

2024 and 2025 Operational Procedures – Non-Game Related Changes/Rationale

OP Number	Game Related Change	Rationale
Section 1 – Governing Documents		
P. 1	NEW: Abuse - unfair, cruel, or violent treatment of someone, often with rude and offensive remarks	To add further clarity.
P. 1.12	NEW: Assault - An assault is the illegal act of causing physical harm or unwanted physical contact to another person, or, in some legal definitions, the threat or attempt to do so	To add further clarity.
P.1.131	Appeals Committee Panel shall mean a group of individuals either appointed or elected by a Governing Organization to consider all requests for "Leave to Appeal". and, where Leave to Appeal is granted, to appoint an Appeal Hearing Panel to hear any appeals that fall under the jurisdiction of the Governing Organization.	To provide further clarity and simplify the definition.
P. 1.15	Assessor and/or Mentor shall be a person appointed by a Governing Organization as an Administrator who provides feedback to Match Officials on their performance in officiating soccer games. They shall be treated as a Match Official on appointments they accept as either an Assessor or Mentor.	Removed for consistency, as this is the only contractor/role that is captured in definitions. As opposed to adding all others (Scouts, Learning Facilitators, etc.).
P. 1.217	Club Licensing shall mean a Club Licensing system in accordance with refers to the organizational development program, in accordance with Canada Soccer's Rules and Regulations, directives whose objectives are to safeguard the credibility and integrity of Club competitions, to improve the level of professionalism of soccer in Ontario, to promote sporting values in accordance with the principles of fair play as well as safe and secure match environments, and to promote transparency in the finances, management and control of Clubs. whose objectives are to set clearly defined standards and expectations for Clubs, drive change in the	Align the definition with the defined goals of the program as stipulated by Canada Soccer.

	soccer system, raise the level of all soccer organizations, and recognize excellence in the soccer community.	
P. 1.2218	Coach shall mean any registered person acting in the capacity of a Coach appointed by Ontario Soccer, a 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.	To add further clarity regarding the individual being registered.
P. 1.257	Computerized Digital Registration System	To add further clarity and use consistent terminology.
P. 1.20	Concurrent Sentence shall mean multiple suspensions served at the same time.	To further define different types of sentences.
P. 1.272	Conflict of Interest shall mean an incompatibility between one's private interests and one's duties as a trustee of a Governing Organization a situation in which a person is in a position to derive personal benefit from actions or decisions made in their official capacity.	To provide a simpler and clearer definition.
P. 1.3014	CS shall mean Canada Soccer which is the Governing Organization of soccer in Canada. Canada Soccer or CS is the Governing body for soccer in Canada.	Consistency with definitions including the full version and abbreviation.
P. 1.450	Focus Group shall mean a group collection of individuals, representing of from the applicable membership, chosen to review and provide review feedback to the development or revision of Operational Procedures, Programs, or other subject matters.	More encompassing definition as Focus Groups are used by multiple departments and teams in the organization.
P. 1.6256	Long Term Player Development , also known as LTPD, shall mean the Canada Soccer model designed to optimize Canadian excellence and lifelong wellness through soccer. 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.	More explicit definition as it relates to the application of LTPD in Ontario.

P. 1.6459	Match Official shall mean an individual who is either registered with Ontario Soccer to officiate soccer or Futsal games, or an individual who officiates a game in the absence of the appointed referee; a Club linesman Assistant Referee accepted by the referee; or a person serving as the "Official Timekeeper" at an Indoor or Futsal game.	To add further clarity and use consistent terminology.
P. 1.75	Probationary Sentence – relates to a period of time when an individual cannot commit any more offences.	To further define different types of sentences.
P. 1.975	Team Official shall mean anyone registered to a team as a Team Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Team Manager, Assistant Manager, Club Head Coach, Technical Director or other Technical Staff Coach (such as a Goalkeeper Coach, Athletic Therapist, etc.)	To add further clarity as to the Team Official definition.
P. 1.93	Suspended Sentence – the accused shall serve a period of probation and will be found guilty of the charges laid.	To further define different types of sentences.
1.103	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.	Violent Conduct required a better definition.
P. 4.1	Operational Procedures change process shall be managed by the Ontario Soccer Governance Committee Board of Directors through Ontario Soccer Staff the Director of Administration in accordance with the process outlined in 4.2 and 4.3.	This reflects the corrected process.
P. 4.2.2	...: Ontario Soccer Board, staff, District Association, Non-Voting Associate Member (non-voting) (Associate) or the District Presidents' Forum Voting Members Council	To add further clarity and use consistent terminology.

P. 4.3.1	New Non-Game Related Operational Procedures or changes to existing Non-Game Related Operational Procedures shall be initiated submitted by August 1 as part of a bi-annual biennial review process and completed on the appropriate Change Request form, with the rationale for each change. Submission will be managed by the Ontario Soccer Governance Committee through Ontario Soccer staff the Director, Administration . All submitted Non-Game-Related operational procedure changes are collated by Ontario Soccer staff and sent to the applicable Subject Matter Group for review.	To add further clarity and use correct terminology.
P. 4.5	Notwithstanding 4.2.2 and Article VI-5 e) 9 f) of the Ontario Soccer By-Laws, Game Related Operational Procedures may be amended by the Board with the majority support of the Voting Members Council at a District Presidents' Forum Presidents' Forum meeting at which the chair of the Voting Members Council Presidents' Forum or their representative is in attendance to present and defend the change or at a Members Meeting. Should the Provincial, Federal Government or Canada Soccer mandate legislation or regulations that affect any Ontario Soccer Operational Procedure, 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.	To reflect new bylaw Article number and correct terminology Voting Members Council.
P. 5.1	All requests for Special Dispensation from existing Operational Procedures must be submitted in the following way: i. Submitted digitally through a on a Special Dispensation Request form with all applicable information. The form is located here: Special Dispensation Form ii. Submitted to the Chief Executive Officer through a Member Organization (Voting Member - District Association or Non-Voting Member - Associate Member)	To clarify the correct terminology to be used. Creation of a fillable pdf and provide hyperlink to form to create efficiency. Edit link to read Special Dispensation Form.

Section 2 - Administration		
P. 2.3 i.	Soccer operations organizations operating in more than one District in accordance with the governing documents;	To correct terminology for consistency.
P. 6.0	Association Ontario Soccer Member's Meetings	No longer should be referred to as Association meetings, correct terminology.
Section 3 - Organizations		
S. 3	District Boundaries reference document	Delete as this document is no longer required and needs to be adjusted for readability and correct boundaries.
P. 1.1	<p>Ontario Soccer will consider accepting into Voting Membership, District Associations which have the following terms of reference:</p> <p>a) To affiliate with Ontario Soccer, and act as its branch association within a District boundary defined by the Board of Directors of Ontario Soccer.</p> <p>b) To promote, develop and govern the game of soccer, 11v11 Soccer, Small-Sided Soccer, Grassroots Soccer, Futsal, Beach Soccer and Accessible Soccer, in the District.</p> <p>b) To promote, develop and govern the game of soccer, in all its forms and modalities, in the District.</p> <p>c) To provide play for all ages and both genders.</p> <p>d) To administer Discipline and Appeals according to the standards of Ontario Soccer.</p> <p>e) To assist Ontario Soccer where required to implement To provide education initiatives for different stakeholders clinics for Coaches, referees, and administrators, according to the standards of Ontario Soccer.</p> <p>f) To oversee player registration within their District.</p> <p>g) To appoint, or delegate the appointment of, Match Officials for all games approved by the District Association.</p> <p>h) To affiliate all Leagues providing approved play within the District.</p> <p>i) To approve, monitor and/or provide Tournaments and</p>	<p>Adjustment of modalities to be more summative than exhaustive; especially as Ontario Soccer expands into other formats.</p> <p>Correction of title - Voting Members Council.</p>

	<p>Festivals within the District.</p> <p>j) To cooperate, collaborate and co-ordinate with its neighboring District Associations to provide opportunities for competition and development.</p> <p>k) To provide a District Association representative to serve on the Voting Members Council District Presidents' Provincial Forum.</p>	
P. 2.3	<p>A District Association must have a Constitution or By-Laws which is are in full compliance with the minimum requirements as defined in Appendix A Model District Association Constitution of the Ontario Not For Profit Corporations Act.</p>	<p>Remove Constitution and include link to the template for By-Laws. Constitution no longer term being used. Not Ontario Soccer By-Laws, instead By-Law Template.</p>
P. 3.1	<p>Application for membership within a District Association shall be made annually and must include; the required a) The required membership fee, together with the Articles of Incorporation and applicable documents set out by the District Association.</p> <p>b) Notwithstanding Procedure 3.1 a), certain organizations shall be exempt from the requirement to submit an audited Financial Statement.</p>	<p>b) is no longer required as it is in the applicable documents set out by the District Association.</p>
P. 5.0	II. Leagues	Remove (duplication) as it is redundant.
P. 6.0	III. Clubs	Remove (duplication) as it is redundant.
P. 6.8	<p>Club Head Coach Club Technical Lead</p> <p>A person registered as a Technical Director or Club Head Coach with a Club may serve as a Team Official for any team within that Club. The Club Head Coach shall not be permitted to register as a Team Manager or as an Assistant Manager.</p>	Title to be more encompassing.
P. 6.12	<p>Ontario Soccer and the applicable District Association, or the applicable District Association have the right to conduct financial and/or participant registration audits upon 30 days written notice to the Club.</p>	Action item of our strategic plan under Long Term financial stability. Procedure needed in our governing document so Ontario Soccer and/or District Association can initiate.

