF Fee with Penalty** | No Penalty | $150 | $175 | $400 |
| **North American / Inter Provincial TAF** | $25 | 59 – 30 days before tournament | 29 – 10 days before tournament | Less than 10 days before tournament |
| **TAF Fee with Penalty** | No Penalty | $35 | $50 | $150 |

**4.2.2** An Ontario Soccer governed League, District Association, Professional Club which is affiliated as an Associate Member of Ontario Soccer and an Ontario Soccer-Registered Club hosting a tournament does not require District Association approval but will require the approval of Ontario Soccer.

**4.2.3** All tournaments hosted by an Unaffiliated Organization will require the approval of Ontario Soccer and the District Association in which the tournament is played. An Unaffiliated Organization may only host an Inter-Provincial, Inter-District or District Tournament.

## PROCEDURE 5.0 - Tournament Requirements Of Hosts

**5.1** The Tournament Host shall require any tournament event organizers/marketers to indemnify the host Club, host District and Ontario Soccer by including them all as named insureds on the organizer/marketers' insurance policy and providing a certificate from the organizer/marketers' insurer, evidencing that information, to the sanctioned host.

**5.2** The Tournament Host shall indicate on the TAF only one (1) Tournament Classification and will indicate one (1) or more Age Classifications.

**5.3** The Tournament Host for an International Class Tournament shall pay a "Tournament Host Fee," and submit its tournament rules to Ontario Soccer for approval. Ontario Soccer shall pay a fee and submit such rules to Canada Soccer for its approval.

**5.4** The Tournament Host for a North American Class Tournament shall pay a "Tournament Host Fee," and submit its tournament rules to Ontario Soccer for approval.

**5.5** The Tournament Host for an Inter-Provincial shall pay a "Tournament Host Fee," and submit its tournament rules to Ontario Soccer for approval.

**5.6** The Tournament Host for an Inter-District Tournament shall submit its tournament rules to the District Association(s) required to approve the tournament, otherwise the tournament will be governed by Ontario Soccer's tournament rules.

**5.7** The Tournament Host must indicate on the TAF that it will comply with all of Ontario Soccer Policies, and Procedures governing tournaments.

**5.8** Tournament rules acceptable to Ontario Soccer shall be submitted; and must include the following:

a) Age divisions
b) Team eligibility
c) Number of games for each team
d) Duration of games
e) Number of Players dressed in each game for each team
f) Substitution rules
g) Protest rules
h) Match Official Fees

**5.9 Minimum Requirements in Tournament Rules**

**Team Eligibility Criteria:**

a) All teams must be registered with their Provincial, State, or National Association.
b) Each team must include with tournament application written proof of team travel permission authorized by its governing Association.
c) In North American and International Class Tournaments, all teams from outside Ontario must supply proof of accident/injury/illness medical insurance to the Tournament Host no later than seven (7) days prior to the tournament.
d) Teams may only use Players who are registered with them, except as otherwise stipulated.
e) All Youth team regardless of the competition must have a minimum of one (1) registered Team Official on the bench at all times. If a team does not have a registered Team Official on the bench prior to the game or at any time during the game, the game will be abandoned and result awarded to the opposition.

**Duration of Games**

a) The following competitions shall not exceed the permitted time limit per day:
    i. Under-12 and Under-13 not to exceed 120 minutes per day
    ii. Under-14 not to exceed 150 minutes per day
    iii. Under-15 and older not to exceed 180 minutes per day
b) There must be a minimum of one (1) hour between each game played by any team.

**Number of Players Dressed in a Game**

Teams may only dress and play up to a maximum of twenty (20) Players in each game of the tournament unless tournaments (for Under-12 and Under-13) are subject to Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards at which maximum match day roster of eighteen (18) players in each game apply.

**5.10** The Tournament Host must obtain approval.

**5.11** Tournament rules may permit youth teams and senior teams to include additional Players from another youth team from any Club (including its own), subject to the requirements of Operational Procedures .

**5.12** The Tournament Host shall provide team sheets which shall be completed by each team prior to each game,

and which must be submitted to the referee prior to the kickoff. The competing teams must be identified on an individual team sheet their Full Team Name.

**5.13** Except where specified, the Tournament Host shall collect team sheets and misconduct reports from Match Officials immediately after each game and such shall be forwarded by the Tournament Host to its District Association, or in the case of a Senior Provincial League, Senior Regional League, (if governed by Ontario Soccer) Senior District Competitive League, Youth Provincial League, Youth Regional League, (if governed by Ontario Soccer) Youth District Competitive League, to Ontario Soccer, no later than 72 hours after the last day of the tournament.

**5.14** A Match Official pre-assault report must be filed with the League, District, tournament host and Ontario Soccer no more than 24 hours after assault occurred. In all cases of Match Official assault, the Tournament Host shall have the responsibility for overseeing that the Match Official assault report has been completed.

**5.15** Within 30 days of the final day of the tournament, all tournament Reports must be submitted to the District Association.

***NOTE:*** *Professional Clubs must submit reports to Ontario Soccer.*

**5.16** Failure to do so may result in the District Association applying sanctions.

**5.17** The tournament report shall include:

a) A list of participating teams, identified by Team Name and Team Registration Number;
b) A list of teams failing to show up, identified by Team Name and Team Registration Number;
c) A list of teams which failed to play all their games, identified by Team Name and Team Registration Number;
d) A summary report of serious injuries;
e) Discipline summary report;
f) The tournament schedule and results of each game;
g) Any other relevant comments.

**5.18** Failure to comply with the terms of Operational Procedures will result in the tournament application (TAF) not being approved by the appropriate Governing Organization(s) .Failure to comply with terms of Operational Procedures will render the Tournament Host subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to, non-sanction of hosting any tournament in the following year, with the exception of Match Official Assaults, where the Tournament Host shall have the responsibility for overseeing that the Match Official report has been completed and submitted in the timeframe required.

## PROCEDURE 6.0 - Tournament Requirements Of Host District Associations

**6.1** The District Association approving a tournament shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, a Discipline Committee to act at the tournament.

a) For a tournament hosted by a Provincial League, Regional League (if governed by Ontario Soccer) District Competitive League, Ontario Soccer shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, a Discipline Committee to act at the tournament.

**6.2** The District Association approving a tournament shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, Match Officials.

a) For a tournament hosted by a Provincial League, Regional League (if governed by Ontario Soccer) District Competitive League, Ontario Soccer shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, Match Officials.

**6.3** In the event that any games in a tournament will be played outside of the Host District Association boundaries, the Host District Association must obtain permission from the District Association where the tournament games will be played.

## PROCEDURE 7.0 - Tournament Requirements For Team Participation

**7.1** An Under-14 or older aged team may only participate in a tournament which has been sanctioned in accordance with Ontario Soccer rules by the Governing Organization to which the Host Organization is affiliated.

**7.1.1** Any Under-12 and Under-13 team seeking to enter a tournament must be registered under their local District Association league or Festival competition for their respective age group in that season.

**7.2** The team must comply with all of the competition rules in the tournament for which it has received approval to play.

**7.3** When applying to take part in a tournament, each team shall identify itself by providing *"Full Team Identification"* as defined in Ontario Soccer's Operational Procedures and must attach to the tournament application form written proof of permission from its Association to participate, in accordance with the following:

a) Ontario teams – District Association approval if tournament is played out-of-District;
b) Other Canadian teams – Provincial Association approval;
c) U.S.A. teams – State Association approval;
d) Other teams – National Association approval.

Failure to comply will disqualify the team from participating in the tournament.

***NOTE:*** *This rule must be included in the written information sent by the Tournament Host to all participating teams.*

**7.4** In International Class Tournaments and North American Class Tournaments, all teams shall supply proof of accident/injury/illness medical insurance to the Tournament Host not later than seven (7) days prior to the first day of the tournament.

Failure to comply will disqualify the team from participating in the tournament.

***NOTE:*** *This rule must be included in the written information sent by the Tournament Host to all participating teams.*

**7.5** Each Player must provide proof of registration or that Player will not be allowed to play in that tournament.

**7.6** A team entered in the Ontario Cup will not be:

a) Eligible to enter any tournament;
b) Given permission to participate in any tournament; or
c) Given permission to travel to any tournament;

which conflict(s) with the Ontario Cup age division schedule.

**7.7** Subject to the rules of the tournament, a team shall only use Players registered on it, with the exception of the following:

**7.7.1** Club's Youth Team and a Club's Senior Team may use up to an additional three (3) registered Players from another team from any Club as guest Players, each Player must meet the age eligibility requirements of the tournament.

**7.8** In a tournament:

a) A competitive U17 or U18 youth team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which competitive senior teams are eligible.
b) A recreational U17 or U18 youth team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which recreational senior teams are eligible.
c) An indoor youth team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which indoor senior teams are eligible.
d) A futsal youth team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which futsal senior teams are eligible.
e) A competitive girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which competitive boys' teams are eligible.
f) A recreational girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which recreational boys' teams are eligible.
g) An indoor girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which indoor boys' teams are eligible.
h) A futsal girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which futsal boys' teams are eligible.
i) A competitive mixed team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which competitive boys' teams are eligible.
j) A recreational mixed team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which recreational boys' teams are eligible.
k) An indoor mixed team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which indoor boys' teams are eligible.
l) A futsal mixed team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which futsal boys' teams are eligible.
m) A competitive girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which competitive mixed teams are eligible.
n) A recreational girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which recreational mixed teams are eligible.
o) An indoor girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which indoor mixed teams are eligible; and
p) A futsal girls' team will be eligible to enter, and play in, a tournament for which futsal mixed teams are eligible providing that the published Tournament Rules of the Tournament Host Organization permit it and subject to the approval of the District Association to which the team's Club is affiliated.

## PROCEDURE 8.0 – Team Travel To Tournaments & Exhibition Games (U12 And Older)

**8.1** Any travel outside a team's District, except for a scheduled League game, League playoff game, or Cup game, shall be considered Team Travel.

**8.2** An APPLICATION TO TRAVEL FORM (ATF), must be used when applying for approval to travel.

**8.3** Approval for Team Travel for Under-14 and older aged teams shall be based on approval from the following Associations:

| Travel To | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|---|---|---|---|
| Another District | District | | |
| Another Province | District | U12/U13 Ontario Soccer | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| The U.S.A. | District | U12/U13 Ontario Soccer | |
| Another Country | District | All ages: Ontario Soccer | Canada Soccer |

**8.4** Under-12 and Under-13 Teams will require Ontario Soccer approval for travel to another province, the USA and/or internationally to comply with Canada Soccer Grassroot Standards.

**8.5** The ATF must be completed and returned to the District Association no later than:

a) days before travelling to another District, Province, or the U.S.A.
b) 21 days before travelling to another country outside of Canada or the U.S.A.

