



OPERATIONS MANUAL

League 1 Ontario

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SECTION I - ORGANIZATION

League1 Ontario (L10) is a high performance PRO-AM senior soccer league.

1.1 Strategic Direction

- a) The League1 Ontario Board of Directors shall be responsible for providing governance oversight and plotting the strategic direction for L10, in consultation with the L10 Technical Committee. Furthermore, resolution of any matter not specifically addressed within this Operations Manual will be the responsibility of the L10 Board of Directors.
- b) The Commissioner of League1 Ontario will serve as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors.
- c) In addition to the Commissioner, the Board of Directors will consist of:
 - Chief Executive Officer, Ontario Soccer,
 - Chief Executive Officer, Canadian Soccer Business (or designate)
 - VP Strategy, Canadian Soccer Business.

1.2 Technical Oversight

- a) Technical leadership for L10 shall come from the Technical Committee.
- b) The Technical Committee will be comprised of a minimum of four (4) Members:
 - VP of Soccer Operations, Canadian Premier League
 - Director of Soccer Operations, Ontario Soccer
 - Director of Match Officials, League1 Ontario
 - VP Strategy, Canadian Soccer Business (Board Liaison)

1.3 License Holder Advisory Role

- a) The League1 Ontario License Holders shall provide feedback to the L10 Board of Directors and the L10 Technical Committee through the L10 Operations Advisory Group and L10 Technical Advisory Group.
- b) The Chair of the L10 Board of Directors will Chair all meetings of the Operations Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group.
- c) L10 license holders shall designate a representative to each of these advisory groups. The representative to the Technical Advisory Group must possess a minimum of a National B coaching license (or equivalent), unless the Commissioner of L10 provides specific permission otherwise.
- d) Advisory Group meetings shall be called as deemed necessary by the Chair of the L10 Board of Directors, but no less than two (2) times per calendar year. License Holders will be given a minimum of fifteen (15) days advance written notice for the scheduling of any official advisory group meeting.
- e) License Holders who fail to have appropriate representation at a properly scheduled Advisory Group meeting will be fined as per the League1 Ontario Discipline Code.



1.4 Establishment of Sub-Committees

- a) The Chair of the L10 Board of Directors has the authority to establish sub-committees as necessary.
- b) A Sub Committee will have a clearly specified purpose and will be tasked with making recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- c) The Chair of the L10 Board of Directors will appoint a Chairperson for each Sub Committee that is established.
 - i. The sub-committee's chairperson has the authority to nominate members to the sub-committee but the Chair of the L10 Board of Directors has final decision making authority on sub-committee membership.
 - ii. The sub-committee chairperson must report back to the Board of Directors on a semi-annual basis (January and July of each calendar year), at minimum. Meeting minutes must be kept for each meeting that is conducted. The minutes shall be distributed through the L10 League Administrator.
- d) When it is determined that a specific sub-committee has completed its task or mandate, the Chair of the L10 Board of Directors will dissolve that sub-committee.

1.5 League1 Ontario Discipline Committee and Discipline Code.

- a) The L10 Discipline Committee shall be appointed by the L10 Board of Directors.
- b) L10 License Holders shall adhere to the L10 Discipline Code.



SECTION II - LICENSE HOLDERS COMMITMENTS

2.1 Standards

- a) L10 is a Senior Level, Open Age Professional Soccer League that also permits the participation of "All-Amateur" teams. It will be referred to publicly as a PRO-AM Soccer League.
- b) All L10 License Holders shall adhere to Ontario Soccer's Standards for Semi-Professional Leagues (see Appendix B of this document) as well as to the terms of the League1 Ontario License Agreement.
- c) The only permitted exception to the Standards for Semi-Professional Leagues is that L10 License Holders choosing to operate as "All-Amateur" teams are exempt from section 2.14 of the Standards document (the Team Player Budget section).

2.2 License Agreement

- a) Participation in L10 is contingent on the signing of a League1 Ontario License Agreement by a binding authority of the License Holder as well as payment in full of the annual league fees, as established by the L10 Board of Directors.

2.3 Scheduling

- a) All L10 teams shall participate in all matches for which they are scheduled during the course of an L10 season. Failure to do so shall result in disciplinary measures as outlined in the L10 Discipline Code.
- b) Once the annual L10 match schedule is published, any change to the schedule requires the written approval of the Commissioner of L10. Only requests made in writing, to the attention of the L10 League Administrator, will be considered. Requests must be sent via email to Melissa.McKinnon@cansb.ca.
 - i. Request to change the location for a match requires, at minimum, forty-eight (48) hours notice.
 - ii. Request to change the date and/or time for a match requires, at minimum, seven (7) days notice.
 - iii. League management reserves the right to reject any and all requests for scheduling changes.
 - iv. Once a change to the published schedule is approved, the L10 League Administrator will notify all parties and update the published schedule accordingly.
- c) Pre-season, in-season and post-season exhibition matches, tournaments and other events do not form part of the L10 season but may be entered into at the License Holder's discretion.
 - i. It is the responsibility of the L10 License Holder to secure the appropriate permits to participate in any match not scheduled by L10.
- d) All scheduled L10 matches will always take precedence over any other type of match a License Holder may seek to participate in.
- e) The License Holder must provide a minimum of seven (7) day notice to the L10 League Administrator advising of their intended participation in any matches not scheduled by the league.



2.4 License Performance Review

- a) To ensure that the established technical, organisational and facilities standards required by both the L10 License Holder Agreement and Ontario Soccer's Standards for Semi-Professional Leagues are being adhered to, all L10 License Holders shall be subject to ongoing evaluation and review, culminating with an annual Performance Review meeting that is conducted at the conclusion of each L10 season.
- b) L10 License Holders shall attend the annual review meeting, either in person, via telephone conference call or via video conference call and will provide all information requested, either in advance or during the course of the meeting.
- c) The Performance Review process may also identify opportunities for improvement that are not necessarily related to standards compliance.
- d) Licensee Performance Reviews shall also be an opportunity for L10 License Holders to bring forth issues to L10 League Management and present feedback for the continuous improvement of the league's operations and effectiveness.