Section 4 - Finance, Committees & Awards

P. 2, 2.1 b)	b. Operational i. Technical Advisory Committee ii. Match Officiating Development Committee iii. Competitions Management Committee iv. Marketing Advisory Committee Marketing Partnerships Advisory Committee v. Diversity, Equity and Inclusivity Anti-Racism, Access and Equity Committee vi. Information Technology Committee vii. Research Advisory Committee	To correct and add to the names of the current Operational Committees.
--------------	--	--

Section 5 – Registration

P. 1.1	An individual or organization must register with Ontario Soccer prior to participating in any program under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer. An individual or organization is only registered with Ontario Soccer after the applicable data has been entered into Ontario Soccer’s electronic digital registration system and all applicable payments made in accordance with the organization’s procedures.	To add further clarity and correct terminology.
P. 1.2	An individual can participate as a player, team official, Match Official, referee assignor or administrator in a competition under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer by registering as such with Ontario Soccer’s electronic registration system.	Repeats information in Procedure 1.1 and is therefore redundant.
P. 2.3	A Player on a team playing in an amateur League is registered by his/her their Club with that Club’s District Association. A Player on a team playing in a Pro-Am League is registered by his/her 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.	All player registrations, for consistency, should be with the same organization unless they are professional players. To bring Districts further into the information cycle, so they know where all of the players in their District are playing, this is important information for Districts to have. Currently there is no notification to Districts when one of their players is selected to a program. This change would allow for more promotion, and

		assist in increased registration at grassroots levels.
P. 2.6	<p>Grassroots DEVELOPMENT Players (U12 and below) will be registered into Ontario Soccer's electronic-digital registration system, but are not required to be assigned to a team. These players remain in an open roster system and are assigned to game day rosters in accordance with the recommended Ontario Soccer Grassroots Standards. The intent, for Clubs with more than one team at an age group is for Players to move freely between teams, based on their developmental requirements.</p> <p>Grassroots Recreational players (12 and below) will be registered into Ontario Soccer's digital registration system, and may be assigned to a team at the Club's discretion.</p>	<p>Recreational Leagues, whether Club governed, or league governed, rely on team roster and game sheet checking to ensure that players are properly registered.</p> <p>In grassroots recreational leagues, teams are most-often required to be balanced within a Club, and formal teams assigned.</p>
P. 2.8	A Player is registered only after they have completed Ontario Soccer's Approved Registration Form and Waiver (hard copy or electronic) and their registration has been data entered into Ontario Soccer's digital registration system	<p>Add reference to the required waiver.</p> <p>Bold the last sentence from ". . . their registration has been . . ." to bring attention to the importance of the statement.</p>
P. 2.9	A player may register through Ontario Soccer's electronic registration system after Oct. 1 of the year prior to the upcoming outdoor playing season and after June 1st prior to the upcoming indoor playing season.	Remove the whole procedure as this is already covered in Procedure 2.8.
P. 3.2	Each League's Governing Organization will assign it a "LEAGUE REGISTRATION NUMBER". That number shall be used when referring to the League in League registration, team registration, player registration, Coach registration, and administrator registration.	This is no longer a practice.

P. 4.2	Each Club's District Association will assign it a "CLUB REGISTRATION NUMBER". That number shall be used when referring to the Club in Club League registration, team registration, player registration, Coach registration, and administrator registration.	This is no longer a practice.
P. 4.3	Each Club will assign to each of its Club Leagues a "LEAGUE REGISTRATION NUMBER". That number shall be used when referring to the Club League in League registration, team registration, player registration, Coach registration, and administrator registration.	This is no longer a practice.
P. 4.42	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. After the initial data entry of the Club's registration in Ontario Soccer's digital registration system, the Club shall remain registered until such time as the Club's Governing Organization de-registers the Club.	This is to reflect the implementation of the Club Licensing Program requirement as defined by Canada Soccer. For clarity, to make sure it's understood that Ontario Soccer has membership requirements for Clubs that need to be followed.
P. 5.4 d)	The Team Status; Team Classification; Team playing season; Team Gender; and Team Age Classification must comply with the registration requirements of the Ontario Soccer digital registration platform.	To emphasize the registration system requirements.
P. 6.1	Except where stipulated in these Governing Documents, Players and Team Officials shall be issued "Ontario Soccer REGISTRATION IDENTIFICATION" in either physical or digital form.	Remove "in physical or digital form" as it is not needed as it is all digital.
P. 6.4	The Ontario Soccer PLAYER REGISTRATION BOOK, Identification Card or Digital ID" is the property of the person identified.	For clarity and correct terminology.
P. 6.5	Notwithstanding Operational Procedure 6.1, the following exceptions may be made: A District Association has the right to determine how to manage the identification requirements for Players/Team	To provide further clarification as to the expectations of a District Association in regards to registration.

<p>Officials for Clubs. A District is responsible for how they validate or ensure how Players of the Club level are registered.</p> <p>-A Club operating an Outdoor Local League with the permission of its District Association, can waive the requirement for games in the League only for a player and/or team official to have an "Ontario Soccer Registration Book, Identification Card or Digital Identification."</p> <p>-An indoor team playing in an Indoor Local League or in an Indoor Tournament in which all the Indoor teams are from the same Club, players and/or team official(s) on that team will not be required to obtain an "Ontario Soccer Registration Book, Identification Card or Digital Identification."</p> <p>Grassroots Players:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · a Player registered in the Under-8 or a younger age classification will not be required to obtain an Ontario Soccer Registrant Book, Identification Card or Digital Identification. · a Club may waive the requirement for games in its Under-9 to Under-12 Local Recreational competitions only, for a player and Team Official to have an "Ontario Soccer Registrant Book, Identification Card or Digital Identification". · a District Association may waive the requirement for games in its Under-9 to Under-12 Development competitions only, for a player and team official to have an "Ontario Soccer Registrant Book" or "Ontario Soccer Digital Identification Card". · a Festival Host Organization may waive the requirement for games in its Festival competition only, for a player and team official to have an "Ontario Soccer Registrant Book, Identification Card or Digital Identification." 	
--	--

P. 6.7	<p>"Ontario Soccer Registration Book," or "Identification Card," or "Digital Identification Card" will be produced by verifying registration data from Ontario Soccer's registration system and will include the following:</p> <p>a) Ontario Soccer Registration Identification,</p> <p>b) Which provides the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · the registrant's photograph; · the registrant's <u>full</u> name; · the registrant's full date of birth; - the registrant's unique and/or parent guardian's unique email address · the registrant's "Ontario Soccer REGISTRANT NUMBER"; · an expiry date; and · the name of the Club the player is registering to;" 	<p>Addition of player's and/or parent's email address to facilitate proper use of SportsEngine as a user-based system. Allowing for proper communications with the membership.</p> <p>Addresses use of generic emails by Clubs to create new accounts when an account already exists for the individual.</p>
P. 7.4	Electronic Registration System User Account Procedures	This Operational Procedure is no longer applicable.
P. 7.4.1	<p>Ontario Soccer Ontario Soccer Staff and other authorized personnel will receive a user account from Information Technology staff of Ontario Soccer. Training will be provided by Electronic Registration System Service Provider. (See Guide – User Training)</p>	This Operational Procedure is no longer applicable.
P. 7.4.2	<p>District Associations The District Administrator will be assigned a user account by Information Technology staff from Ontario Soccer or their approved designate. Additional accounts for the District Association can be managed within the registration system directly by the District Administrator. The User Confidentiality Agreement must be signed by each User before a User Account is created for that person. In addition to published training resources, additional training for the District Administrator</p>	This Operational Procedure is no longer applicable.

	can be provided by the Electronic Registration System Service Provider.	
P. 7.4.3	Leagues under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer User accounts will be created upon request to Ontario Soccer. The User Confidentiality Agreement must be signed by each User before a User Account is created for that person. In addition to published training resources, additional training will be provided to League Administrators by the Electronic Registration System Service Provider. Leagues under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer User accounts will be created upon request to Ontario Soccer. The User Confidentiality Agreement must be signed by each User before a User Account is created for that person. In addition to published training resources, additional training will be provided to League Administrators by the Electronic Registration System Service Provider.	This Operational Procedure is no longer applicable.
P. 7.4.4	User access is terminated upon request from an Ontario Soccer member organization.	This Operational Procedure is no longer applicable.
P. 9.3	Any Player who receives remuneration in excess of the allowable expenses amount stated in 11.2 9.2 in respect of participation in, or an activity connected with, soccer shall be regarded as professional.	To correct the reference to the placement in the Operational Procedures.
P. 9.4	The amateur/professional status of Players shall be determined in accordance with Procedures 11.1, 11.2, and 11.3 9.1, 9.2, and 9.3 above below by the National Association with which they are registered.	To correct the reference to the placement in the Operational Procedures.

P. 10.4	Upon receipt of a properly completed application, Ontario Soccer will issue a "Permit To Play Pending Reinstatement" with an effective date fourteen days after receipt of the application by Ontario Soccer. This will permit the player to be registered and play as an amateur player.	Remove as we do not issue a "Permit To Play Pending Reinstatement" and Canada Soccer does not provide such a form.
P. 10.5	If the application for reinstatement is subsequently denied by Canada Soccer, the player's pending reinstatement will be cancelled and registration be revoked.	Remove as we do not issue a "Permit To Play Pending Reinstatement" and Canada Soccer does not provide such a form.
P. 11.1 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.	To clarify the process with the addition of a new operational procedure.
P. 11.4	The fee payable for transfer shall be set by Ontario Soccer. The fee together with a copy of the transfer form, shall be sent to Ontario Soccer by the District Association into which the player is transferring within seven days of such transfer.	Remove 12.4 - as we have confirmed there is no fee.
P. 11.5	Player transfers within the same Club to a higher or lower age or playing level classification shall remit the required Ontario Soccer registration fee to the applicable Club where applicable.	Clubs use the Oscar tools to transfer players internally.
P. 11.5 c)	A District Association shall respond to Ontario Soccer within six days seven (7) days after it receives the written notification from Ontario Soccer about the Inter-Provincial Transfer request.	To bring timing inline and consistent with Canada Soccer to reduce confusion.
P. 11.5. d)	If the District Association does not respond within six days seven (7) days , Ontario Soccer shall: a. Assume a compliance position by the District Association and Club; and b. Advise the Provincial Association that the Player has no further obligations to their her/his former Club and is free to transfer.	To bring timing inline and consistent with Canada Soccer to reduce confusion.