If the ATF is submitted after the above deadline, an Administration Fee may apply and there is no guarantee that the team travel will be approved.

| **Travel Permit Approval Submission Timeline** | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **International ATF** | 21 days | 20 – 7 days before travel | Less than 7 days before travel |
| **ATF Fee with Penalty** | $150 | $175 | $250 |

**8.6** The ATF for a Club team requires the authorization of a Club authorized individual.

**8.7** Teams travelling to the following shall pay the applicable fee to Ontario Soccer and must include with the ATF:

a) Another District:
- Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS
- Team Roster Report (for team registration verification purposes only)

b) Another Province:
- Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS
- Team Roster Report (for team registration verification purposes only)
- A copy of the sanctioning document for the approved competition
- A copy of the Competition Rules for the competition
- A copy of the Sport Specific travel insurance is required

c) The USA:
- Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS
- Team Roster Report (for team registration verification purposes only)
- A copy of the sanctioning document for the approved competition
- A copy of the Competition Rules for the competition
- A copy of the Sport Specific travel insurance is required

d) Another Country:
- Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS
- Team Roster Report (for team registration verification purposes only)
- A copy of the sanctioning document for the approved competition
- A copy of the Competition Rules for the competition
- A copy of the Sport Specific travel insurance is required
- A copy of the Canada Soccer Travel Application Form (only for travel outside of Canada and the USA)

**8.8** Team Travel to Exhibition Games with U.S. College/University. Requirements:
- Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS,
- Team Roster Report (for team registration verification purposes only),
- Written Invitation (on letterhead) from the College/University for the Team College/University Head Coach/Athletic Director,

- Date of Games,
- Location of Games,
- Schedule of competition,
- Competition Rules,
- Proof of Sport Specific Travel Insurance

## PROCEDURE 9.0 - Festival Definitions

**9.1** A Festival shall consist of a series of games played under the following format as per Canada Soccer Grassroot Standards:

a) Played on one (1) day;
b) Played without the recording of scores and standings;
c) Which prohibits trophies or awards with the exception of participation mementos

**9.2** A Festival Host must be one (1) of the following:

a) Ontario Soccer
b) A District Association
c) An Affiliated Club
d) An Affiliated League

**9.3** A Festival will consist of small-sided soccer played under Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

## PROCEDURE 10.0 - Festival Classifications

**10.1** **Festivals**
The following classes of Festivals are open to Under-6, Under-7, Under-8, Under-9, Under-10, Under-11, Under-12 and Under-13 teams only. Under-11 and younger age groups are not eligible to participate in any tournaments.

| Season | Jurisdiction | Classification | Age Group Eligibility |
|---|---|---|---|
| Outdoor | Inter-District | Development | Under-8 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Outdoor | District | Development | Under-8 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Outdoor | District | Recreational | Under-8 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Outdoor | Club | Recreational | Under-6 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Indoor | Inter-District | Development | Under-9 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Indoor | District | Development | Under-8 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Indoor | District | Recreational | Under-8 to Under-13 Club Teams |
| Indoor | Club | Recreational | Under-6 to Under-13 Club Teams |

**10.2** With the permission of its District Association, a team may be given permission to travel to:

a) A District Festival hosted in a neighbouring District; and
b) A Club Festival hosted by a neighbouring Club.

**10.3** The Host Organization may permit the following to enter its Inter-District Festival:

- An Under-12 or Under-13 team from another Province or State of a FIFA member organization
- An Under-10 or Under-11 team from another Province or State which borders the Host Organization's District

***NOTE:*** *Team Travel procedures are subject to Approval for Team Travel.*

## PROCEDURE 11.0 - Approval Of Festivals

**11.1** A "Festival Application Form" (FAF) must be used when applying to host a Festival.

**11.2** The Festival Host Organization requires the approval of the District Association which the Festival Host Organization is affiliated with, as well as the District Association in which the Festival is being played, if different than the Festival Host Organization's affiliated District Association.

**11.3** The FAF must be completed and returned to the Festival Hosts Organization's District Association by no later than 15 days before the first day of the Festival.

***NOTE:*** *If the FAF is submitted after the above deadline, there is no guarantee that the Festival will be approved.*

**11.4** The Festival Host shall indicate on the FAF only one (1) Festival Classification and will indicate one (1) or more Age Classifications.

**11.5** The Festival Host must indicate in writing on the FAF that it will comply with all of Ontario Soccer Procedures governing Festivals.

**11.6** Failure to comply will result in the Festival application (FAF) not being approved by the appropriate Governing Organization(s) in accordance with Operational Procedures.

## PROCEDURE 12.0 - Festival Rules

**12.1** Festivals played in Ontario will be played based on Ontario Soccer's Adapted Laws of the Game and/or Festival Guide document.

**12.2** Festivals may be played at the Inter-District and District levels by squads subject to the Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards.

**12.3** Squad Eligibility:

a) All squads must be registered with their Provincial Association or, in the case of squads from the USA, with the State Association.
b) When applying to take part in a Festival, each squad must attach to the Festival application form (FAF) written proof of "Permission to Travel" duly authorized by its governing Association, when the squad is travelling from its District Association.
c) In Inter-District Class Festivals, all squads from outside Ontario must supply proof of accident/injury/illness medical insurance to the Festival Host not later than seven (7) days prior to the Festival.
d) A squad may only use Players who are registered with its Club, except as otherwise stipulated.

**12.4** **Laws of the Game**

All games shall be small-sided soccer played under Ontario Soccer's Grassroots Small Sided Soccer Rules.

**12.5** The content within Ontario Soccer's Game Organization Guide document shall apply in any instance of conflicting information with regards to all areas of Festivals organization.

## PROCEDURE 13.0 – Festival Requirements Of Hosts

**13.1** The Festival Host must obtain approval.

**13.2** The Festival Host must advise all participants about the "*Festival Requirements for Squad Participation*", as stipulated in Procedure 15.0 below.

**13.3** The Festival Host shall provide match day sheets which shall be completed by each squad prior to each game, and which must be submitted prior to the kickoff. The competing squads must be identified on the match day sheet by Team Name and Team Registration Number.

**13.4** Within 30 days of the final day of the Festival:

a) The Festival Host of an Inter-District Festival or a District Festival must submit a Festival report to its District Association
b) The Festival Host must collect match day sheets and misconduct reports from Match Officials immediately after each match and such shall be forwarded by the Host to its District Association, no later than 72 hours after the last day of the tournament.

**13.5** Failure to do so may result in the District Association applying sanctions.

**13.6** The Festival report shall include:

a) A list of participating Clubs/Squads;
b) A list of Clubs/Squads failing to show up;
c) A list of Clubs/Squads which failed to play all their games;
d) A summary report of serious injuries;
e) Discipline summary report;
f) The Festival schedule;
g) Any other relevant comments.

**13.7** Failure to comply will render the Festival Host subject to sanctions, including but not limited to the non-sanction of hosting any Festival in the following year.

## PROCEDURE 14.0 - Festival Requirements Of District Associations

**14.1** The District Association approving a Festival shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, a Discipline Committee to act at the Festival.

**14.2** The District Association approving a Festival shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, Game Leaders or Small Sided Match Officials. Notwithstanding these Operational Procedures, a Game Leader may not be appointed to a Festival game involving Under-6 teams.

**14.3** Appointed Game Leaders or Small Sided Match Officials must be registered with Ontario Soccer.

**14.4** In the event that any games in a Festival will be played outside of the Host District Association boundaries, the Host District Association must obtain permission from the District Association where the Festival games will be played.

## PROCEDURE 15.0 - Festival Requirements For Squad Participation

**15.1** An Under-8, Under-9, Under-10, Under-11, Under-12 or Under-13 squad may only participate in a Festival which has been sanctioned in accordance with Ontario Soccer rules by a District Association.

**15.2** The squad must comply with all of the competition rules in the Festival for which it has received approval to play.

**15.3** When applying to take part in a Festival, each squad shall identify itself by providing its Club name, age and gender classification; and if the Festival is played outside its District, must attach to the Festival application form (FAF) written proof of permission from its Association to participate, in accordance with the following:

a) Ontario squads - District Association approval if Festival is played out-of-District;
b) Other Canadian squads from Border Provinces - Provincial Association approval;
c) U.S.A. squads from Border States - State Association approval;

Failure to comply will disqualify the squad from participating in the Festival.

***NOTE:*** *This rule must be included in the written information sent by the Festival Host to all participating squads.*

**15.4** In Inter-District Festivals, all squads from Border Provinces or Border States shall supply proof of accident/injury/illness medical insurance to the Festival Host not later than seven (7) days prior to the first day of the Festival.

Failure to comply will disqualify the squad from participating in the Festival.

***NOTE:*** *This rule must be included in the written information sent by the Festival Host to all participating squads.*

**15.5** A squad shall only use Players who are registered with its Club and each Player must provide the appropriate registration document or that Player will not be allowed to play in that Festival.

## PROCEDURE 16.0 – Squad Travel To Festivals & Exhibition Games (U-8 To U-13)

**16.1** Any travel outside a squad's District, except for a scheduled League game, shall be considered Squad Travel.

**16.2** An APPLICATION TO TRAVEL FORM (ATF), must be used when applying for approval to travel.

**16.3** Squad Travel will be in accordance with the mandated guidelines of the Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards. A District Association may approve squad travel beyond the above time travel when there is no suitable competition within the time allotted for squad travel through a Special Dispensation request.

**16.4** Under-6 & younger age groups participate in Club focused development programs, which involve no travel beyond their Club.

**16.5** Grassroots Players may be given permission to travel to a limited number of Memorable Events per year which will be based in accordance with Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

**16.6** Approval to travel is required from the following Associations:

| Travel to | Approval By | Second Approval |
|---|---|---|
| Another District | District Association | |
| A Border Province | District Association | Ontario Soccer (U12/U13) |
| A Border State in USA | District Association | Ontario Soccer |

**16.7** The ATF must be completed and approved by the squad's Club and submitted to the District Association no later than 7 days before travelling to another District or Border Province. Travel to a Border State in the USA requires a minimum of 14 days prior to travel.

If the ATF is submitted after the above deadline, there is no guarantee that the squad travel will be approved.

## PROCEDURE 17.0 - Exhibition Games

**17.1** An Exhibition Game is a game arranged between two (2) teams of registered Players with a registered Match Official, which is not a scheduled League game, play-off game, cup game, tournament game or Festival game. Exhibition games have no stats, standings or set schedule of games. An exhibition game may also include one (1) team of registered Players playing against:

a) A College team, providing that Ontario Soccer has an adequate written agreement with the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association regarding the liability pertaining to the College team's participants;

b) A University team, providing that Ontario Soccer has an adequate written agreement with the Ontario University Athletics regarding the liability pertaining to the University team's participants; and

**17.2** Eligibility to Play in Exhibition Games

a) Under-6 or younger age groups are not eligible to participate in an exhibition game.
b) An Under-14 or older aged team is eligible to participate in an exhibition game subject to Procedure18.0 - Approval of Exhibition Games.
c) An Under-8, Under-9, Under-10, Under-11, Under-12 and Under-13 Player is eligible to play in an exhibition game providing that:
    i. An Under-7 player who has been fast tracked may participate in an exhibition game
    ii. The Player has not already played in a League game, Festival or another exhibition during that week
    iii. The Player will not exceed the maximum 20 competition days permitted during one (1) season as a result of that game
    iv. The exhibition game meets all of the criteria in the Canada Soccer Grassroots Standards.

**17.3** An Exhibition Game Host must be one (1) of the following:

a) Ontario Soccer
b) A District Association
c) An Affiliated Club
d) An Affiliated League

**17.4** In an exhibition game:

a) A competitive team may play against a recreational team
b) A youth team may play against a senior team
c) A senior amateur team may play against a professional team
d) A female team may play against a male team or a mixed team
e) A mixed team may play against a male team

**17.5** Each Player must provide the appropriate registration document or that Player will not be allowed to play in the exhibition game.

**17.5.1** The Exhibition Game Rules may permit Under-14 and older aged teams to include Players registered with other Clubs.

**17.6** The Exhibition Game Host shall collect Ontario Soccer Exhibition Game team sheets that include Team Name for each team and misconduct reports from the Match Official immediately after each game and shall forward such to its District Association, or to Ontario Soccer for games approved by Ontario Soccer, no later than 48 hours after the game.

**17.7** Ontario Soccer, or District Association, approving an Exhibition Game shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, Match Officials.

**17.8** Exhibition games involving foreign professional teams shall comply with the Rules and Regulations of Canada Soccer.