SECTION III - STRUCTURE

3.1 Game Format

- a) The Laws of the Game shall be those adopted by the International Football Board (IFB) each year and shall come into force as mandated by Canada Soccer, unless exceptions are clearly noted in this Operations Manual.
- b) Field dimensions and field surface preparation for L10 matches shall comply with FIFA regulations (Law 1 of the FIFA Laws of the Game) and Ontario Soccer's Standards for Semi Professional Leagues.
- c) Goals used in L10 matches shall comply with FIFA regulations (Law 1 of the FIFA Laws of the Game).
- d) The Home Team / Host Organization must supply a minimum of four (4) identical, inflated match balls to the Match Officials prior to the kickoff of an L10 match. All match balls shall comply with FIFA regulations (Law 2 of the FIFA Laws of the Game). Additionally, all match balls submitted for use in an official L10 match must bear one of the following marks:

- i. the official "FIFA QUALITY PRO" logo;
- ii. the official "FIFA QUALITY" logo;
- iii. the "INTERNATIONAL MATCHBALL STANDARD" logo.



3.2 Playing Season

- a) The duration of the season shall be determined annually by the L10 Board of Directors, in consultation with L10 Technical Committee as well as the L10 Operations Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group.

3.3 Competition Structure

- a) The assignment of License Holders to the Men's and Women's divisions shall be determined annually by the L10 Board of Directors. Any changes to division assignments will be communicated in writing to all License Holders by January 31st of the year that such changes will take effect.
- b) The L10 Board of Directors, at its sole discretion (but always in consultation with the league's Technical Committee and the L10 Advisory Groups), may establish additional tiers to the League structure in order to satisfy competitive balance considerations.
- c) The league competition structure for both the Men's and Women's divisions shall be determined annually by the L10 Board of Directors, in consultation with the L10 Technical Committee and the L10 Advisory Groups.
 - i. The finalized competition structure will be communicated, in writing, to all License Holders by January 31st of each year.
 - ii. Refer to Appendix C of the L10 Operations Manual for details of the current competition structure.
- d) For league competition, teams shall be organized into a single table or, alternatively, organized into Regional Conferences.
- e) For regular league competition, three (3) points will be awarded for a win. One (1) point will be awarded to each team if a match ends in a draw. No point will be awarded for a loss.



- f) The method for determining the league champion for both the Men's and Women's divisions and for the breaking of ties in the league standings will be determined annually by the L10 Board of Directors, in consultation with the L10 Technical Committee and the L10 Advisory Groups.
 - i. The finalized regulations for determining the league champions and for the breaking of ties in the league standings will be communicated, in writing, to all License Holders by January 31st of each year.
 - ii. Refer to Appendix C of the L10 Operations Manual for the current regulations governing the determination of league champions and for the breaking of ties in the league standings.
- g) The Champion of the L10 Men's Division will earn direct entry into the following year's Canadian Championship tournament (operated by Canada Soccer).
- h) The L10 Board of Directors, in consultation with the L10 Technical Committee and the L10 Advisory Groups, shall determine annually if a League Cup competition will be staged.
 - i. If staged, the finalized League Cup competition structure will be communicated in writing to all License Holders by January 31st of each year.
 - ii. Refer to Appendix D of the L10 Operations Manual for details of the current League Cup competition structure and for the methodology used for the breaking of ties in the League Cup Competition.

3.4 League1 Ontario Competition Schedule

- a) The development of the official L10 competition schedule shall be the responsibility of L10 League Administrator. Licensees will be required to provide the League Administrator with a list of home dates and match start times by the deadline date established annually by the L10 Board of Directors.
- b) Unless otherwise permitted by the L10 Board of Directors, all official L10 matches shall be played on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays only.
 - i. The L10 Board of Directors reserves the right to establish windows during the season whereby official L10 matches could be played mid-week (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday only).
- c) Changes to the official schedule, including postponements, may only be granted in exceptional circumstances, at the sole discretion of the L10 Commissioner.
 - i. Please refer to section 2.3 of this document for the mandatory protocol for making changes to the schedule.

3.5 Match Length

- a) All L10 matches will consist of two (2) forty-five (45) minute halves, with a fifteen (15) minute half time interval.
 - i. Refer to Appendix C and Appendix D for instances where a match may require extra time played and/or the taking of kicks from the penalty spot to determine a match winner.

3.6 Substitution Policy

- a) A maximum of five (5) substitutions shall be permitted for each L10 scheduled match, with no re-entry.



- b) Substitutions shall be permitted, at the discretion of the Referee, at any stoppage in play.
- c) Substitutes must report to the Fourth Official or Assistant Referee at midfield, must provide a completed substitution slip to the Fourth Official or Assistant Referee, and may not enter the field without the permission of the Referee. The player exiting the match must exit at midfield.

3.7 Incomplete Games and Game Delays

- a) In the event that a match cannot continue through full regulation play, the match shall be considered as concluded if a minimum of **seventy (70) minutes** has been played and the score at the time of abandonment will count as the final result, with points awarded accordingly.
- b) Whereby a match is abandoned after 70 minutes of play for any reason other than inclement weather, the L10 Board of Directors reserves the right to review the circumstances surrounding the abandonment and will determine if:
 - i. The Final Score at the time of abandonment stands,
 - ii. The abandoned game will be rescheduled and replayed,
 - iii. Reason(s) for abandonment can be subject to discipline.
- c) The Referee shall have the final decision on delaying or suspending of matches due to weather or field conditions. All parties will wait up to sixty (60) minutes before fully abandoning a match that has been delayed, unless both teams, the Referee and L10 League Management agree to an alternate plan.
 - i. If it is determined that a match must be delayed due to inclement weather or unplayable field conditions **prior to kickoff**, all parties will wait up to sixty (60) minutes after the scheduled kickoff time before abandoning the match.
- d) In the case of a game delay, the league assigned Match Day Operations Coordinator (MDOC) shall communicate the delay by telephone or electronic message to their designated supervisor. L10 League Management will then communicate this information to all affected stakeholders.
- e) If not resumed the same day, a game abandoned prior to the completion of 70 minutes of play will be considered incomplete and must be rescheduled as a new game on another date. Any match that must be rescheduled due to abandonment must be replayed within forty-five (45) days of the original date of the game, but no later than seven (7) days after the final scheduled league match of the season. Rescheduling will be organized between L10 League Management and the affected teams.