P. 11.5 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.	For further clarity on the procedure required.
P. 11.6 a)	When a P layer was last registered to play in another Provincial Association other than Ontario, an Inter Provincial Transfer is required to release the P layer from the Province with which they were previously registered	To provide clearer inclusive terminology.
P. 11.6	ADJUST TITLE TO READ: Inter-Provincial Transfers for Amateur Players (INTO and OUT)	For further clarity and clearly define the section.
P. 11.7	International Transfer Certificates (ITCs) are only necessary for Players came to Canada after aged of 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 P layer 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 P layer wishes to leave.	For further clarity.

P. 11.8 c)	<p>Send a Provisional Transfer Certificate (PTC) to Ontario Soccer if the approved ITC is not received by the foreign association within 30 days.</p> <p>Ontario Soccer is required to: Forward the application form to Canada Soccer Refer to the Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations on Player Transfers available here: 2022_CS_Rules-Regulations_FINAL</p>	Add (HYPERLINK) for efficiency and further clarity and direct individuals to Canada Soccer resources.
P. 11.8 d)	<p>Refer to the Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations on Player Transfers available here: 2022_CS_Rules-Regulations_FINAL</p> <p>Provide the District Association with a "Permit to Play" for the player awaiting an International Transfer Certificate. The "Permit to Play" will entitle the player to register with their desired Club 30 days from the date the ITC application was received by Ontario Soccer if the approval is not received before 30 days from Canada Soccer.</p>	Add (HYPERLINK) for efficiency and further clarity and direct individuals to Canada Soccer resources.
P. 11.13	A District Association shall respond to Ontario Soccer within six (6) seven (7) 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 seven (7) 6 days.	Consistent with Canada Soccer timing to lessen confusion caused by multiple timelines between Canada Soccer, Ontario Soccer and District Associations.
Section 6 - Game Types		
P. 56.5 c)	With permission of the District Association and Ontario Soccer, a Grassroots Club Player Movement Form Agreement is a document which may be signed by two Clubs under which they agree to allow players to play for the 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	Removal of terminology that is not required.

Section 7 - High Performance

<p>P. 2.2.1</p>	<p>Ontario Soccer shall be responsible for providing opportunities for Players and Coaches to reach a Provincial, National, and International Standard of Play.</p> <p>Ontario Soccer shall be responsible for and operate the Provincial XCEL Program and Canada Games Programs.</p> <p>Talent On Location Days (TOLD) and the Ontario Player Development League (OPDL), and where applicable, League1 Ontario (L10)-L1 Ontario and L1 Ontario Reserve (U21), Men's and Women's shall provide the opportunity for players and Coaches to participate in a Province-wide High Performance Program and act as be the primary method of detection for Players to participate in the Provincial XCEL and Canada Games Programs.</p>	<p>To add clarity as to where the players are scouted from for Provincial XCEL and Canada Summer Games.</p>
<p>P. 2.2.4</p>	<p>Provincial Players shall be scouted by and/or recommended by electronic or verbal communication by the following persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 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 <p>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.</p> <p>A player of possible elite quality who has recently arrived from another Province or Country and has taken residence and registered as a player in Ontario can be considered for</p>	<p>Update on who can scout and/or recommend. Modifications made to better align with current Provincial program as Operational Procedures still reflected how the old provincial program operated.</p>

	<p>the Provincial Program. The persons listed above must hold a Canada Soccer National B or Youth Licence (or foreign equivalent) as a minimum level of coaching qualification.</p> <p>A player of possible elite quality who has recently arrived from another Province or Country and has taken residence and registered as a player in Ontario can be considered for the Provincial Program.</p> <p>A player scouted/recommended may be scouted by the Provincial Xcel Staff prior to being invited into training.</p> <p>The Provincial Head Coach has the responsibility/duty to select the best player available to represent the Province.</p>	
<p>P. 2.2.4.1</p>	<p>The Canada Games Age Groups, as set by the Canada Games Council & Canada Soccer, shall be scouted by and/or recommended by electronic or verbal communication by the following persons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · National Staff Coach · Provincial XCEL Technical Staff · Member Organization Technical Director · Ontario Soccer Master Coach Developer · Ontario Soccer Development Staff · Member Organization Coach · Professional Club Technical Staff <p>Canada Games council determines the athlete selection criteria for each quadrennial cycle and, therefore, player selection is subject to change to which Ontario Soccer must comply.</p> <p>A player of possible elite quality who has recently arrived from another Province or Country and has taken residence and registered as a player in Ontario can be considered for the Canada Games Program.</p>	<p>Update on who can scout and/or recommend. Modifications made to better align with current Canada Summer Games program as Operational Procedures still reflected how the program previously operated.</p>

	<p>The player scouted/recommended at the appropriate Age Group may be scouted by the Canada Games and/or Ontario Soccer Provincial Xcel Staff prior to being invited into training.</p> <p>The Canada Games Head Coach has the responsibility/duty to select the best players available to represent the Province."</p>	
P. 2.2.5	<p>The Coaches for the Provincial Xcel, Inter-Provincial Competition and Canada Games Teams will be selected by Ontario Soccer's High Performance team.</p> <p>Coach selection for the Ontario Soccer Provincial Xcel, Inter-Provincial Competition and Canada Games Teams are selected by Ontario Soccer's High Performance team. They must be recommended by the Director of Development and approved by the CEO.</p>	Use of more generic language with respect to job titles and departments.
P. 2.2.6	<p>The Head Coach minimum requirement is the National B Licence or Youth Licence. Canada Games also requires the Coaches and/or staff to have completed a minimum of NCCP level 3 theory completed or e 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.</p> <p>A Club Head Coach or Technical Director may not be the head coach of a Provincial Team or Canada Games Team; however, an appointed Coach to a Provincial or Canada Games Team may coach within the membership as long as the team is of the opposite gender or, if of the same gender, the team is at least one year younger or older than the Provincial or Canada Games Team which they are coaching</p>	<p>Clear identification of Head Coach requirements for provincial XCEL teams and Canada Games teams.</p> <p>Provide clarity around the selection of Provincial XCEL staff with respect to restrictions of OPDL and non-OPDL applicants and the removal of any perceived or potential bias towards players selected.</p>

	<p>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;</p> <p>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 year younger or older than the Provincial XCEL or Canada Games Team which they are coaching.</p>	
P. 2.2.8	All team travel will require prior approval by the appropriate Ontario Soccer staff member.	To correct the title of the staff member responsible for the team travel approval.
P. 2.3.1	<p>"With the exception of its participation in an authorized Ontario Soccer Provincial XCEL program, a Provincial Teams competition or Canada Games Team training camps and competition, a Provincial Team shall not schedule any competition on the same date as an Ontario Cup or OPDL competition. Athletes selected to Provincial XCEL and Canada Games programs may not participate in Club training or competition during the following.</p> <p>-Authorized preparation camps/weekends -Authorized competition"</p> <p>Athletes selected to Provincial XCEL Teams and Canada Games Teams may not participate in club events, training or competition during the following time frames:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 	<p>Current Operational Rules do not align with new Provincial Program Calendar. As the new provincial calendar now operates in-season, a clause has been added to protect teams who have many players in provincial XCEL teams and allow them to request a reschedule.</p> <p>There is also the need to have enforceable rules around the rest requirements of Provincial XCEL players before, during and after provincial XCEL events in order to safeguard player wellbeing.</p>

	<p>competitions</p> <p>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.</p>	
P. 3.1	<p>The Ontario Player Development League is a high performance training and competition program which will be conducted and administered by Ontario Soccer</p> <p>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.</p>	To provide clearer language on purpose of program and oversight responsibility.
P. 3.2	<p>OPDL operations are run in accordance with the OPDL Resource Documents developed and maintained by Ontario Soccer's Soccer Operations Department.</p> <p>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: https://www.opdl.ca/</p>	Corrected terminology for documents and hyperlinked for ease of access.

Section 8 - Competitions

<p>P. 2.2</p>	<p>A Tournament Host must be one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Ontario Soccer b) A District Association c) An Affiliated Club d) An Affiliated League e) An Ontario Registered Club (for a Selected Showcase Tournament or Selected Charity Tournament only) f) An Unaffiliated Organization (in accordance with these Operational Procedures policies). 	<p>Item e) used to be referencing Academies. It can be removed from the list as now referred to as Clubs.</p>
<p>P. 2.4</p>	<p>Events hosted in a District Association, in accordance with the Grassroots Standards Guide, may limit the number of grassroots events that a given organization can host. can host for grassroots soccer.</p> <p>A District Association may limit the number of tournaments a Tournament host may host in that District in each playing season.</p>	<p>Having a tournament limit is separate from grassroots events and not as a part of grassroots events.</p>
<p>P. 3.4.1</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>1. Tournament rules acceptable to Ontario Soccer shall be submitted; and must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 	<p>Hosts should be required to provide Match Official fees as part of the application package.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protest rules • Match Official fees 									
P. 3.4.2, 2	<p>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—and accompanied by the appropriate fee as shown below.</p> <table> <thead> <tr> <th>Organization Type</th> <th>Required Fee</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Commercial Event</td> <td>\$500.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Charitable Event</td> <td>\$250.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Affiliated College/University</td> <td>\$100.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Organization Type	Required Fee	Commercial Event	\$500.00	Charitable Event	\$250.00	Affiliated College/University	\$100.00	These fees are currently not published anywhere and should be included in this section.
Organization Type	Required Fee									
Commercial Event	\$500.00									
Charitable Event	\$250.00									
Affiliated College/University	\$100.00									
P. 4.2.1	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.	Required as a drain in staff time and will reduce last minute applications.								
P. 4.2.1	<p>The Tournament Host Organization requires the approval of the following Associations:</p> <p>Inter-District - 21 Days - District Host - District Tournament Location - Ontario Soccer</p>	<p>Add Ontario Soccer for approval to any event involving more than one District to have further oversight on competitions taking place across the Province and across multiple districts.</p> <p>Will be edited in table. Table was not possible to show in the excel document.</p>								
P. 4.2.2	<p>Less than 10 days before Tournament</p> <p>\$200 \$400 for international TAF less than 10 days before tournament</p> <p>\$75 \$150 for North American / Inter Provincial TAF less than 10 days before tournament</p>	Approval fees need to be increased for those that apply less than 10 days prior to host date as it requires rush/drop everything on staff end.								