## PROCEDURE 18.0 - Approval Of Exhibition Games

**18.1** An *Application to Host Exhibition Game* (AHEG) form must be used when applying for approval to play an exhibition game. Each team must provide *"Full Team Identification"* as defined in Ontario Soccer's published rules.

**18.2** The Application to Host Exhibition Game (AHEG) form will be submitted online through Ontario Soccer forms website.

**18.3** Approval for an exhibition game to be played in Ontario is required from the following Associations:

| Game Involving | Submission Timeline | Required Fee | Late Submission Penalty | 1st | 2nd | 3rd |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Ontario Club teams** | | | | District Association | | |
| **Other Canadian team (Out of Province)** | 10 Days | $25 | $50 | District Association | Ontario Soccer | |
| **Team from Outside Canada** | 30 Days | $125 | $150 | District Association | Ontario Soccer | Canada Soccer |
| **Ontario College or University Team to Play an Ontario Club Team** | | | | District Association | Ontario Soccer | |

**18.4** With the exception of the above-mentioned teams, each participating team shall supply the exhibition Game Host with written proof of permission from its Association to participate in the exhibition game, in accordance with the following:

a) Ontario Teams – District Association approval
b) Other Canadian Teams – Provincial Association approval
c) USA Teams – State Association approval
d) Other Teams – National Association approval

**18.5** Teams from outside of Canada must supply proof of accident/injury/illness medical insurance to the exhibition game host prior to participating in an exhibition game.

**18.6** A team entered in the Ontario Cup will not be eligible to play in any exhibition game, given permission to host any exhibition game, or given permission to travel to any exhibition game which conflicts with the Ontario Cup schedule.

**18.7 Blanket Permission to Play Exhibition Games**

a) Ontario Soccer may grant blanket written permission to any League governed by Ontario Soccer to authorize exhibition games which only involve teams belonging to that affiliated League.
b) A District Association may grant blanket written permission to any Club affiliated to the District to authorize exhibition games which only involve teams within the Club.

**18.8** The AHEG must be completed and returned to the District Association no later than:

a) 72 hours before an exhibition game involving 2 Ontario teams.
b) 10 days before an exhibition game involving a team from another province or from the U.S.A.
c) 21 days before an exhibition game involving a team from outside Canada or the U.S.A.

If the AHEG is submitted after the above deadline, an Administration Fee may apply, and the exhibition game may not be approved.

## PROCEDURE 19.0 - Identification Camps

**19.1** An Identification Camp is an event arranged by an Organization solely for player identification.

**Eligibility to Play in Identification Camp**

**19.1.1** Each Player must provide the appropriate Ontario Soccer registration identification or that Player will not be allowed to participate.

**19.1.2** U-10 and younger age groups are not eligible to participate in an Identification Camp.

**19.2** An Identification Camp Host must be one (1) of the following:

- Ontario Soccer A District Association
- An Affiliated Club
- An Affiliated League
- An organization that has received approval from the District Association

**19.3** An Application to Identification Camp (AIC) form must be used when applying for approval.

**19.5** An insurance certificate indemnifying Ontario Soccer is required. For events that partnered with a Club, the insurance certificate must indemnify the host Club, host District and Ontario Soccer. This certificate needs to be attached within the Application Form.

a) Participants will be required to sign the Ontario Soccer Waiver and Release of Liability form. The host must submit the physical forms to the District Association in which the Identification Camp occurred within 30 days following the event.

## PROCEDURE 20.0 - Cup Competitions

**20.1** A Cup Competition shall be organized and run by one (1) of the following:

a) Ontario Soccer;
b) A District Association;
c) An affiliated League for its Member Clubs;
d) An affiliated Club.

**20.2** A Player shall not play for more than one (1) team in any one (1) Cup Competition.

**20.3** Athletes selected to Provincial XCEL Teams and Canada Games Teams may not participate in Club events, training or competition during the following time frames:

- 48 hours prior to authorized preparation camps/weekends and competitions
- During authorized preparation camps/weekends and competitions
- 24 hours after authorized preparation camps/weekends and competitions

Club teams with 3 or more Players represented in a single a Provincial XCEL Team are eligible to have their games rescheduled if it conflicts with the schedule of Provincial XCEL or Canada Games Teams events resulting in the Players in question not being available to play for their Club teams

## PROCEDURE 21.0 - Ontario Cup

**21.1** The Ontario Cup shall be administered in accordance with the Ontario Cup Competition Rules and Regulations.

# SECTION 6 – LEAGUES

## PROCEDURE 1.0 – Pyramid For Play

**1.1** The Pyramid for Play in Ontario is a hierarchy of Leagues structured in such a way as to provide opportunities for competition at Local, District, Regional and Provincial Levels.

**1.2** This is done by:

a) Providing a progressive structure of Leagues from the Local level to the Provincial level;
b) Developing policies governing entry to, and participation in, each level of the League system to ensure that progressively higher demands on skill and competitive ability are required at higher levels of the Pyramid; and
c) Striving to ensure competitive balance within each League and among all Leagues at the same level in the Pyramid.

## PROCEDURE 2.0 – League Categories

**2.1** A League Category is defined by its:

a) League Level
b) League Status
c) League Classification
d) League Playing Season
e) League Gender
f) League Age Division

**2.2** Subject to the approval of its Governing Organization and the Published Rules, a League may be categorized under one (1) or more different types of League Level, League Status, League Classification, League Playing Season, League Gender, and League Age Division.

**2.3** With the exception of "Leagues above Ontario Soccer Pyramid Structure", the levels of play within the Pyramid for Play will be based on the League Levels. In the Soccer for Life Youth Pyramid for Play, a Youth Regional League will provide the highest level of competition; In the Senior Pyramid for Play, a Senior Provincial League will provide the highest level of competition.

**2.4** A League may operate other age division(s) as approved by its Governing Organization.

**2.5** Leagues in Ontario are structured as per the table below:

| League Level | League Status | League Classification | League Playing Season | League Gender | League Age Divisions | League Governance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Leagues Above or Outside Ontario Soccer Pyramid for Play Structure - International Leagues and National Leagues** | Amateur, Professional or Semi-Professional | Senior Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under 19 to Under-23 | |
| | Amateur, Professional or Semi-Professional | Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under 19 to Under-23 | |
| | Amateur | Youth Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Under 15 to Under-18 | |
| | Amateur | Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Under 15 to Under-18 | |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Senior Provincial League** ***Provincial Pro-Am League must include semi-professional teams and may include amateur teams*** | Amateur<br>May only include amateur teams | Senior Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under 19 to Under-21 | Only 1 Provincial League permitted |
| | Pro-Am | Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under 19 to Under-21 | |
| **Ontario Player Development League** | Amateur | Youth Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Under-13 to Under-17 | |

| League Level | League Status | League Classification | League Playing Season | League Gender | League Age Divisions | League Governance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Senior Regional League** | Amateur | Senior Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under-19 to Under-21 | |
| | | Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under-19 to Under-21 | |
| **Youth Regional League** | Amateur | Youth Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Under-14 to Under-18 | |
| | | Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Under-14 to Under-18 | |
| **Senior District Competitive League** | Amateur | Senior Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under-19 to Under-21 | Only 1 District Competitive League permitted to operate in each District |
| | | Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Open Age<br>Under-19 to Under-21 | |
| **Youth District Competitive League** | Amateur | Youth Outdoor Competitive | Outdoor | Male or Female | Under-14 to Under-18 | Only 1 District |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Under-14 to Under-18 | Competitive League permitted to operate in each District |
| **Senior District Recreational League** | Amateur | Senior Outdoor Recreational | Outdoor | Male or Female | Open Age | District Association may approve the operation of one (1) or more District Recreational League(s) |
| | | | | | Under-19 to Under-21 | |
| | | Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal | Indoor | Male or Female | Open Age | |
| | | | | | Under-19 to Under-21 | |

| League Level | League Status | League Classification | League Playing Season | League Gender | League Age Divisions | League Governance |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Senior Local League** | Amateur | Senior Outdoor Recreational (11-a-side) or Senior Outdoor Recreational (5-a-side) | Outdoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Open Age | District Association may approve the operation of one (1) or more Local League(s) |
| | | | | | Under-19 to Under-21<br><br>Over-30<br>Over-35<br>Over-40<br>Over-45<br>Over-50 | |
| | | Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal | Indoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Open Age | |
| | | | | | Under-19 to Under-21<br><br>Over-30<br>Over-35<br>Over-40<br>Over-45<br>Over-50 | |
| **Youth Interlock League** | Amateur | Youth Outdoor Recreational | Outdoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Under-14 to Under-18 | District Association may approve the |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal | Indoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Under-14 to Under-18 | operation of one (1) or more Interlock Leagues |
| **Grassroots District Development League** | Amateur | Fundamentals/Learn To Train Outdoor | Outdoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Under-8 to Under-13 | |
| | | Fundamentals/Learn To Train Indoor/Futsal | Indoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Under-8 to Under-13 | |
| **Grassroots Local League** | Amateur | Fundamentals/Learn To Train Outdoor | Outdoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Under-8 to Under-13 | |
| | | Fundamentals/Learn To Train Indoor/Futsal | Indoor | Male, Female, or Mixed | Under-8 to Under-13 | |

## PROCEDURE 3.0 – League Functions And Operations

**3.1** A League shall:

a) Be required to obtain permission from its Governing Organization to operate on an annual basis and shall operate under the jurisdiction and supervision of its Governing Organization.
b) Affiliate, as an Associate Member, with a Governing Organization and be subject to the Governing Documents of that organization and all higher Governing Organizations. Such delegation may be withdrawn at any time with proper notice and reason.
c) Provide scheduled games for its members, in a division(s) or conference(s).
d) Consist of Clubs as members.

**3.2** A League shall provide annually to its Governing Organization:

a) A copy of the latest publication of its Constitution
b) A list of its Officers
c) A financial statement on its previous year's operations
d) Additional items to be submitted as required by the Governing Organization

**3.3** A League shall approve the applications of Clubs to enter teams in its League based on:

a) Its membership criteria and requirements which are annually approved by its Governing Organization;
b) Subject to any appeal to, and final approval from, it's Governing Organization.

**3.4** The following teams are eligible to play in Leagues:

a) Club Teams

**3.5** A League may:

a) Provide cup competitions for its teams only, and following completion of its regularly scheduled games may provide a play-off competition or similar format of play.
b) Host a tournament in accordance with Ontario Soccer policies and procedures governing tournaments.
c) Set a deadline after which no Players can be added to a team's roster for playing games in that League.

**3.6** The following Leagues:

a) District Competitive Outdoor League
b) Regional Outdoor League
c) Provincial Outdoor League
    i. Shall have competitive divisions comprised of competitive teams. There is no promotion and relegation of the teams between the competitive divisions and the recreational divisions except where stipulated below;
    ii. District Competitive League which is governed by a District Association, and which includes both District Competitive and District Recreational Divisions may be given permission by its District Association to have promotion and relegation between the District Competitive and District Recreational Divisions.

**3.7** **Provincial, Regional** or (if governed directly by Ontario Soccer) **District Competitive Leagues** may either be:

a) Run directly by Ontario Soccer under the supervision of a League Board/Executive/League Governing Committee appointed by Ontario Soccer, (If run directly by Ontario Soccer, the rules of the League shall be as set out in the Operational Procedures of Ontario Soccer), or

b) Run as a separate entity with its own By-Laws, Operational Procedures annually delegated to another League to operate, (If run as a separate entity, or if delegated to another League to operate, the League shall be administered in accordance with the League's By-Laws, Operational Procedures and be subject to the supervision of a League Board/Executive which is elected by the Member Clubs of that League), or

c) Each Regional League will have a board which is composed solely of one (1) representative of each District in that region. In a League that encompasses fewer than four (4) Districts the board will be composed of two (2) representatives from each District.

