



**ONTARIO
SOCCER**
EST. 1901

2026 – 2027 Operational Procedures

Section 2 – Registration

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

Notwithstanding 5.6 a) and 5.6 b), a League may choose to permit an exception for a maximum of two (2) Player who are one year younger than the required age.

- 5.7 In Open Age divisions, teams may contain Players of any age over the age of 16.

- 5.8 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: 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. There will only be "Match Day Maximums". 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	25 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		

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

5.10 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.

5.11 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.

5.12 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

5.13 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.

5.14 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 Notwithstanding, the following exceptions may be made:

- A District is responsible for the validation of Players and Team Officials.
- A Festival Host may not waive the requirement for a match day roster.

6.2 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. .



- 6.3** 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.
- 6.4** 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:
- Complete an Ontario Soccer "STRP" form complete with full name and age, using the required online form;
 - 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";
 - 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:
- They play with a "[Temporary Eligibility Permit](#)" (**TEP**): (Currently registered with a Club affiliated to Ontario Soccer or Canada Soccer.)
 - plays up in a League game for a higher-level Club Team of a Club other than one (1) with which they are registered,
 - 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
 - They play with a "STRP"; (not affiliated to Ontario Soccer or Canada Soccer)
 - plays as a guest Player in a tournament (subject to tournament rules) or exhibition game (subject to the agreement of both teams)
 - 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:
 - plays up in a League game or a cup game for a higher-level Club Team
 - 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).
 - Their Club permits them to play for another team within the same Local League in which they are registered to play.
 - 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.
 - They play for a Canada Soccer, Ontario Soccer, District Association, or League Select Team.
 - 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".
 - 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.



Play. Inspire. Unite.



- 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:
- The tournament rules permit guest Players.
 - The number of guest Players does not exceed the tournament rules or Ontario Soccer Operational Procedures.
 - 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.
 - The "TEP" entitles the Player to play in all of the games in the tournament; and
 - 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:
- The Player's League playing season has ended.
 - 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:
- 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.
 - 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.
 - Between Organizations in Different District Associations** - One (1) transfer within the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer, unless approved by Ontario Soccer with a valid rationale.
 - 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.
 - 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 were originally registered, they shall be allowed to transfer their services back to the team for which they were last registered.
 - International Transfers** – Based on the appropriate administrative processes in place by FIFA and Canada Soccer.
 - 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:
- The Player shall complete the applicable transfer application form.
 - The Player shall give written notice of his intention to transfer to the Club, which operates the team with which he is currently registered.
 - The Club shall have seven (7) days maximum to sign the transfer form.
 - 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**
- 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.
 - 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.



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