P. 5.8	<p>Tournament rules acceptable to Ontario Soccer shall be submitted; and must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	Hosts should be required to rules package.
P. 5.18	<p>Failure to comply with the terms of Operational Procedures 5.1 to 5.10, will result in the tournament application (TAF) not being approved by the appropriate Governing Organization(s) in accordance with Operational Procedure 5.3 above. Failure to comply with terms of Operational Procedures 5.11 to 5.17 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 Game 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</p>	To correct terminology and provide improved clarity.
P. 8.3	<p>Approval for Team Travel for Under-13 and older aged teams shall be based on approval from the following Associations:</p> <p>Ontario Soccer as second approver to inter-province and USA.</p>	<p>Provide greater oversight to tournament/travel.</p> <p>Ontario Soccer to be added to the existing table as second approver level.</p>
P. 8.5	<p>The ATF must be completed and returned to the District Association no later than:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) 7 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. 	Deleted and adjusted wording because we need to reduce last minute requests that cause issues for staff and processing.

	If the ATF is submitted after the above deadline, an administration fee may be applied, and the ATF may not be approved.	
P. 8.5	Travel permit fees International ATF 21 days \$125 150 20 – 7 days before travel \$150 175 Less than 7 days before travel ATF Fee with Penalty \$175 250	Increased fees reflect staff time required, technology costs. There have been no fee increases in a number of years.
P. 8.6	The ATF for a Club team requires the authorization of a Club authorized individual.	Remove opportunity and layer for Clubs to apply for tournaments/travel without prior Club consent/approval.
P. 8.7	Teams travelling to the following shall pay the applicable fee to Ontario Soccer and must include with the ATF: Another District: • Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS • Team Roster Report (OSCAR) (for team registration verification purposes only) In all instances below, there must be proof of sport specific travel insurance: Another Province: • Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS • Team Roster Report (OSCAR) (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 team's sport-travel-specific insurance (either as a team, or individual names, insurance providers and policy numbers). The U.S.A	Proof of travel insurance is a requirement for teams travelling out of province. It was only included in the Operational Procedures for teams leaving the country and did not specify sport specific insurance. This proposed change will correct this.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS • Team Roster Report (OSCAR) (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 team's sport-travel-specific insurance (either as a team, or individual names, insurance providers and policy numbers) <p>Another Country</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete Application to Travel Form (ATF) on CTMS • Team Roster Report (OSCAR) (for team registration verification purposes only) • A copy of the sanctioning document for the approved competition from the national organization governing soccer within the country you intend to travel to (an official stamp or email signature from the national organization is appropriate) • A copy of the Competition Rules for the competition • A copy of the team's sport-travel-specific insurance (either as a team, or individual names, insurance providers and policy numbers) • A copy of the Canada Soccer Travel Application Form (only for travel outside of Canada and the U.S.A) <p>Acceptable Travel Insurance can be purchased through HUB International and contains proof of accident insurance coverage for the players and team officials travelling.</p>	
P. 9.4	<p>A Selected Charity Festival is an event hosted in Ontario, by Ontario Soccer, a District Association, affiliated Club, affiliated League or an affiliated League for any aged male and/or female teams. The objective is to provide an opportunity for charitable festivals to have affiliated for affiliated Club teams participate in the event as well as to provide Club teams to experience a be part of a charitable</p>	<p>Removal to specific staff roles; safeguard against changes in organizational chart/structure.</p>

	<p>experience event.</p> <p>In order to be classified as a Selected Charity Festival, the event must be designated as such by Ontario Soccer annually. 's Senior Director of Business Operations annually. Selection criteria will be determined by Ontario Soccer and only legitimate charitable events will be considered.</p>	
P. 10.3	<p>Notwithstanding Operational Procedure 10.1 above, the Host Organization may permit: - An Under 12 team from another Province or from another FIFA Member Association - An Under-10 or Under-11 team from a Province or State which borders the Host Organization's District; - To enter its Inter-District Festival.</p> <p>NOTE: Team Travel procedures are subject to Procedure 8.0 - Approval for Team Travel.</p>	Align to Grassroots Standards. Permit International Travel to Ontario; will enrich available competition offerings for the membership within the 9v9 playing format.
P. 12.2	<p>Festivals may be played at the Inter-District and District levelsclasses by teams subject to the Development and Recreational Matrices. Ontario Soccer Grassroots Standards.</p>	For additional clarity and to adjust to current documentation.
P. 14.2	<p>The District Association approving a Festival shall appoint, or delegate the appointment of, Game Leaders or Small Sided Match Officials. Notwithstanding this Operational Procedure, a Game Leader may not be appointed to a Festival game involving Under-6 teams.</p>	For clarity as Festivals use small sided officials also.
P. 14.3	<p>Appointed Game Leaders and Small Sided Match Officials must be certified registered with Ontario Soccer</p>	For clarity as Festivals use small sided officials also.

<p>P. 16.3</p>	<p>Squad Travel shall be based on the following: a) Under-11 and Under-12 age groups may travel 60 minutes one way outside of the District boundaries. b) Under-9 and Under-10 age groups may travel 60 minutes one way outside of the District boundaries. c) Under-8 age groups may travel within District boundaries. Notwithstanding this Operational Procedure, 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.</p> <p>Squad Travel shall be recommended as per the Ontario Soccer Grassroots Standards.</p> <p>Notwithstanding this Operational Procedure, 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.</p>	<p>Alignment to the Grassroots Standards to simplify the procedure and allowance for flexibility in travel time.</p>
<p>P. 16.4</p>	<p>Under-7 and younger age groups can only participate in Club focused development programs therefore, no travel is required beyond their club—which involve no travel beyond their Club.</p>	<p>Alignment to recommended Grassroots Standards.</p>
<p>P. 16.5</p>	<p>Notwithstanding Operational Procedure 16.3 above, Grassroots players may be given permission to travel to a limited number of Memorable Events per year for cultural experiences and learning. The Memorable Event which will be based in accordance with Ontario Soccer's Grassroots Standards.</p>	<p>Removal of purpose being limited to cultural experiences or learning; providing greater affordances to Clubs to define their technical programming.</p>
<p>P. 16.6</p>	<p>Approval to travel is required from the following Associations: Another District District Association A border province District Association/Ontario Soccer A Border State District Association/Ontario Soccer</p>	<p>Needs a higher level of approval to ensure sanctioned, relevant and all paperwork has been reviewed.</p>

P. 18.3	Approval for an exhibition game to be played in Ontario is required from the following Associations: Ontario College or university team to play an Ontario Club Team District Association Ontario Soccer (added as approver)	Including Ontario Soccer allows for better tracking of the incident of these games as well as oversight that they meet the requirements of our current MOUs. This is a chart within the Operational Procedures and we are requesting Ontario Soccer as second approver for OUA or OCAA exhibition games vs. a club team.
P. 18.8	If the AHEG is submitted after the above deadline, an administration fee may be applied, and the exhibition game may not be approved.	Staff should not have to drop priorities to ensure an AHEG that was past the deadline is processed.
P. 19.3	<p>Cup Competitions operated by Ontario Soccer take precedence over all other Ontario Soccer sanctioned Competitions.</p> <p>Athletes selected to Provincial XCEL Teams and Canada Games Teams may not participate in Club events, training or competition during the following time frames:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 <p>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</p>	The wording of the rule was changed in a previous rule revision and the wording made the intent of the rule unclear. It made it seem as though Cup Competitions took precedence over themselves.

P. 20.2	<p>The team that emerges from the game or tournament round(s) of the competition in Northeastern Ontario shall be allowed to enter the last sixteen teams still competing in the Ontario Cup in that age group.</p> <p>When the Ontario Cup uses the Tournament Format, the team that emerges from the game or tournament round(s) of the competition from Greater North Soccer Association shall be allowed to enter into the round of sixteen still competing in the Ontario Cup in that age group.</p>	To adjust the existing procedure to reflect the amalgamation of the northern Districts.
Section 9 - Leagues		
P. 2.5	SEE FOLLOWING TABLE titled League table following this tab for the new table that this change refers to.	The current League tables cover 5 pages and can be streamlined and grouped by ages and stages to reduce the size of the table.
P. 7.1 e)	<p>North Region which shall be comprised of the District Associations of Sault Amateur, Soccer Northeastern Ontario, Soccer North, Soccer Northwest, and Sudbury Regional.</p> <p>For the purposes of the Pyramid for Play, the Province of Ontario will be divided into the following Regions: e) North Region which shall be comprised of the District Associations of Sault Amateur, Soccer Northeastern Ontario, Soccer North, Soccer Northwest, and Sudbury Regional the Greater North Soccer Association and Soccer Northwest.</p>	Merger of the four Northern districts into now the Greater North Soccer Association.
P. 9.2 e)	<p>"If the Chief Executive Officer approves, in principle, a Club (where eligible) may apply to enter a league by:</p> <p>a. November 30 (for an outdoor amateur league) or b. By June 30 (for an indoor amateur league) or c. By July 1 (for a Provincial Semi-Professional league)</p>	This can be removed completely as the dates are not needed/necessary anymore.