3.8 Forfeits

- a) Should any team fail to appear for a scheduled league match or are not able to complete a scheduled match, a forfeit will be declared.
- b) In the event that a forfeit is declared, a 3-0 win shall be awarded to the team not at fault and the offending team will be fined in accordance with Appendix A of the L10 Discipline Code.

3.9 Game Sheets

- a) Each team shall present three (3) copies of an official game sheet and one (1) copy of the Fourth Official Match Log form to the Match Officials **no less than thirty (30) minutes** prior to the scheduled kickoff time.



- b) The official game sheet shall list a minimum of seven (7) and a maximum of eighteen (18) players.
 - i. Teams must clearly identify their designated starting players, up to a maximum of eleven (11), on the game sheet;
 - ii. Teams may list and dress up to a maximum of seven (7) substitute players;
 - iii. The shirt number for each player must be noted clearly on the game sheet.
 - iv. Any team that lists less than fourteen (14) players on their official game sheet shall be subject to a fine, in accordance with Appendix A of the L10 Discipline Code.
- c) The official game sheet must include all team officials who will be on the bench, up to a maximum of six (6).
- d) In the spirit of Fair Play, once the official game sheets have been submitted to the Match Officials, changes to the starting XI can only be made in the event that a player listed as a starter is deemed unable to participate. In that case, he/she must be removed from the game sheet altogether and shall be replaced in the starting XI by one of the named substitutes.
 - i. Any player or team official who is listed on the official game sheet but who is not present on the field of play or on the substitute bench at the time of kickoff will be struck from the Game Sheet by the Fourth Official and will not be eligible to participate in that match.
- e) No less than eight (8) of the players listed on the official game sheet MUST be U23 players. No less than Four (4) of the designated Eleven (11) starting players MUST be U23 players.
 - i. For the 2019 season, a player classified as a U23 must be born in 1996 or later.
 - ii. Rule 3.9 (e) will be reviewed by the Technical Committee and Technical Advisory Group in January of each year but the regulation cannot be altered without the approval of the L10 Board of Directors.
- f) No more than three (3) "import players" shall be included on the game sheet for an official L10 match.
 - i. An "import player" is any player who is not a Canadian citizen, nor does he/she possess a valid Canadian Permanent Resident card.
 - ii. Any L10 License Holder identified by the L10 Steering Committee as being located in a "border city" will be permitted to include one (1) additional "import player" on their game sheet, for a maximum of four (4) "import players". For 2019, the L10 Steering Committee has designated Windsor TFC as operating in a "border city".
 - iii. Rule 3.9 (f) will be reviewed by the Technical Committee at the conclusion of each season but cannot be altered without the approval of the L10 Board of Directors.
- g) L10 teams shall obtain a signed copy from the match officials within forty-five (45) minutes of the conclusion of a match and verify the accuracy of said game sheets. The Match Officials must be permitted no less than thirty (30) minutes, uninterrupted, in order to complete the game sheets and Fourth Official Report.
- h) L10 shall maintain information related to player suspensions and will make it available electronically. Suspended players will not be eligible to be placed on the game sheet.

3.10 Assignment of Match Officials

- a) Match Official assignments and the payment of Match Officials for all matches scheduled by L10 are the responsibility of League1 Ontario.



3.11 Reporting of Match Results

- a) The league appointed Match Day Operations Coordinator (MDOC) will be responsible for the reporting of match results to the league office at the conclusion of each match.



SECTION IV - PLAYER ELIGIBILITY AND TEAM ROSTERS

4.1 Player Registration

- a) A Professional Player is paid to play soccer by an L10 License Holder at no less than the minimum annual salary stipulated in the Ontario Soccer Standards for Semi-Professional Leagues (refer to Appendix B)
 - i. A Professional player must sign an L10 registration and waiver form, as well as a professional player contract with their team. Copies of the contract must be provided to both the player and League1 Ontario. L10 must file a copy of all professional contracts with Ontario Soccer and Canada Soccer.
 - ii. No Professional player may be registered to more than one team during that season, although a professional player may be transferred or loaned to another team upon completion of an official agreement.
 - iii. A Professional player may participate, with official permission of their team, in special events not organized by L10 (i.e. benefit matches, etc...).
 - iv. The term for any L10 Professional Contract must end on November 30th (i.e. a contract signed in March 2019 that spans two seasons must terminate on November 30, 2021).
- b) An Amateur Player must sign an L10 registration and waiver form. In addition, an amateur player may sign an amateur contract with their team.
 - i. Amateur players may be reimbursed by their team for certain direct expenses related to participation on the team, as per FIFA and CSA regulations.
 - ii. In the event an Amateur Player signs an Amateur Contract, the contract term cannot exceed one (1) season in length and must terminate on November 30th of any given year.
 - iii. No amateur player registered to an L10 team roster can be sent out on loan to another organization.
 - iv. An amateur player registered to an L10 team roster can play down only to the official L10 reserve team operated by an L10 license holder, so long as that reserve team is participates in the official L10 Reserve League(s). Playing down requires a league issued permit.
 - v. An Amateur player registered to an L10 first team roster shall not be registered to any other competitive or recreational amateur club team during that season. Any player found to be in contravention of this regulation shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- c) All players, whether Professional or Amateur, must be registered through Ontario Soccer's player registration system. L10 shall require the following in order to process a player's registration:
 - i. A copy of an L10 registration and waiver form signed by the player or legal guardian (if not 18 years of age or older).
 - ii. A copy of a Professional or Amateur player contract (if applicable), signed by both the player and an officer of the L10 License Holder.
 - iii. A copy of the L10 Code of Ethics / Social Media Policy document, signed by the player.