**3.8** A **District Competitive League** may either be:

a) Run directly by the District Association under the supervision of a League Board/Executive/League Governing Committee appointed by the District Association, (If run directly by the District Association, the rules of the League shall be as set out in the Operational Procedures of the District Association.)

b) Run as a separate entity with its own By-Laws and Operational Procedures annually delegated to another League to operate (If run as a separate entity, or if delegated to another League to operate, the League shall be administered in accordance with the League's By-Laws and its Operational Procedures and be subject to the supervision of a League Board/Executive which is elected by the Member Clubs of that League.)

**3.9** A League Executive Committee or Committee/Staff delegated shall be responsible for the day-to-day administration of the League. The League Executive Committee shall be elected by the member Clubs of the League.

**3.10** A League shall be administered in accordance with the League's By-Laws, Operational Procedures. Any changes to the By-Laws shall be as approved by the member Clubs and ratified by its Governing Organization.

Changes to the Operational Procedures may be made by the League Executive Committee and must be ratified by the member Clubs at the next general meeting of the League.

**3.11** In the event that any article of the League By-Laws or Operational Procedures conflicts with the Governing Documents of Ontario Soccer or Canada Soccer, the provisions of Ontario Soccer or Canada Soccer Governing Documents shall take precedence.

**3.12** If delegated by its Governing Organization, a League shall control the discipline of its teams, Players, team staff and Club officials involved in League activities only and appoint Match Officials to officiate games under its jurisdiction.

**3.13** A Regional or District League shall be open to any team in an adjacent Region or District which does not operate an equivalent level of League play, subject to:

a) Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee approval at Regional Level,
b) Both Districts approval at District League level for both Youth and Senior categories

**3.14** Each Outdoor Youth District Competitive League must operate entirely within the boundaries of the District Association which has sanctioned the League, unless:

a) The League includes Teams from other Districts, in which case these teams may host their home games in their home District, or;
b) Another District Association has approved the League to schedule games within that District.

## PROCEDURE 4.0 – Senior Leagues

**4.1** A Senior Provincial League may operate Regional Divisions based in one (1) or more Regions.

**4.2** If a District Association permits a Senior District Competitive League or a Senior District Recreational League to be run as a separate entity the League may be formed and operated by its member Clubs.

a) The League shall annually apply to their District Association(s) for approval to operate;
b) The League Executive Committee shall be elected by the representatives of the Member Clubs.

## PROCEDURE 5.0 – Local Interlock Leagues

**5.1** A Local Interlock (Recreational Youth) League shall be formed by its governing Club (s) and may be operated by one (1) or more Club(s).

**5.2** A Club or Clubs which operate a Local Interlock League shall have a designated Club Head Referee.

**5.3** Each Indoor and Outdoor Local Interlock League must operate entirely within the boundaries of the District Association which has sanctioned the League, unless:

a) The League includes Club registered to other Districts, in which case these Clubs may host their home games in their home District, or
b) Another District Association has approved the League to schedule games within that District.

## PROCEDURE 6.0 – Jurisdiction

**6.1** Leagues shall be governed as follows:

a) The following Leagues shall affiliate with **Canada Soccer**:
   - A National League
b) The following Leagues shall affiliate with **Ontario Soccer**:
   - Provincial Leagues
   - Regional Leagues

- District Competitive League in which no District Association has more than 51% of the teams in the League or a League in which more than 51% of the teams are from one (1) District Association but that District Association permits Ontario Soccer to govern the League.

c) The following shall affiliate with a **District Association:**
- District Competitive League shall affiliate with the District Association which has more than 51% of the teams in that League.
- Grassroots District Development Program shall affiliate with the District Association which has the most teams in that Program.

d) The following Leagues shall be operated by a Club:
- A Local League (recreational "interlock" only)
- A Grassroots Local League

e) Educational or Other Leagues shall:
- affiliate, as an Associate Member, with Ontario Soccer or a District Association

**6.2** A District Competitive League may be governed by one (1) or more District Associations. If a District Competitive League is governed by a single District Association, its League boundaries may overlap two (2) or more Districts.

**6.3** If a League operates at more than one (1) League level, it shall affiliate with the Governing Organization of its highest level and be subject to governance and the Published Rules of that Governing Organization.

## PROCEDURE 7.0 – Regional Leagues And Boundaries

**7.1** For the purposes of the Pyramid for Play, the Province of Ontario will be divided into the following Regions:

a) **West Region** which shall be comprised of the District Associations of Elgin Middlesex, Essex County, Lambton Kent and South-West Regional;
b) **South Region** which shall be comprised of the District Associations of Hamilton and District, Niagara, and Peel Halton;
c) **Central Region** which shall be comprised of the District Associations of Durham Region, East Central Ontario, TO Soccer, Huronia District, and York Region;
d) **East Region** which shall be comprised of the District Associations of Eastern Ontario District, and Southeast Ontario;
e) **North Region** which shall be comprised of the District Associations of the Greater North Soccer Association and Soccer Northwest.

**7.2** Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee is responsible for re-defining boundaries in accordance with the LTPD Soccer For Life principles.

## PROCEDURE 8.0 – Formation Of Leagues

**8.1** A Provincial League or Regional League shall be formed by Ontario Soccer.

**8.2** A District Competitive League or District Recreational League shall be formed by District Associations.

**8.3** District Associations wishing to form a new District Competitive League (to be governed by Ontario Soccer) shall apply to Ontario Soccer by no later than:

a) November 1 (for an outdoor League) or;
b) June 1 (for an indoor League)

and after a review of its application by Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee and consultation with the District Associations involved will require the approval of Ontario Soccer's Chief

Executive Officer.

**8.4** A District Association which currently participates in a District Competitive League (governed by Ontario Soccer) and intends to form its own:

a) District Competitive League (governed by the District Association); or
b) to become part of another District Competitive League (governed by Ontario Soccer)

must notify Ontario Soccer by November 1 (for an outdoor League) and by June 1 (for an indoor League).

**8.5** In a League's first year of operation, the League Executive Committee shall be appointed by the League's Governing Organization.

## PROCEDURE 9.0 – Application To Expand/Restructure Leagues Governed By Ontario Soccer

**9.1** For the purpose of defining League expansion and/or restructuring, an allowable League expansion or restructuring must be within the same League Status, League Playing Season and League Gender.

**9.2** An existing League may apply to expand its number of divisions or restructure its divisions in accordance with the following conditions:

a) The League shall apply to Ontario Soccer on a form provided by Ontario Soccer and shall submit such application by no later than August 1 of the year preceding the expansion/restructuring (for an outdoor League) or by no later than November 1 preceding the expansion or restructuring (for an indoor League);
b) Ontario Soccer's Competitions Management Committee shall review all applications;
c) All District Associations and existing Leagues shall be advised of the application;
d) Ontario Soccer's Competitions Management Committee shall make a recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer about approval of the application, in principle.
e) Ontario Soccer's Competitions Management Committee shall give final approval for an existing League to expand or restructure subject to the terms of League operations being approved.

Notwithstanding the timelines above, applications can be submitted, and Ontario Soccer's Competitions Management Committee and the Chief Executive Officer may approve these applications when the specified timelines have not been met.

## PROCEDURE 10.0 – Terms Of League Operations For Leagues Governed By Ontario Soccer

**10.1** The following Leagues shall have their Terms of League Operations approved annually by Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee:

a) Provincial Leagues
b) Regional Leagues
c) District Competitive League (if governed by Ontario Soccer)

**10.2** Each League shall annually sign an agreement within ten (10) days of approval of its Terms of League Operations. In such agreement, the League shall agree to abide by the Operational Procedures of Ontario Soccer, the approved Terms of League Operations, and the decisions made by the Board of Directors; failing which, it will be subject to disciplinary action

**10.3** Each League shall comply with its Terms of League Operations which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

a) have fulfilled the requirements for Associate Membership in Ontario Soccer;

b) operate in compliance with its By-Laws and Operational Procedures;
c) each League shall have its annual budget, including team fees, fines, and all other financial items, approved at a General Meeting of its Member Clubs;
d) each League's Published Rules shall not prohibit a person who is affiliated to a Club, League, or other soccer organization from being nominated or elected to a position on its Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or an equivalent governing council;
e) the League Categories (i.e., Level, Status, Classification, Playing Season, Gender, Age Division(s) shall be identified;
f) the League's geographical location (i.e., Ontario for a Provincial League and the specific Region for Regional Leagues, etc.) shall be identified;
g) the names of each of its divisions and the names of the teams to play in each division (Teams in Leagues);
h) each League must make available to Ontario Soccer, upon request, an up-to-date list of its teams, team contact persons, team addresses, and team telephone numbers;
i) each League's Fiscal Year must end following the end of its playing season or be in accordance with its By-laws;
j) the Annual Meeting of an amateur League must be in accordance with its By-laws;
k) Ontario Soccer must receive a Notice of each of the League's Member Meetings, be entitled to send (a) representative(s) to such meetings and receive a copy of the Minutes of all of the League's Member Meetings;
l) upon the request of Ontario Soccer, a Notice of each League's Board of Directors' meetings shall be provided to Ontario Soccer which will be entitled to send (a) representative(s) to such meetings, and receive a copy of the Minutes of such Meetings;
m) Match Official appointments may be delegated to an amateur League by Ontario Soccer and shall be done in accordance with criteria and standards established by Ontario Soccer. If an amateur League fails to comply with such criteria and/or standards, the delegation of Match Official appointments may be rescinded by Ontario Soccer;
n) each Outdoor League shall appoint a Referee to all of the games in all of its divisions and Assistant Referees as specified in its Terms of League Operations;
o) each Outdoor League shall follow the fee structure as per the Match Officials Fee Protocol and shall not pay more or less than the published game fee. Acknowledgement of compliance must be received by Ontario Soccer by no later than February 1 of each year. The Match Officials Fee Protocol does not apply to Indoor Competition. Each Indoor League shall submit its schedule of Match Official fees to Ontario Soccer by no later than September 1 of each year;
p) discipline pertaining to League activities may be delegated to the League and shall be done in accordance with Ontario Soccer Discipline Policy. If the League fails to comply, the delegation of discipline may be rescinded by Ontario Soccer;
q) Ontario Soccer shall be entitled to send (an) observer(s) to all discipline hearings and receive a copy of the results of each discipline case;
r) the League must submit its Operational Procedures, Membership Criteria and Promotion/Relegation Criteria to Ontario Soccer;
s) the League shall recognize and enforce all suspensions levied by Ontario Soccer for misconduct occurring in Ontario Cup games;
t) the League may conduct post-season competitions with other Leagues but such competition must be approved by Ontario Soccer;
u) a S4L League may operate League Select Teams which may participate in competitions and may travel outside of Ontario, only with the approval of Ontario Soccer; and
v) Ontario Soccer may appoint a representative to serve as a Non-Voting Member on the Board of Directors (or its equivalent) of each League.

**10.4** Ontario Soccer may impose a performance bond, not to exceed $5,000.00 for each function, on a League regarding the delegation of the "Match Official appointments" function or the "discipline" function; and if the League fails to fulfill its responsibilities regarding the delegated function(s), the Governing Organization may retain the bond in full, or in part, at its discretion.

**10.5** Failure to abide by any term of the Terms of League Operations, shall render a League subject to disciplinary action by Ontario Soccer including, but not limited to, one (1) or more of the following:

a) Forfeiture of the League's bond with Ontario Soccer;
b) A fine levied to the League;
c) Withdrawal of some of the Terms of League Operations;
d) The immediate withdrawal of Ontario Soccer approval to operate; and
e) If d) above is implemented, and upon the request of 50% of the League's membership, Ontario Soccer may reinstate the League under conditions that are mutually acceptable by the League's membership and Ontario Soccer.