	Preceding the league's first season of expansion or restructuring"	
P. 10.3 i)	Each League's Fiscal Year end must end following the end of its playing season and before December 31- and in accordance with its Bylaws	Each entity may have a different fiscal year end and this allows for flexibility.
P. 10.3 j)	The Annual Meeting of an amateur League must be held within 90 days following the end of the League's fiscal year- in accordance as per their Bylaws	To reflect that Leagues have bylaws which may state different dates, and must be followed.
P. 10.3 k)	Ontario Soccer must receive a Notice of each of the league's General 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 General Member Meetings.	They are no longer referred to as General Meetings, but referred to as Members Meetings.
P. 10.6.2	Each League shall, by February 1 March 15 (for an Outdoor League) and October 1 (for an Indoor League), i. Verify the teams with "Full Team Identification" whose Clubs have applied to enter them in the League for the upcoming season; and ii. Submit a written summary of all discipline cases for the previous year.	Unlike Youth Clubs/teams, Seniors are very last minute and sometimes one man Clubs. The date was previously March 15 which worked a lot better for OSL and OWSL. We both also get additional U21 teams when Districts or regional youth leagues cannot offer U18 or U21, which tends to be after February 1. Since the change of date we have had to request Special Dispensation each year for an extension. Goes through Competitions Committee. If deadlines change, application review must also change.
P. 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 February 15 March 31 (for an outdoor league) or by October 31 September 15 (for an indoor league).	Allows appropriate time as some indoor leagues start October 1.

<p>P. 12.4 a) and b)</p>	<p>Notwithstanding Ontario Soccer Operational Procedure 6.0 Registration 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.</p> <p>In outdoor soccer, the deadline for a player transferring to a Pro-Am team shall be September 1.</p>	<p>The date should be removed and reference links to OPDL and/or League1 Ontario websites and governing documents.</p>
<p>P. 15.9</p>	<p>A Club looking to play in a league governed by a foreign association must complete the requirements in 15.5 and 15.8 by no later than November 1 of the previous year as well as the following:</p> <p>a) It must obtain the approval of Canada Soccer in accordance with its published rules;</p> <p>b) The Club must advise Ontario Soccer in advance of its intention to apply to join a foreign league; and</p> <p>c) A senior men’s or senior women’s team applying for the first time must meet the criteria defined in Procedure 15.10 below.</p> <p>The criteria to be considered by Ontario Soccer shall be as follows:</p> <p>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;</p> <p>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;</p> <p>c) Where a Club believes that its specific circumstances (e.g., geography) will prevent it from meeting the</p>	<p>A deadline date of November 1 of the previous year was added. Canada Soccer must approve the team to play in a league governed by a foreign association. Canada Soccer reviews and approves such request in November for the following year.</p> <p>Consolidate 15.9 and 15.10 as they related to the same procedure.</p> <p>Competitions Committee agree with consolidation.</p>

	criteria above, it may apply directly to Ontario Soccer for consideration under the provisions of Procedure 15.10 a), b))"	
P. 15.10	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 under the provisions of Procedure 15.10 a), b)	Consolidate 15.9 and 15.10 as they related to the same procedure. Competitions Committee agree with consolidation.
P. 15.11	A Club which has advised Ontario Soccer in advance of its intention to apply for playing out permission as above may be permitted to enter a new team in an Ontario Soccer Senior Regional League rather than the normal entry level (if lower than Regional League) on payment of a \$5000 bond to the league, such bond to be refundable when the team meets the playing out criteria above or, failing that within 3 years, agrees to be relegated to the normal entry level for that Ontario Soccer league.	This Operational Procedure can be removed completely as it is redundant.

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 Under 19 to Under-23	
	Amateur, Professional or Semi-Professional	Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal	Indoor	Male or Female	Open Age 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 <i>*Provincial Pro-Am League must include semi-professional teams and may include amateur teams</i>	Amateur	Senior Outdoor Competitive	Outdoor	Male or Female	Open Age Under 19 to Under-21	Only 1 Provincial League permitted
	May only include amateur teams		Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal	Indoor	Male or Female	
	Pro-Am					
Ontario Player Development League	Amateur	Youth Outdoor Competitive	Outdoor	Male or Female	Under-13 to Under-17	Only 1 Provincial League permitted
Senior Regional League	Amateur	Senior Outdoor Competitive	Outdoor	Male or Female	Open Age Under-19 to Under-21	
		Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal	Indoor	Male or Female	Open Age 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 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 Under-19 to Under-21	
Youth District Competitive League	Amateur	Youth Outdoor Competitive	Outdoor	Male or Female	Under-13 to Under-18	Only 1 District Competitive League permitted to operate in each District
		Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal	Indoor	Male or Female	Under-13 to Under-18	
Senior District Recreational League	Amateur	Senior Outdoor Recreational	Outdoor	Male or Female	Open Age Under-19 to Under-21	District Association may approve the operation of one or more District Recreational League(s)
		Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal	Indoor	Male or Female	Open Age Under-19 to Under-21	
Youth District Recreational League	Amateur	Youth Outdoor Recreational	Outdoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Under-13 to Under-18	District Association may approve the operation of one or more District Recreational League(s)
		Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Under-13 to Under-18	
Senior Local League	Amateur	Senior Outdoor Recreational (11-a-side) or Senior Outdoor Recreational (5-a-side)	Outdoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Open Age Under-19 to Under-21 Over-30 Over-35 Over-40 Over-45	District Association may approve the operation of one or more Local League(s)

Youth Local League	Amateur	Senior Indoor or Senior Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Over-50	District Association may approve the operation of one or more Local League(s)
		Youth Outdoor Recreational	Outdoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Open Age	
					Under-19 to Under-21	
Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Over-30			
			Over-35			
Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Over-40			
			Over-45			
Youth Indoor or Youth Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Over-50			
			Under-13 to Under-18			
Grassroots District Development League	Amateur	Learning To Train Outdoor	Outdoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Under-8 to Under-12	
		Learning To Train Indoor/Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Under-8 to Under-12	
Grassroots Local Recreational League	Amateur	Learning To Train Outdoor	Outdoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Under-8 to Under-12	
		Learning To Train Indoor/Futsal	Indoor	Male, Female, or Mixed	Under-8 to Under-12	

Section 10 - Match Officials

P. 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 Section 12, Procedure 9.16.	To make a linkage between the rule and the disciplinary sanction they are subject to should they violate it. Provides clarity and a reference point for those reading it.
--------	--	---

P. 1.4	<p>Ontario Soccer Conflict of Interest Guidelines for Match Officials</p> <p>A Match Official may not accept an appointment if they/them 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Match Officials must declare a conflict of interest to all assignors of leagues affected by that conflict. Failure to do so is subject to disciplinary actions under Section 12, Procedure 9.16</p> <p>The complete Conflict Of Interest policy is available here in Appendix A1: Ontario Soccer Policies March 25 2023</p> <p>Private or personal interests include gaining any possible advantage for her/himself, her/his family, relatives, friends and acquaintances. The list below, includes (but is not limited to games in which a Match Official should not officiate due to a possible perceived conflict: a) If you are a player, Coach or team official (including assistant Coaches, managers, trainers, etc.) in a particular league and division – you cannot officiate in that division of that league; or b) If you have an immediate family member (spouse, son, daughter, brother, sister, parent) who is mentioned above, you cannot officiate in that division of that league; or c) If you are a board member or on the executive of a particular Club you should not officiate in a game when a team from your Club is playing a team from another Club; or d) If you are an</p>	<p>To simplify the Conflict Of Interest for Match Officials.</p> <p>Customize the link for readability to "Ontario Soccer Policy Document."</p>
--------	---	---

	<p>assignor for that league – you should not officiate in that league. e) If you are a District Referee Coordinator or Club Head Referee.</p>	
P. 1.5	<p>All Registered Ontario Soccer Match Officials at the District Level are required to wear the mandatory Jersey as of January 2023.</p>	<p>Mandatory jersey procedure was not able to be implemented due to supply issues, and will be re-introduced as part of the 2026-2027 Operational Procedure changes.</p>
P. 2.6	<p>A Match Official who has let their registration lapse two 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 program 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.</p>	<p>Better wording for who would be able to make a decision on the MO team.</p>
P. 2.12	<p>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.</p>	<p>In order to align with Provincial law, MO will be required to review Rowans Law, as a piece of registration requirement moving forward as it is Provincial legislation and we must comply. https://www.ontario.ca/page/rowans-law-concussion-awareness-resources.</p>
P. 3.2	<p>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.</p>	<p>To allow for the discretion, based on individual circumstances, to determine the removal or reinstatement of any official.</p>

P. 3.3	The review of a Regional and Provincial upgrading Match Officials' files will be completed annually by Ontario Soccer. Upgrading Match Officials' will be notified in writing of their classification.	Adding both regional and provincial upgrading programs.
P. 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 call direction of Canada Soccer.	Added women's program and fixed wording for Ontario Soccer staff.
P. 3.5	A Match Official transferring to or from another province must complete the standard Canada Soccer Referee Transfer form and submit to Provincial Office Ontario Soccer Match Officials program. The applicable form can be found here: Canada Soccer Forms	Link to Canada Soccer webpage for referee forms as documents change and we are not always advised in a timely fashion. Edit hyperlink to read "Canada Soccer Forms."
P. 3.7	Match Officials must apply for promotion as per The Provincial Association Guidelines for Regional or Provincial Upgrading. Ontario Soccer Guidelines for Regional or Provincial Upgrading.	To correct the name of the document.
P. 3.20	All Futsal Match Officials must register annually with Ontario Soccer, and pay the required registration fee of \$50.00 which will be determined annually. Active Registration will open September 1st and close October 31st. A late fee of \$10 will be applied to any registration completed after October 31st of the current registration season.	Remove the set fee as it allows for reduced or increase in fee structure.
P. 4.4	A female Match Official wishing to pursue their her career development via the Women's game, may do so by meeting fitness test criteria for female Match Official at the Provincial & Regional level. A female match official and wishing to officiate at the Senior Men's -level (as specified in the Pyramid of Refereeing), is required to pass the Provincial fitness test for male Match Officials. Refer to The Fitness Test Protocol Document Procedure 4- Fitness Tests; must Refer to the Canada	Not entirely concerned if it is a FIFA or CS rule. They can govern the CPL and pro-leagues how they wish. At League1 and below, within our purview, this rule should not exist and is discriminatory. Edit link to read "Canada Soccer Fitness Testing Program."