- iv. Where applicable, proof of international clearance from a foreign national association where a player last competed prior to signing to play with an L10 team. More information regarding International Clearances are found in Section 4.6 of this document.
 - v. Proof of age for all U23 players (e.g. scanned copy of a passport, driver's license, etc...). For 2019, a U23 player would be born in 1996 or later.
 - vi. L10 reserves the right to request proof of Canadian citizenship or permanent resident status before the registration of any player will be processed.
- d) At minimum, the following information that shall be required to complete a player registration:
- i. First Name, Last Name
 - ii. Email address and phone number
 - iii. Address and postal code
 - iv. Date of birth
 - v. Gender
- e) All Coaches or team officials that would ever sit on the bench during an L10 match shall complete and sign an L10 Team Official registration and waiver form and be registered through Ontario Soccer's registration system.
- i. Any team official that is registered to participate in L10 must also read and sign the L10 Code of Ethics / Social Media Policy document.
- f) License Holders must provide L10 with a high-resolution digital head shot photo (taken on a plain white background or against a club branded backdrop) for every player and team official that will participate in L10 competition each year.
- i. Players called up to play in L10 from a lower level team must have a head shot photo submitted within five (5) days of the first match they appear in during a season.
 - ii. All head shot photos must be provided to L10 according to the technical specifications provided by League Management to the License Holders at the beginning of each new season.
 - iii. Failure to comply to this requirement will result in the levying of fines in accordance with Appendix A of the L10 Discipline Code

4.2 Registration Deadlines and Roster

- a) All L10 Teams shall carry a first team roster with a minimum of fourteen (14) and a maximum of twenty-five (25) registered players.
- b) Prior to the kickoff of any season, L10 License Holders must present an official first team roster to the L10 League Administrator, including all registered players (no less than 14 players) and team officials, no later than five (5) days before the first scheduled league match of any season.
- c) For a player or team official to be eligible to appear on a game sheet and participate in a match, they must be properly registered in Ontario Soccer's player registration system at least one (1) day before the match.



- d) For the 2019 season, L10 rosters will be frozen on July 17th. No new players may be registered to an L10 roster after that date. This also applies to any lower level team from which players may be called up to play for the L10 team. Call ups are, however, still permitted after to play up from lower level teams after that date.
 - i. In the event that a team seeks to register a player that requires an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) ahead of the July 17th roster freeze date, the L10 League Administrator will not do so unless the ITC has been approved and submitted to the league office on or prior to said deadline.
- e) L10 teams are only permitted to register a player that is signed to a PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT and who also requires an ITC during one of two official transfer windows each calendar year. The windows are established annually by Canada Soccer.
- f) Player and team information must be updated and kept current. In the event of any player / team official additions or deletions during the season, the License Holder must communicate such changes to the L10 League Administration no later than one (1) day after completing the registration or deregistration process.
- g) As a requirement for participation in the Canadian Championship tournament, the team that will represent L10 in the Canadian Championships each year must submit a Roster Declaration to Canada Soccer by the deadline established annually by Canada Soccer (please refer to Appendix H of this document).

4.3. Affiliation Agreements

- a) L10 License Holders are permitted to enter into Formal Affiliation Agreements with an Ontario Soccer Affiliated Organization that is not presently an L10 License Holder.
- b) An L10 License Holder is permitted no more than three (3) formal Affiliation Agreements per season.
- c) Affiliates must operate within the same Ontario Soccer Region as the L10 License Holder.
- d) For an Affiliation Agreement to be valid, it must be officially recognized by Ontario Soccer and a copy must be provided to the District Association(s), if applicable. Affiliation Agreements between two (2) or more Ontario Recognized Academies (ORA) does not require District Association recognition.
- e) For the 2019 season, for an Affiliation Agreement to be recognized by L10, all relevant paperwork must be provided to the L10 League Administrator no later than April 19, 2019.

4.4. Player Movement Within an Organization and Trial Players

- a) Player movement within the same club, subject to compliance with Ontario Soccer's Operational Procedures, shall be permitted from a lower level team to the League1 Ontario team. No Permit is required.
- b) When an L10 team is operated by an Ontario Recognized Academy (ORA), players from lower level teams operated by that ORA may be called up to the L10 team so long as they have been properly registered with Ontario Soccer. No Permit is required.
- c) When an L10 License Holder has entered into a formal and validated Affiliation Agreement with an organization that is affiliated to Ontario Soccer, players from the lower level teams operated by the affiliate organization(s) may be called up to play for the L10 team so long as that player has been properly registered with Ontario Soccer. No Permit is required.