**10.6 Approval of Terms of League Operations for Leagues Governed by Ontario Soccer**

**10.6.1** Each League shall annually apply to Ontario Soccer for approval to operate during the next playing season as part of the annual Ontario Soccer Membership Renewal process. If the League membership renewal is approved by Ontario Soccer Board, the League will operate under its Terms of League Operations which shall be approved by Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee.

**10.6.2** Each League shall, by March 15 (for an Outdoor League) and October 1 (for an Indoor League),

a) Verify the teams with "Full Team Identification" whose Clubs have applied to enter them in the League for the upcoming season; and
b) Submit a written summary of all discipline cases for the previous year.

**10.6.3** Ontario Soccer's Competitions Management Committee shall communicate with each League by February 15 (for Outdoor Leagues) and by October 15 (for Indoor Leagues) to review:

a) The League's Terms of League Operation;
b) The League's past season;
c) Any concerns the League may have; and
d) Any concerns about the League.

**10.6.4** The Terms of League Operation, including the teams playing in each of its divisions, for each League shall be considered for approval by Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee by March 31 (for an outdoor League) or by September 15 (for an indoor League).

**10.6.5** Where a League does not have a published deadline, Teams cannot be added after April 15th as per the above.

## PROCEDURE 11.0 – Soccer For Life Leagues' Divisions And Number Of Teams

| League Category | Max. No of Divisions (Per Age Group) | Teams per Division (Minimum) | Teams per Division (Maximum) | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Provincial Elite Senior** | One (1) | 8 | 12 | The League may operate one (1) division at this top level.<br>The League may be permitted, in exceptional circumstances, to operate with fewer than 8 teams. |
| **Provincial Elite Under 21** | One (1) | 8 | 12 | |
| **Provincial Senior** | Two (2) | 8 | 12 | The League may operate up to three (3) divisions at this level and are structured horizontally (geographically).<br>The League may be permitted, in exceptional circumstances, to operate with fewer than 8 teams. |
| **Provincial Under 21** | Three (3) | 8 | 12 | |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Regional Senior** | Three (3) | 6 | 12 | The League may operate up to three (3) divisions at this level and are structured horizontally (geographically). The League may be permitted, in exceptional circumstances, to operate with fewer than 6 teams or more than 12 teams. |
| **Regional Under 21** | Three (3) | 6 | 12 | |
| **District Competitive Senior** | Unlimited | 6 | 12 | The League may be permitted, in exceptional circumstances, to operate with fewer than 6 teams or more than 12 teams. |
| **District Recreational Senior** | Unlimited | 4 | | Maximum number of teams shall be accordance with the published rules of the League. |
| **Local Senior** | Unlimited | | | Maximum number of teams shall be accordance with the published rules of the League. |
| **Regional Youth League** | Two (2) | 6 | 8 | Where a League operates two (2) divisions, they must be horizontally structured. A League may be permitted, in exceptional circumstances, to operate with fewer than 6 teams. |
| **District Competitive Youth League** | Unlimited | 6 | 12 | A League may be permitted, in exceptional circumstances, to operate a division with fewer than 6 teams or more than 12 teams. |
| **Local Youth Interlock League** | Unlimited | | | Maximum and minimum number of teams shall be in accordance with the rules set out by the Clubs. |

## PROCEDURE 12.0 – Professional Amateur (Pro-Am) Soccer

### 12.1 Membership

a) A Pro-Am League may be granted Non-Voting (Associate) Membership upon approved application, and compliance with Ontario Soccer By-Laws, Policies and Procedures.

b) A Pro-Am League shall annually require Ontario Soccer approval for any out-of-province team to participate in their League and equivalent if a team requests permission to play-out into another out-of-province Pro-Am league.

### 12.2 Discipline, Appeals, Dispute Resolution

a) Discipline, Appeals and Dispute Resolutions occurring in Pro-Am Leagues governed by Ontario Soccer shall be handled in accordance with the Leagues' and Ontario Soccer's respective procedures.

b) A dispute between a registered Player and member Club of a Pro-Am League or between member Clubs of a Pro-Am League shall be dealt with by the League Commissioner or Board of Directors under a published League procedure which shall be approved by Ontario Soccer.

### 12.3 Competitions

A Pro-Am League, upon proper application to Ontario Soccer, shall be permitted to organize and run a cup competition which is open to other senior Club teams in addition to its own member Club team.

## PROCEDURE 13.0 – Interlocking League Divisions

**13.1** Interlocking shall mean that a League shall schedule games for the teams in any one (1) of its divisions against:

a) The teams in a division of another League or Leagues; or
b) The teams in one (1) or more of its other divisions.

**13.2** A League may only interlock with a League which has the same League category.

**13.3** The results of such games shall be included in the League standings of all involved interlocking divisions.

**13.4** Two (2) or more Leagues interlocking with each other must advise their Governing Organization, in writing, about which division(s) they are interlocking and make their interlocking schedule available prior to the commencement of the playing season.

## PROCEDURE 14.0 – Approval Of Teams To Play In An Amateur League Governed By Ontario Soccer

**14.1** A Club (where eligible) may only apply to a League for which it already has, or has qualified to have, the *Position* for the appropriate division of that League.

**14.2** A Club (where eligible) shall submit its written application for team entry into the League, on a form provided by the League which includes the provision of *"Full Team Identification"* for each team, to the League by a deadline established by the League.

**14.3** Each League shall decide on all "Team Entry" applications, 14 days before Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee approves Teams in League. All decisions will be rendered, in writing, within forty-eight (48) hours after the decision is made.

**14.4** A Club (where eligible) which has been denied "Team Entry" for one (1) of its teams into a division of a League may appeal the League's decision to Ontario Soccer.

**14.5** Each team which has been approved by the League requires the final approval of Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee.

**14.6** The Club's District Association and the involved League(s) may submit a "Club Promotion Objection" to Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at which team will be considered for approval by the Competitions Management Committee.

**14.7** When the specified timelines have not been met, Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee may approve the inclusion of an additional team in a League providing that the League has notified Ontario Soccer, at least 14 days prior to the meeting, the name of the additional team and its Club.

**14.8** A League may impose restrictions on the number of teams permitted to be operated by a Club (where eligible) within a single division operated by that League. This may include specific conditions under which a Club (where eligible) may operate more than one (1) team in a division. All restrictions and conditions must be included in the League's published rules.

**14.9** A Club (where eligible) shall move up the Pyramid for Play one (1) level at a time, or shall move down, the Pyramid for Play one (1) or more level(s) at a time.

**14.10** A Club (where eligible) which is promoted into or remains in (from the previous playing season), a Senior/Youth Provincial League, Senior/Youth Regional League or a Senior/Youth District Competitive League shall not be required to obtain "*Playing-Out Permission*" from its District Association. In the case of a Club (where eligible) playing into an adjacent Regional League, the Club shall be subject to the Operational Procedures.

**14.11** If a Club (where eligible) operates the same team in more than one (1) League, it shall only be eligible to be promoted from the Team in the higher League level or in the higher division of the same League.

**14.12** A Senior Provincial League, Senior/Youth Regional League or a Senior/Youth District Competitive League may deviate from these "*Club Movement*" procedures only if approved by Ontario Soccer.

**14.13** Procedures on promotion and relegation, and team placement, within the Divisions of a League at any given League Level, shall be defined in the League's Operational Procedures and approved annually during approval of the League's Terms of League Operations.

**14.14** A League must relegate the same number of Clubs as the number of Clubs promoted into it.

**14.15** If (a) Club(s) declines promotion into a Competitive League, the offer of promotion shall be extended to the next Club(s) provided that the Club(s) was within six (6) points of the last eligible Club to qualify for promotion. Eligibility is based on the original year-end standings.

**14.16** All Leagues must submit the final League standings to Ontario Soccer within thirty days of the conclusion of the League schedule.

**Entry Level into Outdoor Competitive Soccer**

**14.17** Without any pre-qualification, a Club shall have the right to enter a team in a Senior District Competitive League provided that it registers its Players in the competitive Player classification.

**14.18** The entry level into outdoor competitive soccer shall be at the Senior/Youth District Competitive League level. Under exceptional circumstances, Ontario Soccer may approve an entry level for a Club at the Senior Provincial or Senior/Youth Regional Level levels.

**Youth Pyramid**

**14.19** The following Operational Procedures are only applicable to Soccer For Life Competitive Leagues and do not apply to Local Interlock Leagues and District Development Leagues. There shall be no promotion of Under-13 teams into Under-14 age divisions.

**14.20** An Under-14 or older aged team in an age-specific division of a Youth League must move on to the next highest age division after each playing season.

**14.21** If an age-specific division includes two-year increments or greater, the team may stay in that age division for a maximum number of years no greater than the number of years included in the increment (i.e., for two-year increments, the team may stay in that age division for a maximum of two (2) years).

**14.22** A Youth Regional League with eight (8) or less Clubs does not have to relegate any Club(s) to the Youth District Competitive League(s).

**14.23** At the "*youngest operating age division*" of a Youth Regional League, a minimum of eight (8) teams will be promoted into the Youth Regional League. Promotion is based on District Associations' identification of eligible teams for competition in Regional Leagues. The formula for determining promotion to the Regional Leagues is managed by the Competitions Management Committee of Ontario Soccer.

**14.24** If there are two (2) or more Youth District Competitive Leagues in the Region, the Competitions Management Committee of Ontario Soccer shall determine the formula used to move teams between the Youth Regional League and the Youth District Competitive Leagues. Promotion is based on District Associations' identification of eligible teams for competition in Regional Leagues.

**14.25** A relegated Club(s) shall be relegated directly to the Youth District Competitive League(s) in the same Region with which its Club is affiliated.

**Club Movement between Two (2) Adjacent Regional Leagues**

**14.26** If a Youth Regional League operates a specific age division during one (1) playing season and in the subsequent year, does not operate that division at the next age and gender classification, the Clubs in that

division, except for a Club relegated out of the Youth Regional Division, will be eligible to play in the Youth Regional Division for that age and gender classification operated in an adjacent Region.

**14.27** If a League accepts teams from an adjacent Region into its Youth Regional Division in accordance with these Procedures, no Club from its Region, except for a Club relegated out of its Youth Regional Division, will lose its position in that division due to the influx of additional teams from the adjacent Region and the Youth Regional Division shall be permitted to operate with more than the maximum Clubs permitted by the Operational Procedures as long as those teams from the adjacent Region are included in the Division.

**Senior Pyramid**

**14.28** A Club may be promoted from a Senior District Competitive League to a Senior Provincial League only if it is a Club in a Region without a Senior Regional League and it has been denied entry into the Senior Regional and Senior District Competitive League(s) in its adjacent Region(s).

**14.29** A Club shall be relegated from a Senior Provincial League to a Senior District Competitive League only if it is a Club in a Region without a Senior Regional League and it has been denied entry into the Senior Regional League, and in such cases, the Club shall not be required to obtain "Playing-Out Permission" from its District Association.

**14.30** A League with less than ten (10) Clubs does not have to relegate any Club(s).

**14.31** A Senior Provincial League, Senior Regional League or a Senior District Competitive League, with ten or more Clubs but less than the maximum number of Clubs permitted by the Published Rules, must relegate at least one (1) Club but it may promote more Clubs into it than it relegates.

**14.32** (A) relegated Club(s) shall be relegated directly and there shall be no playoff involving promoted Clubs and relegated Clubs.