Formatted: Not Strikethrough

	Soccer and IFAB. Please refer to the Canada Soccer Fitness Testing Guidelines: Canada Soccer Fitness Testing Program for current and up-to-date fitness requirements.	
P. 4.6	<p>Any Match Official who is required by these Operational Procedures published rules 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 regraded as per Ontario Soccer Referee Grading Protocol.</p> <p>All Fitness testing shall be governed in accordance to 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.</p> <p>Note: This operational procedure will also affect those Match Officials who are injured and have submitted a doctor's note and those serving a long-term suspension from all soccer related activities and are unable to run a fitness test due to the suspension."</p>	<p>Remove reference to the injury protocol to reduce potential confusion.</p> <p>Fitness testing protocol needs to be linked to a webpage not a specific document.</p>
P. 4.7	<p>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 document</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Insert hyperlinks to Protocols for easy access and ability to edit as needed.</p>
P. 5.2	<p>A registered Match Official may only officiate in games involving:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Registered teams playing in sanctioned competitions, 2. Grade school, college, university or Special Olympics teams 	<p>Fix wording choice to reflect registered Match Officials and to create a more succinct list of events that shows the competitions they can officiate in.</p>

	<p>3. College, University, Grade School or High school competitions that have a signed and current Ontario Soccer Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the District Association and/or Ontario Soccer and the applicable School Board organization,</p> <p>4. A registered team playing against a college team or a university team in a sanctioned competition,</p> <p>5. Municipally sponsored competitions, subject to the approval of the District Association.</p>	
P. 5.3	<p>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 Senior Manager of Match Officials Development and Community Education appropriate staff member a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the event.</p>	Correct title for current manager.
P. 5.6	<p>Match Official Appointments should be in accordance with the Futsal Match Official Grading Protocol which can be found here: https://www.ontariosoccer.net/futsal</p>	<p>Add this to the Operational Procedures as it currently doesn't exist.</p> <p>Refer to the protocol via a hyperlink not to the doc.</p>
P. 6.12	<p>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: https://www.ontariosoccer.net/match-official-forms</p> <p>1. Sign a Terms and Conditions letter acknowledging Ontario Soccer protocol and responsibilities</p> <p>2. Submit a contractor's invoice to Ontario Soccer for services provided on a monthly basis</p> <p>3. Declare their own income to the CRA as independent contractors</p>	<p>Delete the bullets underneath and add the hyperlink to required page of website as we will be able to adjust based on CRA if needed.</p> <p>Allows us to add to the leagues affected by using the term 'including but not limited to').</p>

	4. Sign up for direct deposit of payment by electronic funds transfer with Ontario Soccer.	
P. 8.1	<p>"A District Referee Coordinator (DRC) should not principally also hold the role of Assignor, unless it is necessary to support an Assignor in scheduling of games within the District."</p> <p>A District Referee Coordinator (DRC) should not, to avoid both perceived and actual conflict of interest, simultaneously hold the role of Assignor.</p>	To reduce potential conflict of interest, either real or perceived.
P. 8.8	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.	Some Assignors give themselves matches before anyone else, leaving less experienced Match Officials unassigned for days or weeks at a time. By including this new provision, we prevent this from happening without the knowledge and approval of the DRC and District Soccer Association President.
P. 9.2	Only currently accredited Canada Soccer instructors, or designated by Ontario Soccer instructors , can deliver any Laws of the Game education, for the purposes of accreditation , in any format at any level.	To clarify who can instruct accreditation that includes Laws of the game. Canada Soccer has strict guidelines around this.

Section 11 – Coaches

<p>P. 1.1 - 1.9 will need to renumber the sections</p>	<p>1.1 Qualifications The qualifications for becoming an Ontario Soccer Coaching Development Learning Facilitator shall be those stipulated by Canada Soccer for each clinic level and must hold a minimum of a Canada Soccer Children's License, Youth License or National B License or higher.</p> <p>1.2 Appointment An appointment to a position of Ontario Soccer Learning Facilitator, Coach Developer or Coach Evaluator shall be made for a two-year term. Appointments will be confirmed by the Manager, Coach Education, Player Development and Club Licensing not later than December 15 each cycle.</p> <p>1.3 Clinic Appointment Learning Facilitators must be prepared to undertake Coaching clinic appointments during the period covering January 1 through December 15. Learning Facilitators with due notice given, shall accept clinic appointments offered within 48 hours. A satisfactory reason for declining (when necessary) will be recorded by Ontario Soccer Coordinator of Coach Education, Player Development and Club Licensing.</p> <p>1.4 Course Assignment Adjustments Ontario Soccer Manager or Coordinator of Coach Education, Player Development and Club Licensing has the right to adjust assignments up to 48 hours before the start of the course.</p> <p>1.5 Clinic Conduct Learning Facilitators will act in such a manner as to comply with Human Rights, Equity Legislation, and treat all course attendees with care and understanding.</p> <p>1.6 Clinic Administration Learning Facilitators shall complete all course paper work</p>	<p>Remove the qualifications, create a Guide to Coaching Certification as a separate document as this is requirements for Coaching, not Operational Procedures. Manager of Coaching Development is currently producing this document.</p> <p>This will allow members to find the requirements easily as we will create a "Do you want to Coach?" section on the website.</p>
--	--	--

	<p>correctly and shall make sure that all writing is legible. Learning Facilitators will return the course paper-work together with returned material to Ontario Soccer Clinic Administrator within 48 hours of the clinic completion date.</p> <p>1.7 Clinic Fees Learning Facilitators will be advised of their fee structure for the ensuing year by the Manager of Coach Development as part of the annual appointment letter.</p> <p>1.8 Clinic Reporting Learning Facilitators will prepare and submit a short report (no more than one page) for each clinic completed. The report shall include: a) Outstanding Coaching potential attendees b) Any unique or non-recurring items of interest</p> <p>1.9 Performance Assessment Learning Facilitators will be required to attend refresher and extra training courses as arranged, from time to time, by the Manager of Coach Education, Player Development and Club Licensing will be subject to one-on-one mentorship from their assigned Master Coach Developer.</p> <p>1.10 Canada Soccer National B Part 1 & Canada Soccer C Licence</p> <p>National B Part 1 Licence: A person who has passed a National B Part 1 Licence will have no more than five years to progress to the National B Part 2. Any maintenance of the licence will be updated directly by Canada Soccer.</p> <p>Canada Soccer C Licence: A person who has passed a Canada Soccer C Licence shall have three years to attend a Canada Soccer National B Licence, Youth Licence or Children's Licence. Any maintenance of the licence will be updated directly by Canada Soccer.</p>	
--	---	--

<p>P. 2.0 - 2.1</p>	<p>PROCEDURE 2.0 – Clinic Course Fees</p> <p>2.1 Grassroots Coach Education and the advanced coach education program clinic course fees charged to host organizations shall be in accordance with Ontario Soccer’s schedule of fees Grassroots Coach Education Hosting Guide https://www.ontariosoccer.net/player-grassroots</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>This change will create an alignment to current processes.</p>
<p>P. 3.2.1.1</p>	<p>Each Coach registered with a member Club and assigned by that Club as the Team Head Coach or as an Assistant Coach to a team playing in one of the following leagues or cup competitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Provincial, Regional and District Competitive League (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal) ii. Ontario Cup Competition - Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal <p>Is required to complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Soccer for Life (and/or higher licensing) ii. Respect in Sport certification; iii. Making Head Way in Soccer; iv. Both Make Making Ethical Decisions Course & Online Evaluation; v. NCCP Emergency Action Plan vi. NCCP Rule of Two 	<p>Alignment to Grassroots standards and Canada Soccer's Coach certification requirements.</p>

<p>P. 3.2.3 - 3.2.3.1</p>	<p>Under-9, 10, 11, or under 12 Squads 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 one of the following Grassroots Leagues: • Grassroots District Development League (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal) is required to have completed: i. Respect in Sport certification; and ii. Making Head Way in Soccer iii. Learning to Train Course iv. Both Making Ethical Decisions Course & Online Evaluation v. NCCP Emergency Action Plan vi. NCCP Rule of Two</p>	<p>Although it seems quite clear and obvious that the intent is there for the online evaluation to be mandatory, we get a lot of questions on whether they have to do the online evaluation. This will bring clarity and reduce inquiries.</p> <p>Alignment to Grassroots standards and Canada Soccer's Coach certification requirements.</p>
<p>P. 3.2.4 - 3.2.4.1</p>	<p>Under 7-Under 9 squads are Fundamentals & Under 6 and younger is Active Start 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: i. Fundamentals Course ii. Respect in Sport certification iii. Making Head Way in Soccer Course iv. Both Making Ethical Decisions Course & Online Evaluation v. NCCP Emergency Action Plan vi. NCCP Rule of Two</p>	<p>Although it seems quite clear and obvious that the intent is there for the online evaluation to be mandatory, we get a lot of questions on whether they have to do the online evaluation. This will bring clarity and reduce inquiries.</p> <p>Alignment to Grassroots standards and Canada Soccer's Coach certification requirements.</p>
<p>P. 3.2.5 - 3.2.5.1</p>	<p>Under 5 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 of the following Grassroots leagues: Grassroots District Development League or Club Recreational Program (Outdoor, Indoor or Futsal) is required to have completed:</p>	<p>Although it seems quite clear and obvious that the intent is there for the online evaluation to be mandatory, we get a lot of questions on whether they have to do the online evaluation. This will bring clarity and reduce inquiries.</p>