- d) L10 permits unlimited call-ups per match and unlimited call-ups per season
- e) For a player to be eligible to be called up from a lower level team to participate in an official L10 match, they must be registered as a **"COMPETITIVE"** player in the Ontario Soccer Registration System.
- f) A player that is called up from a lower level team to participate in an official L10 match must be prepared to present a valid player identification document to the league assigned Match Day Operations Coordinator, upon request (e.g. an Ontario Soccer Player Book, a SAAC / OASL issued Player ID Card, etc...).
- g) For the 2019 season, any player that plays up to an L10 team must be registered in Ontario Soccer's registration system to that Club, ORA Academy or approved affiliate by no later than July 17, 2019. Players registered to lower level teams on or after July 18, 2019 will be ineligible to participate in official L10 competition for the remainder of the 2019 League1 Ontario season.
- ~~h) If an L10 License Holder operates a team in a "higher level" professional league (as determined by Canada Soccer), their L10 team would be designated as the reserve team to that professional team.
 - ~~i. As per Canada Soccer regulations, the L10 team may accept, on loan, professional players that have been registered to that organization's professional team operating at the immediate next tier above L10 (e.g. TFC III may accept professional players, on loan, that are signed to TFC 2 but they may not accept players that are signed to Toronto FC's MLS roster)~~
 - ~~ii. No more than three (3) professional players that have been assigned by the "parent" professional team to the L10 (reserve) team may appear on the game sheet for any official L10 match.~~~~
- i) An L10 License Holder that also holds a Canada Soccer Level 1 Club License may enter into a formal affiliation agreement with one (1) Professional Soccer Club (that is a member of Canada Soccer) subject to Canada Soccer's standard Club Affiliation Agreement. That affiliation agreement must be confirmed by Ontario Soccer and approved by Canada Soccer.
 - i. An L10 license holder may accept, on loan, no more than three (3) professional players to their L10 team that have been registered to the affiliated organization's professional team, provided that the loan agreement falls within the salary cap restrictions of League1 Ontario.
 - ii. All loans and transfers between L10 License Holders and its affiliate organization must be "arms length" transactions.
 - iii. All salaries, benefits, additional compensation, insurance and applicable taxes that are due to the player sent out on loan to an L10 License Holder will be paid by the Professional Club to which the player is registered. L10 License Holders will be responsible for all travel, lodging and meal costs for each player while such player is on loan to the L10 License Holder, consistent with the applicable rules of the affiliated club or league rules.
 - iv. As per Canada Soccer regulations, no more than three (3) professional players that have been assigned by the affiliated professional team to the L10 license holder's team may appear on the game sheet for any official L10 match.
- j) "Temporary Eligibility Permits" (TEP) are not be permitted for official L10 matches.



- i. L10 license holders may only use a player on a TEP in non-official competitions (e.g. friendlies, tournaments, etc...). A copy of the TEP must be attached to the game sheet (failure to do so will render that player ineligible and will subject the player, the License Holder and their staff to discipline).
 - ii. Temporary Eligibility Permits are not permitted for players who require an ITC.
- k) Any amateur player who is called up to play matches for an All-Amateur L10 team during a season shall still be deemed eligible for participation in the annual Provincial / Regional / National Club Championship competition for that season.

4.5 Ineligible Players

- a) Any team using a player(s) in any official L10 match that is not properly registered, not properly permitted or not cleared of disciplinary sanctions will be subject to disciplinary action as per the L10 Discipline Code.

4.6 International Transfers

- a) For a player who comes to Canada on or after the player turns ten (10) years of age or who last played for any team in a foreign country, the player must request and receive an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) before being eligible to be registered and play in L10.
- b) International transfers of all professional players as well as amateur players under the age of eighteen (18) must be processed through the FIFA Transfer Matching System (TMS). International Transfers of amateur players aged eighteen (18) and older are processed through the manual ITC system.
- c) As per Article 19 (Protection of Minors) from the FIFA Regulations for the Status and Transfer of Players, any requests for the international clearance of a minor (aged 10 to 17 years) will only be accepted if:
- i. The player's parents have moved to Canada for purposes other than playing soccer;
 - ii. The player lives no further than 50km from a national border and the maximum distance between the player's residence and the team's headquarters is no more than 100km. In such cases, the player must continue to live at home and the two Associations concerned must give their explicit consent.
 - iii. The conditions of Article 19 shall also apply to any minor player who has never previously been registered for a club and is not a national of the country in which he wishes to be registered for the first time.
 - iv. Requests for ITC's involving minor players are processed through the FIFA TMS by the CSA.
 - v. Specific requirements mandated by FIFA for the processing of ITC's for minors are noted in Appendix E of this document.

4.7 Player Transfer, Player Loan and Player Release Policy

- a) All League1 Ontario License Holders and players shall adhere to all FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players. Additionally, all L10 License Holders and players shall adhere to the league regulations governing the transfer and release of players itemized in section 4.7 (b) through (h) of the Operations Manual.
- b) A player shall not move between L10 License Holders during the season unless the player has been:



- i. Officially transferred to another L10 License Holder
 - ii. Officially loaned to another L10 License Holder (amateur players cannot be loaned)
 - iii. Officially released and de-registered by the L10 License Holder, rendering the player free to join another team (within L10 or another league).
- c) Any player transfer or loan agreement between L10 License Holders must be approved by the Commissioner of League1 Ontario prior to being made official. All the terms involved in the player's transfer or loan (financial or otherwise) must be detailed in the official transfer request.
- d) No player may be transferred or loaned more than twice in any given season.
- e) Any L10 player that is registered to an L10 roster as an amateur that has appeared in fewer than 10% of the official matches in which their team has by July 8, 2019 may formally request their release from the team for which they are registered on the ground of sporting just cause. Due consideration shall be given to the player's circumstances in the appraisal of such cases. The existence of sporting just cause shall be established on a case-by-case basis. Any such request must be made in writing to the L10 License Holder with a copy submitted to the L10 League Administrator via email.
- i. In the event that a player's request to be released is refused by the L10 License Holder, the player may appeal the decision to the L10 Board of Directors.
- ~~f) During a season, any player that has moved from one team to another (be it via a release, a transfer or a loan) will be considered "Cup Tied" to their previous team if they have appeared on the game sheet in an L10 Cup match for their previous team, in that season. As such, that player would not be eligible to participate in any L10 Cup matches for their new team during that season in which they were "Cup Tied" to the previous team.~~
- g) No player may be registered by more than three (3) different L10 License Holders in any given season. During that season, the player is only eligible to play official matches for two (2) different L10 License Holders
- h) Players registered to a License Holder's official L10 ("First Team") roster and who is not bound by contractual obligation to an L10 License Holder after November 30th of any calendar year may move freely to another L10 team as of January 1st of the next calendar year. Between the period of December 1st and December 31st of any calendar year, the L10 License Holder has exclusive rights to re-sign those players who had been registered to their official L10 roster for the just completed season.