**14.33** If a Senior Regional League or a Senior District Competitive League exceeds the maximum number of Clubs permitted by the Published Rules in any of its divisions because additional Clubs are promoted or relegated into it, in accordance with the rules governing Club movement (i.e.., promotion and relegation), it shall be permitted to operate with more than the maximum Clubs permitted by the Published Rules but, at the end of the playing season, it must relegate additional Club(s) to the District League(s) in order to reduce the number of Clubs to comply with the maximum number permitted.

**Club Movement of Teams**

**14.34** Team Movement from Youth Pyramid to Senior Pyramid

a) Team Movement into Open Age Divisions of Senior League

A team moving from the Youth Pyramid into the Open Age Divisions of a Senior League shall move into the bottom division operated by that Senior League.

b) Team Movement into Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Divisions of a Senior League

A team may move from the Youth Pyramid into any Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Division operated by a Senior League subject to the following qualifications:

i. A team moving from a Youth District Recreational League or a Youth Local League is eligible to move into any Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 recreational Division operated by a Senior District League or a Senior Local League, subject to the League's rules.
ii. A team moving from a Youth Local League is eligible to move into the bottom Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 District Division or Senior District Division operated by a Senior League.
iii. A team finishing in first place or second place in the top Under-18 Division of a Youth Regional League or a Youth District Competitive League is eligible for promotion into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Regional Divisions of a Senior League.
iv. A team finishing in third place or fourth place in the top Under-18 Division of a Youth Regional League or a Youth District Competitive League is eligible to apply for promotion

into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Regional Divisions of a Senior League and acceptance of the application will be entirely at the discretion of the League and subject to approval by the Competitions Management Committee.

v. A team finishing in fifth place or a lower place in the top Under-18 Division of a Youth Regional League or a Youth District Competitive League is eligible for promotion into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Regional Division or Senior District Competitive Division of a Senior League and acceptance of the application will be entirely at the discretion of the League and subject to approval by the Competitions Management Committee.

vi. A team playing in a lower Under-18 Division of a Youth Regional League or a Youth District Competitive League is eligible to apply for promotion into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Regional Division or Senior District Competitive of a Senior League and acceptance of the application will be entirely at the discretion of the League and subject to approval by the Competitions Management Committee.

vii. A team finishing in first place or second place in the top Under-18 Division of a Youth Regional League is eligible for promotion into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Provincial Division of a Senior League.

viii. A team finishing in first place, second place, third place, fourth place, fifth place, sixth place or seventh place in the Under-18 Division of a Youth Provincial League is eligible for promotion into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Provincial Division of a Senior League.

ix. A team finishing in eighth place or a lower place in the top Under-18 Division, or in any place in a lower Under-18 Division, of a Youth Provincial League is eligible to apply for promotion into the Under-19, Under-20 or Under-21 Senior Regional Division of a Senior League, subject to the League's rules and acceptance of the application will be entirely at the discretion of the League and subject to approval by the Competitions Management Committee.

**14.35 Team Movement from Under 19-U21 Division of a Senior League into Open Age Division of a Senior League:**

**14.35.1 Men's Leagues:**

a) A team moving from the Under-21 Division of a Senior District Recreational League or a Senior Local League shall be eligible to move into any recreational Division operated by a Senior Recreational League or a Senior Local League, subject to the League's rules.

b) A team moving from the Under-21 Division of a Senior District Competitive League, Senior District Recreational League or Senior Local League, shall be eligible to move into the bottom "District Competitive League" division operated by a Senior League.

c) A team finishing in first place or second place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Regional League is eligible for promotion into the top “Regional” Open Age Division of a Senior Competitive League.

d) A team finishing in third place or fourth place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Regional League is eligible to apply for promotion into the top “Regional Level” Open Age Division of a Senior Competitive League.

e) A team finishing in fifth place or any lower place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Regional League is eligible for promotion into the second "District League Level" Open Age Division of a Senior District Competitive League.

f) A team finishing in first place or second place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Provincial League is eligible for promotion into the top Senior Regional Open Age Division of a Senior League.

g) A team finishing in third place or fourth place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Provincial League is eligible to apply for promotion into the top Senior Regional Open Age Division of a Senior League.

h) A team finishing in fifth place or any lower place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Provincial League is eligible for promotion into the top "Senior District Competitive League Level" Open Age Division of a Senior League.

**14.35.2 Women's Leagues:**

a) A team moving from the Under-21 Division of a Senior District Recreational League or Senior Local League shall be eligible to move into any recreational Division operated by a Senior District Recreational League or a Senior Local League, subject to the League's rules.

b) A team moving from the Under-21 Division of a Senior District Competitive League, Senior District Recreational League or Senior Local League shall be eligible to move into the bottom Senior District Competitive League division operated by a Senior League.

c) A team finishing in first place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior District Competitive League is eligible for promotion into the top Senior Regional League Open Age Division of a Senior League.

d) A team finishing in second place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior District Competitive League is eligible to apply for promotion into the top Senior Regional League Open Age Division of a Senior League.

e) A team finishing in first place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Regional League is eligible for promotion to the top Senior Regional Open Age Division of a Senior League and is also eligible to apply for promotion into the Senior Provincial League Open Age Division of a Senior League.

f) A team finishing in second place, third place or fourth place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Regional League is eligible for promotion to the top Senior Regional League Open Age Division of a Senior League. Acceptance of the application will be entirely at the discretion of the League and subject to approval by the Competitions Management Committee.

g) A team finishing in the last two (2) positions in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Regional League is eligible for promotion to the top Senior District Competitive League Open Age Division of a Senior League.

h) A team finishing in first place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Provincial League is eligible for promotion to the Senior Provincial Open Age Division of a Senior League.

i) A team finishing in second place, third place or fourth place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Provincial League is eligible for promotion to the top Senior Regional League Open Age Division of a Senior League and is also eligible to apply for promotion into the Senior Provincial League Open Age Division of a Senior League.

j) A team finishing in fifth or any lower place in the Under-21 Division of a Senior Provincial League is eligible for promotion to the top Senior Regional League Open Age Division of a Senior League.

**14.36 Reserve Teams of Clubs, League One (1) Ontario and the Senior Provincial Division of a Men's Senior League or a Women's Senior Provincial League**

Notwithstanding applicable procedures, a Club may operate an Under-21 reserve team for its team in the:

a) Senior Provincial Division of the Men's Senior Provincial League
b) Senior Provincial Division of the Women's Senior Provincial League

In the Senior Provincial League Under-21 Division or in a Senior Regional League Under-21 Division without having to qualify for promotion. In such cases, the team will not be eligible for promotion into a Senior "Open Age" Division.

## PROCEDURE 15.0 – Playing Out Permission
### (Club Application To Enter Team In League Outside Its Normal Jurisdiction)

**15.1** A Club shall apply annually to its Governing Organization(s) to enter a team in a League outside its normal jurisdiction.

**15.2** In order for a team to play in a Senior Regional League, Youth Regional League, or (if governed by Ontario Soccer) Youth District Competitive League in an adjacent Region, the Club (where eligible) is required to obtain:

a) "Playing-Out Permission" approved by its District Association
b) Permission from Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee

Each District Association shall notify Ontario Soccer which Club(s) it has approved, and which Club(s) it has denied, to play in a League in an adjacent Region, prior to the meeting at which the approval of the team(s) will be considered by Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee.

**15.3** A Club which has been denied "playing-out permission" for one (1) of its teams, may appeal its District Association decision to Ontario Soccer.

**15.4** In the case of youth teams or grassroots teams, each annual application shall be treated on its own merits and neither the granting nor the denial of "Playing-Out Rights" in any previous year shall be regarded as setting a precedent in the matter.

**15.5 Ontario Soccer's PLAYING OUT CRITERIA**

In cases where "District Playing-Out Permission" is required, permission to "play out" into a League not under the jurisdiction of the District Association will only be granted if:

a) A written application is submitted on a form provided by the District Association, and which is submitted by a member of the Club's Board of Directors to the District Association; which includes:
    i. "Full Team Identification" for the team entering the League outside its normal jurisdiction:
    ii. Proof that the League is affiliated to a Governing Organization;
    iii. A copy of the League's Constitution if a copy of the current constitution is not on file with the Governing Organization considering the application;
    iv. A copy of the League's Executive Committee, complete with names, position titles, addresses, email addresses and telephone numbers; and
    v. A copy of the written approval for the applying team to participate provided by the League's Governing Organization, plus, for new applications, written acknowledgement from the League that participation by the team cannot begin until Ontario Soccer criteria for permission to "Play-Out" have been met.
b) The Club's team has demonstrated based on performance that it is competitive at a level of play above that available within the District and commensurate with that in the League in which the Club wishes to enter its teams;
c) Play is not available at the same level within the District as that in the League in which the Club wishes to enter its team;
d) Granting "Playing-Out Permission" will not jeopardize the operation of any existing District League; and/or
e) A "District Playing-Out Bond", if required, is submitted to the District Association

**15.6** A District Association may grant "District Playing-Out Permission" to a Club's team on the basis that special conditions apply which make the team an exception compared to other teams in its District.

**15.7** In general, a Club's team will not be given "District Playing-Out Permission" unless it has demonstrated that it is a suitable ambassador for the District Association based upon, but not limited to, the following criteria:

a) The team has a satisfactory discipline record;

b) The team has consistently met its financial obligations in a timely manner; has a record of honouring its commitments as evidenced by a lack of forfeited games and by the completion of all scheduled games for its Leagues, cup competitions and tournaments in which it has been entered; and
c) While away, the team has behaved, and not acted in any way which would serve to bring its home District Association into disrepute;
d) While at home, the team has carried out its duties in an exemplary manner;

**15.8** A Club looking to play in a League governed by another Provincial Association must complete the requirements in 15.5 as well as the following:

a) It must apply to, and obtain permission from, its own Governing Organization to "Play-Out";
b) After completion of a), it must apply to Ontario Soccer for permission to "Play-Out" of Ontario, and the application must be submitted, on a form provided by Ontario Soccer, by no later than 60 days prior to the Board meeting at which it wishes its application to be considered;
c) The application must be accompanied by the Club's rationale for why Ontario Soccer Pyramid for Play cannot meet its team's competitive needs;
d) Ontario Soccer's Competitions Management Committee shall review the application and make a recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer;
e) The Chief Executive Officer may approve such an application even when the specified timelines have not been met; and
f) Proof of insurance must be provided by the Club naming Ontario Soccer, District Association and the Ontario Club as additional insured.

**15.9** A Club looking to play in a League governed by a foreign association must complete the by no later than November 1 of the previous year, as well as the following:

a) It must obtain the approval of Canada Soccer in accordance with its published rules;
b) The Club must advise Ontario Soccer in advance of its intention to apply to join a foreign League; and
c) A senior men's or senior women's team applying for the first time must meet the criteria defined below.