	<p>i. Active Start course, and; ii. Respect in Sport Certification; iii. Making Head Way in Soccer; iv. Both Making Ethical Decisions Course & Online Evaluation v. NCCP Emergency Action Plan vi. NCCP Rule of Two</p>	<p>Alignment to Grassroots standards and Canada Soccer's Coach certification requirements.</p>
P. 3.4	<p>Respect in Sport Certification The Respect in Sport "Activity Leader" certification is mandatory for each category listed in the table. Ontario Soccer District Associations are responsible for the management of compliance. Coaches (level) • OPDL • Competitive • U13-U18 Recreational • U12 • U11 • U10 • U9 • U8 • Game Leaders Match Officials (level) 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10</p>	<p>Respect In Sport is now a mandatory component of Coach certification and noted in each section of certification requirements, does not need to be referred to separately.</p>
Section 12 - Discipline		
P. 1.3	<p>Any misconduct by an unregistered member of a registered organization shall be handled by that organization's code of conduct and/or applicable policies and procedures</p> <p>Sanctioned member organizations shall be held responsible for any misconduct by their unregistered supporters, spectators and participants. Failure to enforce their organization's Code of Conduct, and/or Policies & Procedures may (or shall) result in discipline by their governing body.</p>	<p>Just for clarity, to make it clear that Clubs can be charged for actions of their spectators.</p>
P. 2.3.4	<p>Failure to observe time-lines defined in these Procedures shall render any disciplinary action taken after the expiration of the time, null and void, with the exception of Procedure 2.3.2.</p>	<p>To confirm the procedure number that is an exception, and to make it clear and concise.</p>
P. 2.5.2	<p>If a person is registered as a Match Official, Team Official, Administrator, or Player and is accused of misconduct while acting in another of the mentioned positions, they will be charged in the capacity in which they were acting when the incident occurred and shall not be charged as a Match Official. For misconduct at any other time, including as a spectator, they will be charged as a Match Official in their registered capacity.</p>	<p>Match officials should not be the only group held to a higher standard, this should include game officials, players and administrators.</p>

P. 3.1	Unless the Procedure is identified as being applicable only to a specific jurisdiction, all the Procedures in this document are applicable to Ontario Soccer and all member organizations and individuals registered with Ontario Soccer, including non-registrants acting in the capacity of Team Official, Administrator, or Match Official.	Add the suggested additional wording to the existing clause to confirm that non-registrants can be held accountable if acting in specific roles.
P. 4.8	A Registrant is entitled to know for which offence they have been dismissed from a game, and may request from their Governing Organization a copy of the misconduct report within forty-eight (48) hours of the dismissal so that the Registrant(s) upon receiving the report will have seventy (72) hours to request a hearing if permitted as per Procedure 5.3.6 5.2.6.	Rationale for extending the time is because Match Officials often do not submit reports consistently within 24 hours unless they are officiating in tournaments and are required to do so. The dismissed individual may not realize a dismissal report has been filed if the Match Official did not show a red card (which they are not mandated to) when they were dismissed.
P. 5.2.2	The organization's Discipline Review Panel shall meet not less than once a month, in accordance with a published schedule when required, to review all misconduct reports received since its last Discipline Review meeting. Discipline Review Panels may use email to hold review panels.	With more digitalization and remote meetings, DBR can be done by email review, when required.
P. 5.2.4 b)	Starting date and the expiry date of the suspension or the specific games from which the accused has been suspended and/or the specific fine that has been levied.	For clarity that a suspension and fine may be required.
P. 5.2.6.3	In cases where there was no dismissal/ejection was was performed by the showing of a red card, the Governing Organization shall notify the accused, provide a copy of the Special Incident and Dismissal Report and provide an opportunity for the accused to request a hearing within specified timelines.	The dismissed individual may not realize a dismissal report has been filed if the Match Official did not show a red card (which they are not mandated to) when they were dismissed.

P. 5.3.5	<p>Any party required to attend a hearing may request one (1) postponement. The party must submit a written request, stating the reason for the postponement, and <u>the request</u> must be received by the Governing Organization no later than four (4) 48 hours prior to the date of that hearing. All such requests must be accompanied by the applicable fee, except in cases where disclosure of evidence is not provided in accordance with Procedure 5.3.1 b) iv- above. Any rescheduled hearing requested by the accused shall be held within fourteen (14) days of the original hearing date unless circumstances, agreed to by the Governing Organization, warrant the extension of that time frame.</p>	<p>Concern is that if the Case Manager cannot provide proper disclosure to the accused in a timely manner, then there should not be a fee to postpone nor should the hearing move forward on the originally scheduled date. Doing so would only open up more appeals and possible legal action against the governing body.</p>
P. 5.5.1	<p>The accused individual (or their representative) or Governing Organization (or their representative) must attend a hearing. Anyone representing an accused must provide a signed proxy from the accused before being allowed to participate at a hearing.</p> <p>Representation for an accused individual may only represent one accused at each hearing. Representation may only act as an adviser to the accused and may not offer testimony or evidence themselves unless they have a proxy, and then the accused cannot speak as there can only be one official representative per individual.</p>	<p>To provide clarification on what a proxy permits, and how many individuals may speak at a hearing. This is often poorly understood.</p>
P. 5.5.6	<p>If any of the parties listed in Procedure 5.5-5 above fail to attend may result in disciplinary action being taken. a hearing in which they are as required to attend, that person may be disciplined as outlined below:</p> <p>a) An accused person failing to attend a Discipline Hearing when required to do so, shall be suspended from all soccer related activity until such time that they request, in writing, another hearing and appears s at that subsequent hearing; and they shall be fined in accordance with the “governing documents” of the organization hearing the case.</p>	<p>To provide clarification on actions that can be taken if a party fails to attend a hearing without prior notice.</p>

	b) A Governing Organization failing to attend a Discipline Hearing, when required to do so, shall be fined in accordance with the “governing documents” of the organization hearing the case.	
P. 5.5.7	<p>Failure of an accused, without due cause, to participate in, or remain at, a discipline hearing when required to attend.</p> <p>a) An accused person who refused to participate in a Discipline Hearing, or who walked out of the hearing, thus preventing the Discipline Hearing Panel from rendering a decision on the case, shall be suspended from all soccer related activities until such time that he/she requests, in writing, another hearing and appears at that subsequent hearing.</p> <p>b) Notwithstanding Procedure 5.6.7 a), if the Discipline Hearing Panel determines that it has obtained sufficient evidence, prior to the walkout, to render a decision in the normal manner, it shall render its decision.</p> <p>Should the accused fail to participate in, or remain at, a discipline hearing through to the decision of the Discipline Hearing Panel when required to do so, the following actions may be applied by the Panel:</p> <p>a) If the Discipline Hearing Panel has insufficient evidence to render a decision prior to the accused's refusal to participate or their departure walkout, the accused will be suspended from all soccer related activities until such time as they request in writing another hearing, and appear at and actively participates at the subsequent hearing</p> <p>b) Notwithstanding Procedure 5.6.7 a), If the Discipline Hearing Panel determines that it has obtained sufficient evidence to render a decision prior to the refusal to participate or depart walkout, the Panel shall proceed to render a decision in their absence and it shall be binding.</p>	To provide clarification on decisions that can be taken if a party fails leaves a hearing before it is completed and they are excused.
P. 5.5.8	<p>The author (witness, complainant) of the misconduct report is required to attend the Discipline Hearing. Witnesses or a complainant may also be required to attend.</p> <p>Refer to 5.6.9 5.5.9 for Match Official requirements.</p>	Incorrect procedural reference.

P. 5.6.1.1	An adviser is a person 18 years of age or older who provides advice to any party required to attend a Discipline Hearing, including the Panel, and may not act as a witness nor provide any testimony at the Discipline Hearing. They may not question the competence of the Match Official(s) and may question a witness for clarification purposes only. may not question witnesses.	To be clear and consistent, allow advisers to ONLY speak with their client/accused person.
P. 5.6.3.4	At a Discipline Hearing for a Match Official Assault case, the District Referee Coordinator (DRC), of the assaulted Match Official shall be required to send a representative to attend the hearing or send a designate.	DRCs should be attending the hearings for assault, and if they cannot, they must send a designate.
P. 5.6.5.1	<p>A Discipline Hearing Panel shall consist of at least three members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Chair. Please note; The Discipline Chair of a Governing body, District, League, Club or Tournament must hold current Discipline Certification Chair training Level 1 prior to the hearing being convened. Also, no "Director" may sit as Discipline Chair of their own organization. 2. The Recording Secretary and; 3. A third member <p>(The Case Manager may not sit on the Panel) <u>In certain situations, the Case Manager may need to act as the Recording Secretary. However they must invoke 5.6.5.2 below.,</u></p> <p>Panel Members shall be carefully selected for the Discipline Hearing Panel to ensure the panel member has no apparent relationship with the affected parties, has no involvement with the misconduct being considered and is free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict. Only one (1) registered Match Official shall be allowed on a panel. In certain situations, the Case Administrator may also act as the Recording Secretary.</p>	Due to hearings being held by Zoom, we have the option to have the Case Administrator act as the Recording Secretary.
P. 5.6.5.2	The accused may sign a waiver form, <u>or in a virtual hearing give verbal, recorded approval</u> , for a panel of two members or for a hearing notice that is missing elements in the required notice.	To allow for approval of a two member panel in any virtual setting.