4.8 Termination of Contracts

- a) A player contract may not be unilaterally terminated by either party during the term of that contract.
- b) Termination by a Player – In conjunction with the conditions set forth by the standard player contract, the following will be recognized as cause for termination of contract:
 - i. In the event of a material breach of the Player Contract and Agreement by a L10 License Holder, a player may terminate a contract by notifying the License Holder and the L10 Commissioner, in writing, by registered mail. From the time the league and License Holder are notified by the player, the License Holder has ten (10) days to remedy the violation, release the player from the contract and registration or show written evidence to the L10 Steering Committee (with a copy provided to the player) that there has not been a breach of the contract.



- ii. In the event that a player signed to a professional contract has appeared in fewer than 10 per cent of the official matches in which the L10 team has been involved, that player may terminate his contract prematurely on the grounds of sporting just cause. A professional player may only terminate his contract on this basis within 30 days of the last official match of the season involving the L10 team with which the player is registered.
- c) Termination by a License Holder – an L10 License Holder may terminate a Player Contract provided the termination is within FIFA Player Contract regulations, including but not limited to player performance or violation of team rules. Upon written notice to the player, all rights and obligations of the L10 License Holder and player shall terminate, provided that the club's actions are in accordance with the terms of the signed Player Contract.
- d) Termination by the League – L10 may terminate a contract at any time if the L10 Board of Directors determines that a License Holder or a Player has violated either the terms or the spirit of the agreement.
 - i. Such decisions may be appealed to the CSA Player Status Committee.
 - ii. The decision of the Players Status Committee may be appealed to the CSA Appeals Committee, whose decision in the matter shall be final and binding, as per CSA Regulations.

4.9 Improper Player Recruitment & Solicitation

- a) Improper Recruitment refers to the practice of deliberate and proactive persuasion or enticement of a player already registered with an L10 License Holder by an individual or individuals associated with another L10 License Holder, with the intent of convincing the player to leave their current team.
- b) No L10 License Holder shall approach a player who is registered with another L10 team without the written consent of the team for which the player is registered at that time. All L10 License Holders shall be responsible for the conduct of their staff, players or anyone associated to the License Holder in this regard.
- c) Any person or persons found to be in violation of these rules will be subject to discipline, in accordance with the L10 Discipline Code.

4.10 Residency Rules

- a) No residency rules apply to L10 teams.
- b) No L10 License Holder has exclusive 'residency rights' and/or exclusive access rights to players residing in any geographical zones, districts, regions or municipalities.



SECTION V – TEAM AND MATCH OFFICIALS

5.1 Team Officials

- a) There shall be no more than six (6) team officials on the bench for any League or Cup match and all team officials must wear clothing that identifies them as an official member of the team staff.
- b) All team officials must have valid Respect In Soccer certification and the necessary minimum professional certification required by L10 Technical Standards for each respective Team Official Role (e.g. Head Coach, Assistant Coach, Goalkeeper Coach, Fitness Coach, Athletic Therapist, etc...)
- c) Any L10 team that will roster players that are less than eighteen (18) years old in official L10 competition must ensure and confirm to the league that all team officials possess a valid Vulnerable Sector Screening check), as per Ontario Soccer policy.

5.2 Assignment Of Match Officials

- a) Match officials for all L10 scheduled matches are assigned by the League1 Ontario Director of Match Officials and in accordance with Appointment Protocol found in Ontario Soccer's Published Operational Procedures (Section 10.0, Procedure 5.0).
- b) There shall be a minimum of one Referee and two Assistant Referees for each match.



SECTION VI – TECHNICAL PROGRAM STRUCTURE

6.1 Technical Standards

- a) Please refer to the Ontario Soccer Standards for Semi Professional Leagues. (Appendix B).
- b) Please refer to the Ontario Soccer Technical Manual for League1 Ontario which outlines the L10 Technical Philosophy.



SECTION VIII – GAME DAY OPERATIONS AND FACILITY

7.1 Game Day Standards

- a) Please refer to the Ontario Soccer Standards for Semi Professional Leagues. (Appendix B).
- b) A comprehensive Game Day Operations Manual will be provided as a separate document.
- c) L10 reserves the right to reject any facility chosen by a License Holder to host their L10 home matches if they are deemed to not meet the standards established in the Ontario Soccer Standards for Semi Professional Leagues.



APPENDIX A – CODE OF CONDUCT

General

League1 Ontario (hereinafter L10) endeavors to provide an elite, highly competitive level of soccer competition that will engender the respect of the soccer community. L10 will strive to be a desired destination for the top players in the Province of Ontario.

To that end, L10 will enforce a Code of Conduct for the behavior that all individuals involved in or around the League are expected to adhere to.

Code of Conduct for All Representatives of League1 Ontario license holders (players, coaches, team officials)

Players, coaches, team officials and officers of all L10 license holders will:

- ✓ Behave respectfully toward the Referees and their opponents;
- ✓ Present a professional image, both in behavior and appearance, to the general public before, during and after competitions;
- ✓ Never jeopardize the integrity of any L10 match by behaving in a manner that adversely affects the outcome of any match. This includes the intentional throwing of games, the offering of improper incentives to opponents to secure a desired result or the offering of gifts to Game Officials;
- ✓ Never engage in wagering on L10 matches;
- ✓ Refrain from any form of misconduct in public that will negatively affect the reputation of the Ontario Soccer, League 1 Ontario or the License Holder or that generally risks bringing the sport of soccer into disrepute.
- ✓ Not intentionally damage or vandalize the physical property of another club or at a facility where L10 matches are being played.
- ✓ Refrain from the use of tobacco products and the consumption of alcohol while performing official duties. The use of illegal substances is never acceptable, under any circumstances.
- ✓ Report to the Chair of L10 any actions that are a violation of the Code of Conduct without fear of recrimination.