The criteria to be considered by Ontario Soccer shall be as follows:

a) The Club shall provide evidence that the team has the operational, financial and discipline performance, and coaching qualifications, sufficient to properly represent Ontario while participating in a foreign League;
b) The Club shall provide evidence that the team has a competitive record in Ontario Soccer Pyramid for Play which justifies its request to play in a League governed by a foreign association;
c) Where a Club believes that its specific circumstances (e.g., geography) will prevent it from meeting the criteria above, it may apply directly to Ontario Soccer for consideration

**15.10** Where approval is granted by Ontario Soccer and the League is USL, the team shall:

a) Not be eligible to enter the Ontario Cup;
b) Not be eligible to enter the National Club Championships;
c) Be granted an exemption from the four (4) youth team and/or mini-soccer team minimum requirement
d) Register Players in accordance with applicable Registration Procedures

## PROCEDURE 16.0 – Playing In Permission
### (Out Of Province Team Playing In An Ontario League)

**16.1** A League in Ontario wishing to permit a non-Ontario team to play in it, must apply annually for permission, in accordance with the following procedures:

a) It must apply to, and obtain permission from, its own Governing Organization to allow the non-Ontario team to play within its League;
b) After completion of a), it must apply to Ontario Soccer by no later than February 1st (for an Outdoor League) and by no later than September 1st (for an Indoor League);
c) The application form must be accompanied by all of the following items:
    i. "Team Identification" for the out-of-province team applying to play in League;
    ii. Proof that the team is operated by a Club affiliated to a Governing Organization; (i.e., Letter from Governing Organization)
    iii. A copy of the written approval by the Club's Governing Organization which approves the participation of the team in the Ontario League;
    iv. The Club must provide proof of insurance for its Club, team and Players for games played in the Ontario League.

d) Ontario Soccer Competitions Management Committee shall review the application and make its recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer by no later than March 1st (for an Outdoor League) and by no later than October 1st (for an Indoor League);
e) The Chief Executive Officer may approve such an application, at its discretion, even when the specified timelines have not been met.

## PROCEDURE 17.0 – Player Movement Agreements

**17.1** A Player Movement Form is a document signed by two (2) soccer organizations under which they agree to "play up" Players from the teams of one (1) organization to teams of the other organization in League games and in accordance with the terms listed on the applicable Player Movement Form.

**17.2** The "Standardized Player Movement Form " is to be provided by Ontario Soccer and it will include the terms of the agreement.

**17.3** The following Player Movement Form may be approved by Ontario Soccer:
a) Professional/Pro-Am Team with Amateur Team
b) Youth to Senior
c) Youth to Youth
d) Grassroots
e) OPDL Player Movement Form Agreement - Youth Amateur

**17.4** The "Player Movement Form " must be approved with the following organizations in order to be in effect:
a) Ontario Soccer;
b) The District Association with which the two (2) organizations are affiliated; and
c) The League in which the team(s) play(s).

**17.5** The individual Player will not register or sign an agreement with the organization with which her/his organization has a "Player Movement Agreement".

**17.6** A "Temporary Eligibility Permit" is not required when such movement occurs.

**17.7** The Player must obtain "Ontario Soccer Registration Identification" which must be available for presentation at each game in which they are playing. Failure to present the Identification shall render the Player ineligible to play in that game.

**17.8** The League may impose limitations on such movement provided that the limitations are applied consistently.

**17.9** A "Player Movement Agreement" between two (2) organizations shall be in effect for one (1) year only and may be renewed on an annual basis.

**17.10** Either organization may terminate the "Player Movement Agreement" at any time during the year by providing written notice to the other organizations and by submitting a copy of the written notice to:

a) Ontario Soccer;

b) The District Association with which the two (2) organizations are affiliated; and
c) The League in which the team(s) play(s).

# SECTION 7 – MATCH OFFICIALS

## PROCEDURE 1.0 – General Regulations

**1.1** An Ontario Soccer registered Match Official on the Official List of Match Officials (registration database) may only officiate sanctioned Ontario Soccer games. Any Ontario Soccer registered Match Official that officiates in an unsanctioned game is subject to disciplinary actions under Ontario Soccer Discipline Policy.

**1.2** All Match Officials shall enforce the appropriate Laws of the Game and competition rules as per Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer directives.

**1.3** No person shall take part as an official in any competition under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer, who is not on the Official List of Match Officials. However, if in unforeseen circumstances an official fails to show up for a game or is unable to act, the Competition Host Organization or the Team Officials shall have the right to agree on some other person who is willing to officiate in accordance with the competition rules.

**1.4 Ontario Soccer Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Match Officials**

A Match Official may not accept an appointment if they have a Conflict of Interest. Conflicts of interest arise if an official has, or appears to have, private or personal interests that detract from their ability to carry out the obligations as an official with integrity in an independent and purposeful manner. If a registered Match Official has an immediate family member (spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, parent) who is a Player, Coach, or Team Official (including assistant Coaches, Managers, trainers, etc.) in a particular League and division, they cannot officiate in that division of that League.

The complete Conflict Of Interest policy is available here in Ontario Soccer Policy, Appendix A1: Ontario Soccer Governing Documents

## PROCEDURE 2.0 – Registration

**2.1** A Match Official must select the District in which they reside when completing the annual registration process.

**2.2** Registration is effective April 1st and terminates on March 31st of the following year.

**2.3** All persons wishing to be placed on the Official List of Match Officials shall register annually with Ontario Soccer. Each application shall be accompanied by the fee as set by Ontario Soccer. Ontario Soccer reserves the right to assess additional fees as deemed necessary. If all criteria are met, the name of the applicant shall be placed on the Official List of Match Officials.

**2.4** Registration includes:

a) Registration to Ontario Soccer
b) Registration to Canada Soccer for Provincial, Regional, District and Youth Match Officials

**2.5** A Match Official may only register in a classification for which they are accredited. If they wish to register at a lower classification, they must notify the Match Officials Development Staff in writing prior to March 31st of the current year.

**2.6** A person wishing to register as a Match Official must complete an annual Laws of the Game (LOTG) evaluation. A Match Official may request one (1) re-take of the annual education evaluation if they fail to meet the required mark for their individual grade as per Ontario Soccer Grading Protocol document.

**2.7** A Match Official who has let their registration lapse two (2) years or more and who applies for re-instatement may be required to re-take the Canada Soccer Entry Level accreditation course, and will have their case reviewed by the Ontario Soccer Match Officials Development lead, who, in making a decision, will be guided by Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations. The Match Official requesting re-instatement will be required to pass the Laws of the Game (LOTG) evaluation at the level deemed appropriate by Ontario Soccer.

**2.8** A complete list of names and addresses of all Match Officials on Ontario Soccer's Official List of Match Officials will be forwarded to Canada Soccer annually by a date set by Canada Soccer.

**2.9** Ontario Soccer will determine what will be included in the registration package on an annual basis.

**2.10** Persons wishing to start officiating must first attend the appropriate accreditation course.

**2.11** Ontario Soccer has the authority to request an annual registration fee from Development Support Team members (defined as Assessors, Instructors) that only register as a Development Support Team Member (and not a Match Official) if they are deemed to be earning funds from performing Ontario Soccer related duties.

**2.12** All Club Head Referees and District Referee Coordinators must register annually with Ontario Soccer. This registration is at no cost to those individuals holding these two (2) roles. A registration fee will apply to all other roles held by the individual.

**2.13** It will be required that a Match Official 18 years of age and older must provide confirmation that they have reviewed the Rowan's Law concussion awareness resources annually and must provide the confirmation on their annual registration.

## PROCEDURE 3.0 – Match Officials' Classification And Standards

**3.1** Match Official Classifications are based upon the classifications set by Canada Soccer.

Ontario Soccer Match Official Classifications are as follows:

- Provincial Match Official
- Regional Match Official
- District Match Official
- Youth Match Official
- Small-Sided Game Match Official

FIFA and Canada Soccer Referee Classifications are in accordance with Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations.

**3.2** Ontario Soccer may at its discretion re-examine, re-classify or re-grade any registered Match Official, and it may remove any Match Official from the Official List of Match Officials for just cause. Ontario Soccer may similarly reinstate a Match Official to the Official List of Match Officials.

**3.3** The review of a Regional and Provincial upgrading Match Official's file will be completed annually by Ontario Soccer. Match Officials will be notified in writing of their classification.

**3.4** Nominations for the Canada Soccer NextGen & Women's Program and National Referee, Instructor and Assessor classification shall be made annually by Ontario Soccer's Match Officials Development Program in consultation with the Match Officials Development Committee, and at the direction of Canada Soccer.

**3.5** A Match Official transferring to or from another province must complete the standard Canada Soccer Referee Transfer Form and submit to the Ontario Soccer Match Officials program staff.

**3.6** All Match Officials who wish to officiate Futsal must follow requirements as set by Canada Soccer.

**3.7** A Match Official must be a minimum of 12 years of age as of April 1st of the current year in order to be eligible to register as a Small Sided Game Match Official. A Match Official must be a minimum 14 years of age as of April 1st of the current year in order to register as a Youth Match Official.

**3.8** To register or maintain standing as a Small Sided Game Match Official, a Match Official must:

a) Be 12 years old as of April 1st of the current year; and
b) Complete the annual Laws of the Game evaluation.

**3.9** To be eligible for consideration for promotion to a Youth Match Official, the Small Sided Game Match Official must:

a) Be 14 years old as of April 1st of the current year;
b) Successfully complete the Canada Soccer Entry Level Accreditation course; and
c) Be in good standing.

When participants complete the Entry Level course in its entirety, they will be eligible to officiate as per the appointment chart

**3.10** To maintain classification as a Youth Match Official, a Match Official must:

a) Officiate only competitions that are sanctioned by Ontario Soccer;
b) Adhere to all Published Rules of Ontario Soccer and be in good standing;
c) Remain current by completing education programming, as required; and
d) Maintain registration each year & pay the annual fees as published by Ontario Soccer.
e) Meet the standards set out in the current version of Ontario Soccer Grading Protocol.

**3.11** A Youth Match Official will be promoted to a District Match Official on the day of the Youth Match Official's 16th Birthday.

**3.12** To maintain classification as a District Match Official, a Match Official must:

a) Officiate only competitions that are sanctioned by Ontario Soccer;
b) Adhere to all Published Rules of Ontario Soccer and be in good standing;
c) Remain current by completing education programming, as required;
d) Maintain registration each year and pay the annual fees as published by Ontario Soccer; and
e) Meet the standards set out in the current version of Ontario Soccer Grading Protocol.

**3.13** To be eligible for consideration for promotion to a Regional or Provincial Match Official, a District Match Official must follow the process stated in the Ontario Soccer Grading Protocol.

**3.14** To maintain classification as a Regional Match Official, a Match Official must:

a) Officiate only competitions that are sanctioned by Ontario Soccer;
b) Adhere to all Published Rules of Ontario Soccer and be in good standing;
c) Remain current by completing education programming, as required by Ontario Soccer;
d) Maintain registration each year and pay the annual fees as published by Ontario Soccer;
e) Meet the assessment standard required by Canada Soccer; and
f) Fulfill the Canada Soccer fitness test requirement for Regional Match Officials as stated in The Fitness Test Protocol Document.

**3.15** To maintain classification as a Provincial Match Official, a Match Official must:

a) Officiate only competitions that are sanctioned by Ontario Soccer;
b) Adhere to all Published Rules of Ontario Soccer and be in good standing;
c) Remain current by completing education programming, as required by Ontario Soccer;
d) Maintain registration each year and pay the annual fees as published by Ontario Soccer;
e) Meet the assessment standard required by Canada Soccer; and
f) Fulfill the Canada Soccer fitness test requirement for Provincial Match Officials as stated in The Fitness Test Protocol Document.

**3.16** Regulations regarding National Nomination are as per Canada Soccer's Regulations For the Registration And Control of Referees.

**3.17** No Match Official grade that meets the Ontario Soccer Grading requirement (as per the Ontario Soccer Grading Protocol) may be adjusted at any time, in any system without prior written approval of Ontario Soccer Match Officials Development staff.

**3.18** All Futsal Match Officials must register annually with Ontario Soccer and pay the required registration fee which will be determined annually.

**3.19** Futsal Match Officials will be graded based on the current Futsal Grading Protocol. Ontario Soccer has the right to adjust grades as required.

## PROCEDURE 4.0 – Fitness Tests

**4.1** FIFA, National list Match Officials and Assistant Referees, shall meet the requirements of Canada Soccer (CS).

**4.2** Provincial and Regional Match Officials shall meet the requirements of Canada Soccer.

**4.3** District Match Officials that require fitness testing, shall meet the fitness test standards set annually by Ontario Soccer as per The Fitness Test Protocol.