P. 5.6.7.3	If the Discipline Hearing is being conducted by teleconference or virtually, any Video evidence shall be submitted at least four (4) days prior to the hearing, so that the video evidence can be forwarded to the panel in a manner that the panel can open to view after it has been entered under 5.6.7.2. Video evidence submitted less than 4 days prior to the hearing, or during the hearing, may not be included in the hearing.	To reduce the amount of last minute video submissions.
P. 6.5.1	When suspending a registrant for Match Official Assault, the Discipline Hearing Panel shall include any period of suspension already served up to a maximum of two (2) months.	Limits scenarios when an accused is found guilty but because of 'time served' is allowed back immediately after hearing.
P. 7.1	The Governing Organization responsible for the tournament shall ensure that the Discipline Chair has met the current-Discipline Certification level 1 status Discipline Core and Discipline Chair education and training requirements.	Individual not currently certified will not be permitted to deliver discipline.
P. 7.3	The Panel may, where justified, suspend any person dismissed during, or after, a game, from all further participation in the tournament. This is mandatory for any "A" misconduct type related to Match Officials.	There are some "A" charges not related to Match Officials and should not lead to automatic suspension from the tournament.
P. 8.1.2	If a suspension is for a specific number of games, a Registrant suspended in a League, League cup, league play-off or any other League competition shall serve the suspension with the League.	To make it clear that suspensions served in the same league/competition are for that league/comp only - and that it doesn't apply to timed suspensions. The wording is just a bit confusing and we field questions about it.
P. 8.2.6	Any Registrant suspended for not attending a hearing for a playing season offence, shall remain on the long term suspension list as published by Ontario Soccer for a maximum period of 5 years. After which time the accused shall be permitted to participate in soccer upon registration along with a fine of \$1500.00	To increase fine to reflect that they were removed from the game for serious infractions.
P. 8.3.5	Suspension from all Soccer Related Activity applies to all members/Registrants of Ontario Soccer. However, employees of Governing Bodies are subject to less restrictive sanctions because Ontario Soccer suspensions from all Soccer Related	Fixing the wording by taking out the procedure mentioned that doesn't exist and to clarify that we are aware of labour laws and not stopping

	<p>Activity cannot breach labour laws. This does not mean an employee is exempt from sanctions levied by a Governing Body. Many activities described in 1.94 a/b/c/d can be considered core duties of a Coach, Technical Director or Administrator. However, as A Governing Body has the authority to suspend a Coach, Technical Director or Administrator from in-game Coaching.</p>	<p>an individual from earning an income. Up to the Club to deal with suspended person.</p>
P. 9.1	<p>Where a specific suspension is quoted, the set suspension is mandatory and can be administered by DBR. Where suspensions are quoted as a range, application of a suspension within the range is required and the misconduct must be dealt with by DBH. All fines equal to, or greater than, \$200-\$500.00 must be dealt with by DBH.</p>	<p>The quantity of hearings that the District Associations are required to coordinate, schedule and run is an enormous task and causing a huge strain on staff and appeal panel members. Furthermore, many hearings are currently required as per the regulations on situations where there is no plausible defence, is an open and shut matter, and quite simply a waste of time for all parties involved. These types of hearings are what is severely congesting the system and the time of everyone involved.</p> <p>Based on the current structure, we are recommending raising the requirement of a hearing to standard penalties for Misconduct incurring a fine of \$501.00 or greater, while all matters in Procedure 9.4 will continue to require DBH.</p> <p>Participants would still have the ability to request a hearing.</p>
P. 9.2	<p>Probationary Sentences, Suspended Sentences or Concurrent Sentences are not permitted.</p>	<p>For clarity, the definitions were requested by members.</p>
P. 9.4	<p>An immediate suspension must be imposed on receipt of a report for the following misconduct: i. Offences of moral turpitude</p>	<p>To recognize that verbal assault is as impactful as physical assault when it is aimed at a minor.</p>

	<p>ii. Physical assault, verbal assault or attempted physical assault of a mini or youth registered player by a Team Official or Administrator and/or Match Official</p> <p>iii. Match Official Assault by a Player, Team Official, Administrator or another Match Official</p> <p>iv. Missed Discipline Hearing: If the accused fails to attend a Discipline Hearing in which they were required to attend.</p>	
P. 9.4.1	<p>In cases where a person has been charged in criminal court with offences of moral turpitude, the accused shall be suspended from all soccer related activity until the case(s) has been concluded in criminal court. Ontario Soccer may decide if further proceedings are warranted pursuant to the "Governing documents" of Ontario Soccer and/or Canada Soccer. Where a person has been charged under federal or provincial statute with an offense of moral turpitude, the accused is immediately, without need for review or hearing, suspended from all soccer related activities until the criminal case(s) is(are) concluded before the courts of jurisdiction. Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer will, in all cases, suspend any discipline reviews or hearings associated with a criminal offense until the case(s) is(are) concluded. Ontario Soccer reserves the right to resume proceedings if it deems those proceedings are warranted under the Governing Documents of Ontario Soccer and/or Canada Soccer.</p>	<p>The original procedure leaves ambiguity as to when the suspension is effective, or whether a discipline review/hearing panel is required to suspend someone at the start of the accused's criminal proceedings. The proposed edit removes that ambiguity, states that any OS/CS proceedings are suspended pending criminal proceedings, and states that it is with immediate effect without need for review or hearing.</p>
P. 9.16	<p>Suspensions, Fines and Bonds levied by any organization shall be in accordance with the Standard Penalties for Misconduct Tables in this Operational Procedure. In the subsequent Tables, in addition to all suspensions when the offense is directed at a Match Official, a mandatory education program must be completed.</p>	<p>This is the crucial element. As the "No Ref, No Game" Charter states clearly, what we need is a CULTURE CHANGE. To do this, we need to have educational modules available to be assigned as a requirement for return from suspension. They could range from online courses with quizzes (similar to many workplace safety courses), up to in person courses in extreme cases.</p>

P. 9.11.2	<p>Ineligible Player is defined as follows and shall apply to all competitions in Ontario. No District Association, League or Tournament/Festival/Exhibition Game Host Organization may use any other definition in its competition's rules:</p> <p>a) Playing while under suspension, b) Playing without an international transfer, c) Playing without having been re-instated from Professional to amateur, d) Playing while not being properly registered, e) Playing while not being registered to that team unless on a valid trial permit, f) Playing in an age specific competition without the eligible age classification, e) Playing up or playing as a guest player when ineligible to do so, f) Playing after failing to produce physical Ontario Soccer Registrant Book Identification or physical Ontario Soccer approved Identification Card and/or Roster when requested to do so. g) Playing after failing to produce physical Ontario Soccer Registrant Book or physical Ontario Soccer approved Identification Card and/or Roster when requested to do so.</p>	Removed 'e' and 'f' as they are considered a part of 'd' - they are not properly registered.
Discipline type .51 in the tables	Match Official Assault for deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening physical contact .	To cover the issues with individuals receiving reduced penalties or dismissed charges as they 'only threatened' the Match Official.
P. 10.1.1	The "Schedule of Fees and Financial Penalties" is applicable only to cases handled by an Ontario Soccer Discipline Hearing/Review Panel and are mandatory amounts. Fines and Bonds for cases of misconduct are as under Ontario Soccer jurisdiction outlined in Tables 1-7 in Operational Procedures 9.09.16 .	Corrected procedure number.

P. 10.3.1	The \$300.00 "Administrative Fee" levied to the Club found guilty of Match Official Assault, shall be disbursed as follows: District Association acting on behalf of Ontario Soccer and having appointed the Discipline Hearing panel, shall retain \$200.00 and remit \$100.00 to Ontario Soccer.	Admin fee is too low - increase added. To increase the fees as they have not been increased in a number of years and this is a serious charge (MO assault) and must be treated as such based on the norefno game program.
P. 11.1	Discipline related to the following Ontario Soccer programs fall under the jurisdiction of Ontario Soccer: 1. League 1 Ontario (L10) 2. Ontario Player Development League (OPDL) and 3. Provincial Indoor Soccer League (PISL) 4. Ontario Cup (OC)	To reflect the fact that the PISL and L10 handle their own discipline and only Appeals for these leagues are managed by Ontario Soccer.
Section 13 - Appeals		
P. 4.2	<p>Not every decision may be appealed. Decisions may only be appealed, and appeals may only be heard, upon the following grounds:</p> <p>a) Making a decision for which the Respondent did not have authority or jurisdiction as set out in applicable governing documents; b) New facts (within a time limit) that were not available when the decision was made; c) Failing to properly interpret the relevant Published Rules; d) Failing to follow procedures as laid out in the relevant Published Rules; or e) Making a decision that was influenced by bias f) Alleged excessive fine, fee, penalty or bond. Ensure text matches on form and in the text of Ops</p> <p>a) The decision made is beyond the authority and jurisdiction of the decision maker as set out in applicable governing documents. b) New facts now available that were not in existence or could not have been discovered by due diligence when the decision was made. c) The decision maker failed to properly interpret the relevant Published Rules. d) The decision maker failed to follow procedures as described in</p>	To ensure that we are consistent with the terminology on the form which we direct our members to.

	<p>the relevant Published Rules.</p> <p>e) The decision was influenced by bias, where bias is defined as a lack of neutrality to such an extent that the decision-maker is unable to consider other views.</p> <p>f) The decision is excessive of the guidelines established related to fines, fee, penalties or bonds</p>	
P. 7.1 a)	<p>The Case Manager will appoint a Panel which will be comprised of three persons who will have no significant relationship with the affected parties, will have had no involvement with the decision being appealed, and will be free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict. comprised of three persons who hold current Discipline Chair designation, and have no significant relationship with the affected parties, will have had no involvement with the decision being appealed, and will be free from any other actual or perceived bias or conflict.</p>	To ensure that the appointed panel has appropriate training to hear appeals.
Section 14 - Protests		
P. 1.2	<p>A Coach or Team Official can lodge a protest on a Game Match Official's rule interpretation ONLY and may NOT protest any Game Match Official's calls and/or decisions.</p>	To stress the importance that Coaches cannot protest for these reasons.
P. 1.10	<p>Audio tape recorders or technology which allows recording may be used at hearings convened to deal with protests. All persons participating in the hearing must be advised that the hearing is being recorded taped.</p>	As a number of appeals may be hosted through an online platform, this is relevant.