All L10 participants are required to sign a League1 Ontario Code of Conduct agreement for their registration to be accepted by the L10 League Administrator

The L10 Discipline Committee has the right to impose fines and/or other forms of discipline upon any individual who violates the terms of the Code of Conduct.



APPENDIX B – Ontario Soccer Standards for Semi-Professional Leagues

The following are minimum standards for the Semi-Professional Leagues and Teams in Ontario who engage players and coaching staff on a part-time, semi-professional basis. These standards represent the minimums and the league may adopt more stringent standards if it so desires. The underlying principle upon which these standards are based is that all teams provide compensation to its players to participate in matches for the benefit of paying spectators.

Ontario Soccer reserves the right to amend these standards at any time to meet the changing landscape of soccer development in Ontario, pursuant to Ontario Soccer's Published Operating Procedures and subject to the confirmation of the Canadian Soccer Association.

2.1 League Office and Administration

2.1.1 The league office shall be located in a city served by appropriate domestic air services and in a physical location commensurate with the status of the league.

2.1.2 The personnel of the league office may be headed by a part-time or full time Commissioner, hired by and reporting to the league Board of Directors. The Commissioner shall exercise the powers vested in the office by the league bylaws and regulations and shall have the necessary broad experience for a chief operating officer in a league of this caliber.

2.1.3 The league may employ other personnel under the direction of the Commissioner, including, but not restricted to a Director of Operations, a Director of Officials, a Director of Communications / Public Relations, and a Director of Marketing. In addition, the league shall retain adequate accounting and support staff, as well as any additional staff the Board may deem necessary from time to time. The league office shall also be sufficiently staffed so as to be able to provide an equal service to all clubs regardless of time zone, and to handle the additional workload during the peak playing days of the semi-professional season.

2.1.4 The league office shall be equipped with all the communications and other equipment necessary to the twelve month operation of the league and its member teams, including such items as multiple phone lines, a twenty-four hour answering service and all equipment necessary to facilitate communication with the working press.

2.2 Stadia

2.2.1 Each member team shall have access, at the time designated for home games, to a stadium which has permanent seating for paying spectators. The stadium must be enclosed. It must have adequate spectator security, adequate vehicular access and parking, public sanitation facilities, and adequate concessions.

2.2.2. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the stadium must also meet the municipal safety standards and, where appropriate, hold a license/permit allowing soccer to be played in the venue.

2.2.3. It must have quality flood-lighting for TV broadcasting.

2.2.4. The stadium must have a field of play which measures at least 60 meters by 100 meters (expandable to 75 by 110meters) unless otherwise required by the Competition Authorities and approved by the Provincial Association.

2.2.5. All outdoor playing surfaces must meet FIFA standards. The stadium must have field markings and equipment pursuant to FIFA Rules, a stadium clock capable of counting up or down 45 (forty five) minutes, a scoreboard indicating the current score and a public address system. A minimum of three (3) separate locker rooms (home team, away team and match officials) are to be provided. Each is to have separate showers and toilets that are not accessible by the public.



On match day, security is to be provided for the locker rooms from a minimum of two (2) hours before the scheduled kick off time until one hour after the game or when the last player or official has left the area, whichever is appropriate.

(Note: new built stadiums should have three additional locker rooms to enable double headers to be played and separate locker rooms for male and female match officials).

2.3 Day of Game Personnel

2.3.1 Teams must have a press box supervisor, a field manager, a visiting team liaison person, a match official liaison adequate uniformed security, access to an ambulance with ten (10) minute response time, at least six (6) uniformed ball persons, adequate ticket sellers, ticket takers, and ushers. Key personnel must be able to communicate via radio to the match day operations controller.

2.4 Press Box

2.4.1 There must be a permanent press box capable of seating ten (10) people, with adequate security and a separate area for the working press. A separate area for electronic broadcast, at least one broadcast phone line if requested by a visiting team, one telephone line, online capabilities and refreshments.

2.5 Team Office Facilities

2.5.1 Each member team must maintain a full-time separate office, located in a commercial building located in the team's market area. The office must be able to accommodate the required staff and team activities. It must be open during regular business hours for twelve months a year. It should be equipped with a fax machine and all the usual and necessary office equipment and supplies.

2.6 Team Office Personnel

2.6.1 Throughout the year, each team must maintain a part-time or full time General Manager, a part-time Secretary and at least one part-time staff person responsible for sales marketing, media and public relations. Hours of work should be so arranged that the office remains open for a twelve month period. In addition, a ticket and sponsors sales person should be employed during the season and other staff should be employed as necessary.

2.7 Team Personnel

2.7.1 Each team will have a roster which has a minimum of 14 players and a maximum of 25 players. All players must be under contract to the team.

2.7.2 Each team will employ a head coach on a regular part-time basis. In addition, each team will, during the season, employ an assistant coach, a trainer, a team doctor/athletic therapist and an equipment manager.

2.8 League and Team Media/Publicity

2.8.1 Each team shall be required to produce the following media and publicity related materials: a media guide, a printed schedule card; a weekly press release beginning one month prior to the start of the season and continuing through to the end of the season; an up-to- date set of uniform statistics and a list of post-game media contacts.



2.8.2 The league shall also produce the materials set forth above and shall produce other materials designed to promote the league and its teams.

2.9 League Procedural Standards

2.9.1 The league and the teams therein shall adopt and adhere to a schedule of games; maintain and promote league standings; establish uniform roster rules for dropping and adding players; maintain a separate set of home and away uniforms and warm ups; assign a uniform number to a player that does not change as long as the player is on that team's roster; establish rules for the approval of non-league games; exchange travel information and itineraries; and establish rules and procedures for player and team discipline.