**4.4** A female Match Official wishing to pursue her career to officiate at the Senior Men's level (as specified in the Pyramid of Refereeing) must refer to the Canada Soccer Fitness Testing Guidelines: 2017 CSA Fitness Policies and Procedures for current and up-to-date fitness requirements.

**4.5** The organizing of fitness tests is the responsibility of Ontario Soccer. District level Fitness Tests will be organized by the District Association in consultation with Ontario Soccer. Approval of the fitness test, and the assignment of a Fitness Test Supervisor will be administered by Ontario Soccer.

**4.6** Any Match Official who is required by these Operational Procedures to complete a fitness test and fails to pass or does not attend the appropriate fitness test for their classification by May 31st each year shall be regarded as per Ontario Grading Protocol.

All Fitness testing shall be governed in accordance with the annually reviewed and published Ontario Soccer Fitness Testing Protocol, which includes but is not limited to covering sickness, injury, refusal, failure and re-instatement.

**4.7** Immediately upon declaring an injury in writing, or verbally, a Match Official will be ineligible to officiate until a doctors' note stating recovery is provided to Ontario Soccer. Until this point, the Match Official's online assigning account will be de-activated. Please refer to the Fitness Test Protocol. In the event of an injury, whereby a Match Official cannot complete the required Fitness Test, they must adhere to the annually reviewed and published Declared Injury Protocol.

**4.8** From time to time, Ontario Soccer may require a Match Official to attend and pass additional fitness tests for special competitions as deemed necessary.

## PROCEDURE 5.0 – Appointments

**5.1** Games will be assigned based on the Canada Soccer Pyramid of Assigning and Ontario Soccer Grading Protocol here: Match Officials Grading Protocol

**5.2** A registered Match Official may only officiate in games involving:

a) Registered teams playing in sanctioned competitions,
b) Special Olympics teams,
c) College, University, Grade School or High school competitions that have a current signed Ontario Soccer Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District Association and/or Ontario Soccer and the applicable School Board organization,
d) A registered team playing against a college team or a university team in a sanctioned competition
e) Municipally sponsored competitions, subject to the approval of the District Association.

**5.3** A Match Official wishing to accept games outside Ontario must request approval from Ontario Soccer in

writing by completing the Canada Soccer Application to Officiate Inter-Provincially or Internationally and submitting to the appropriate staff member a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the event.

**5.4** Games to which a Match Official may be eligible to officiate can be found in Ontario Soccer Match Officials Grading Protocol

**5.5** A Match Official may not turn back an appointment less than 72 hours prior to game time unless approved by the assignor and/or Ontario Soccer Match Officials Development staff.

**5.6** Match Official Appointments should be in accordance with the Futsal Match Official Grading Protocol which can be found here: Match Officials Futsal Grading Protocol

## PROCEDURE 6.0 – Match Officials Fees

**6.1** Match Officials may only be paid game fees and expenses at rates set in advance by Ontario Soccer or Leagues under whose jurisdiction the games are played. It is an offence to offer or for an official to ask for, or receive, more than the set rates.

**6.2** Unless otherwise stipulated in the rules of the competition, the home team, Club, League or Association shall pay all the designated fees and expenses.

**6.3** Each League in Ontario must adhere to the game fees set out in Ontario Soccer Match Officials Fee Protocol here: 2025-27 Match Officials Fee Protocol

**6.4** The maximum Match Official game fee may be increased when only a referee is required to officiate a game.

**6.5** The maximum Match Official game fees shall be reviewed every two (2) years.

**6.6** Each outdoor League shall follow the fee structure as per the Match Officials Fee Protocol and not pay more or less than the published game fee. Acknowledgement of compliance must be received by Ontario Soccer by no later than February 1 of each year. The Match Officials Fee Protocol does not apply to Indoor competition. Each Indoor League shall submit its schedule of Match Official fees to Ontario Soccer by no later than September 1 of each year.

**6.7** Each League will pay Match Officials for cancelled games as per Match Officials Fee Protocol**.**

**6.8** Cancelled games: A League must define and publish how and when a Match Official shall be notified and/or paid regarding a cancelled game.

**6.8.1** When a Match Official has arrived to the field to officiate a game and must declare the game cancelled or abandoned prior to the start of the game, the Match Official shall be paid a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the League's published game fee. The Match Official may be required by the League to collect the game sheets at the field and submit the game report in order to be compensated for the cancelled or abandoned game.

**6.8.2** When a league notifies the Match Official within the specified time as outlined in the League's policies, and in adherence with the Match Officials Fee Protocol, prior to the start of the game, the Match Official shall not receive remuneration for the game

***NOTE:*** *Fees related to canceled exhibition games should be reflected in Club Policies and Procedures.*

**6.9** All Match Officials assigned to Ontario Soccer program events (including but not limited to) Ontario Player Development League, Ontario Cup, OUA and OCAA matches) are required to adhere to the details of the Payment Policy and the standards, expectations, terms & conditions as defined in each program. The Payment Policy can be found here.

## PROCEDURE 7.0 – Reports

**7.1** All game reports, including dismissal, caution, injury, special incident or Match Official assault must be submitted within 48 hours of game completion to the appropriate authority.

**7.2** Failure to meet reporting timelines will result in Match Official discipline being initiated.

**7.3** In the event of Match Official Assault, Match Officials are advised to follow the steps laid out in Ontario Soccer Discipline Policy.

## PROCEDURE 8.0 – Assignors

**8.1** A District Referee Coordinator (DRC) should not simultaneously hold the role of Assignor in competitions overseen by their District Association or its member Clubs.

**8.2** No additional fees can be charged by any Association or Organization to a Match Official in order to be assigned games.

**8.3** Each District Association must provide to Ontario Soccer a complete list of all Leagues, and all game assignors annually by March 31st on the template provided by Ontario Soccer.

**8.4** Each assignor must annually register as a member of Ontario Soccer and accept and sign the Assignors Code of Ethics.

**8.5** Ontario Soccer reserves the right at any time to request from a District Association, League or Club a list of the game assignments for each competition assigned by its Assignors.

**8.6** No additional Referee Association, District or Club may require an additional membership fee or additional program for game assignments unless pre-approved by Ontario Soccer**.**

**8.7** Assignors are not permitted to officiate in a League in which they are the assignor unless the Assignor receives written approval from the District Referee Coordinator and the District Association. The District Referee Coordinator is permitted to restrict the number of matches in which an Assignor may assign themselves per week. Failure to comply with this procedure will be subject to disciplinary sanctions.

## PROCEDURE 9.0 – Assessors And Instructors Program

**9.1** Regulations for the Assessors and Instructors Programs of Ontario Soccer are in line with Canada Soccer's program.

**9.2** Only currently accredited Canada Soccer instructors, or designated Ontario Soccer instructors can deliver any Laws of the Game education, for the purposes of accreditation, in any format at any level.

**9.3** Any organization (School/Club/District/etc.) hosting any Ontario Soccer Match Officials Clinic where participants could be under the age of 18 years as of the date of the clinic, must ensure a representative is present in the classroom throughout the duration of the clinic proceedings.

# SECTION 8 - COACHES

## PROCEDURE 1.0 - Learning Facilitators For Coaching Clinics

**1.1** The selection criteria considered for those who wish to apply for a Learning Facilitator with Ontario Soccer's Coach Development Program can be found here. Refer to Guide to Coaching and Learning Facilitation for more information.

## PROCEDURE 2.0 – Course Fees

**2.1** Grassroots Coach Education course fees charged to host organizations shall be in accordance with Ontario Soccer's Grassroots Coach Education Hosting Guide

**2.2** Ontario Soccer shall host all Advanced Coach Education Program courses, as appointed by Canada Soccer, and determine the fees to be charged to each participant.

**2.3** Ontario Soccer shall host all Ontario Soccer designed program courses and determine the fees to be charged to each participant.

## PROCEDURE 3.0 - Coach Certification Requirements

**Refer to Guide To Coaching and Learning Facilitation for detailed information here.**

**3.1** Each Team Head Coach and each Assistant Coach must be registered by their Club in Ontario Soccer's registration system.

**3.1.2** A person may not be registered as a Competitive Team Head Coach per season for more than two (2) outdoor teams at any one (1) time.

**3.2 Minimum Coach Certification Requirements**

**3.2.1 Under-14 and Older Teams (including Senior Teams)**

**3.2.1.1** Each member Club must ensure at least one (1) Head Coach or Assistant Coach registering a team in one (1) of the following leagues or cup competitions:

a) Provincial, Regional and District Competitive League (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal)
b) Ontario Cup Competition - Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal

Is required to complete:

a) Soccer for Life (and/or higher licensing voluntarily or as required by an individual league or cup competition).
b) Respect in Sport certification;
c) Making Head Way in Soccer
d) Both Making Ethical Decisions & Making Ethical Decisions Online Evaluation
e) NCCP Emergency Action Plan
f) NCCP Rule of Two
g) The screening requirements of the position

**3.2.1.2** The same requirement stated in Procedure 3.2.1.1 applies to a Club Head Coach serving as a Team Official for a team in any of the above Leagues or cup competitions.

**3.2.2 OPDL Teams**

Each Coach registered with their organization and assigned by that organization as the Team Head Coach or as an Assistant Coach to an OPDL team is required to have certification in accordance with OPDL Operational Rules.

**3.2.3 Grassroot Squads (Under-13 and younger)**

**3.2.3.1** Each Coach registered with her/his Club and assigned by that Club as the Team Head Coach or as an Assistant Coach to a Grassroots squad playing in a Grassroots District Development Competition (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal) is required to have completed all coaching qualifications as detailed in Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

**3.2.3.2** Under 7 and younger squads, playing only in internal Club Competitions, shall have each Coach registered with her/his Club and assigned by that Club as the Team Head Coach or as an Assistant Coach will have completed all coaching qualifications laid out in Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

The same requirements shall apply to a Club Head Coach serving as a Team Official for a team at any of the above age groups.

**3.2.4 Under-7, 8 and 9 squads are Fundamentals**

**3.2.4.1** Each Coach registered with her/his Club and assigned by that Club as the Team Head Coach or as an Assistant Coach to an Under-8 squad playing in an Under-8 District Festival (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal) is required to have completed all coaching qualifications as detailed in Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

The same requirement applies to a Club Head Coach serving as a Team Official for a team in any of the above youth Festivals.

**3.2.5 Under-6 and below Squads**

**3.2.5.1** Each Coach registered with her/his Club and assigned by that Club as the team Head Coach or as an Assistant Coach to a Grassroots squad playing in one (1) of the following Grassroots Leagues:

Grassroots District Development League (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal) is required to have completed all coaching qualifications as detailed in Canada Soccer's Grassroots Standards.

The same requirement applies to a Club Head Coach serving as a Team Official for a squad in any of the above youth Leagues.

**3.3** All Youth teams regardless of the competition must have a minimum of one (1) registered Team Official on the bench at all times. If a team does not have a registered Team Official on the bench prior to the game or at any time during the game, the game will be abandoned and result awarded to the opposition.

**3.4** Each Club Team may have (a) Team Manager(s), Assistant Manager(s), Assistant Coach(es), Goalkeeper Coach(es), and Fitness Coach(es) as (a) Team Official(s).

**3.5** A maximum of five (5) team officials can be on the bench for any given match.

**ONTARIO SOCCER**
7601 Martin Grove Road, Vaughan ON, L4L 9E4
905.264.9390 ontariosoccer.net
Proud Member of CANADA

Play.
Inspire.
Unite.

# ONTARIO SOCCER

EST. 1901