2.9.2 The league shall establish rules and standards for game presentation which shall be maintained by all teams.

2.9.3 Leagues will be required to respect the FIFA International calendar, and where the release of more than three (3) international players from any one team are called for international duty, permit the team to reschedule its league match if requested.

2.10 FIFA Rules

2.10.1 FIFA rules shall be followed in all instances with the exception that a league may establish specific and separate rules for point standing, which shall be adhered to by all teams.

2.11 Referees

2.11.1 All referees officiating in games shall be registered with the CSA through the OSA, in accordance with CSA rules. The league shall establish a list of referees and assistant referees, in conjunction with the OSA, prior to the start of each season who meet the criteria set by the OSA Match Official Development Committee. No other person shall act as a match official in the league without the prior approval of the OSA.

2.12 Coaching

2.12.1 At the commencement of any season, the Head Coach of any team in the league shall hold a Coaching B License (National) issued by the CSA or he or she has demonstrated enrollment to actively participate in the next available B License coaching course conducted by the CSA.

2.12.2. If the Head Coach holds an equivalent "national" licence issued by another country's Association, the CSA Director of Coaching must validate the licence.

2.12.3. Failure to obtain the B license at the conclusion of the next available B License coaching course conducted by the CSA would render the coach ineligible.

2.12.4. All other coaches (except the Head Coach) must hold, as a minimum, a Provincial B License.

2.13 Team Budget

2.13.1 Each team should operate on an annual team budget of at least, \$100,000. Each team will be required to provide to the Provincial Association a financial summary representing an accurate assessment of the financial operations of the club during the calendar year. In a situation where the pro team is part of a larger club, the operation of the semi-pro team must be reported separately within the Club's financial report.



2.14 Team Player Budget

2.14.1. Each team in 2018 shall operate on at least a \$24,000 *budget* for player salaries with at least five (5) of the players on each team having a professional contract and being paid at least \$2,000 *per year*. In 2018, the salary cap for each team shall be \$40,000.

2.14.2. Ontario Soccer and the League will continually monitor the number of players on contracts equal to or over \$2,000 per year to ensure compliance. Should a team fall below the minimum, they will be subject to disciplinary sanctions which may include, but is not limited to, fines, point deduction, or suspension from the league.

2.14.3. Ontario Soccer and the League have the right to audit the overall number of \$24,000 salary budget at the end of the year. If a team is not in compliance, the team and the league may be subject to disciplinary sanctions imposed by Ontario Soccer.

2.15 Letter of Credit/Annual Fees

2.15.1 Each team shall post with the league a letter of credit or surety bond, as required by the league membership. In addition, the team shall pay its annual registration fee and the appropriate league fees prior to the commencement of the season. The league will be required to pay an annual league registration fee to Ontario Soccer as determined by the Ontario Soccer Board from time to time. Each team will post with the league a minimum annual league fee of \$5,000.

2.16 Club Structure / Player Development

2.16.1 By the commencement of the 2018 season, all clubs shall be required to run a player development program based on a minimum of one development team that should compete at the highest league level (based on OSA LTPD standards) possible for youth soccer in the region where the club is registered. An official affiliation with an existing youth club is acceptable, providing the players are registered to play in the Provincial LTPD League. All youth teams must fall under the control and supervision of a head coach with a minimum "B" License (National) or equivalent.



APPENDIX C – COMPETITION STRUCTURE / BREAKING OF TIES IN LEAGUE STANDINGS

For the 2019 season, the League1 Ontario Board of Directors, in consultation with the L10 Technical Committee, has ratified the following competition structure.

Men's Division – Regular Season

- 16 Teams organized into a Single Table
- 16 Regular Season matches (each team will play one match against each of the other teams in the league + 1 additional match)
- The Team that finishes at the top of the table will be recognized as the Regular Season Champion.

Men's Division Playoff Format

- The top eight (8) teams in the regular season table qualify for the playoff tournament to determine the 2019 League1 Ontario Men's Division Champion. The tournament will operate as follows:

Quarter-Final Round

- Team that finishes 1st overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 8th overall in regular season
- Team that finishes 2nd overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 7th overall in regular season
- Team that finishes 3rd overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 6th overall in regular season
- Team that finishes 4th overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 5th overall in regular season

Each Quarterfinal grouping will see the two teams compete in a two-legged fixture, with each team playing one (1) match at their home ground and one (1) match away. The team that finished higher in the regular season standings will have the right to determine if they wish to play their first of the two legs at home or away. The winner of the fixture will be the team that has scored the most goals over the two legs. If the fixture is tied on goals after the end of 90 minutes in the 2nd match, the tie will be broken by kicks from the penalty spot.

Semi-Final Round

- Winner of 1v8 Fixture vs winner of 4v5 fixture
- Winner of 2v7 Fixture vs winner of 3v6 fixture

Each Semi-Final grouping will see the two teams compete in a two-legged fixture, with each team playing one (1) match at their home ground and one (1) match away. The team that finished higher in the regular season standings will have the right to determine if they wish to play their first of the two legs at home or away. The winner of the fixture will be the team that has scored the most goals over the two legs. If the fixture is tied on goals after the end of 90 minutes in the 2nd match, the tie will be broken by kicks from the penalty spot.

Championship Final

- The teams that emerge from the Semi-Final round fixtures will advance to compete in the League1 Ontario Men's Division Championship Final on September 28, 2019 (at a neutral venue).
- If the Men's Division Championship Final is tied at the end of 90 minutes of regulation time, the match will proceed to extra time (2 halves of 15 minutes each). If still tied after extra time, the match will be decided by kicks from the penalty spot.

The winner of the Men's Division Championship Final match will be crowned 2019 League1 Ontario Champions and will earn the right to represent L10 in the 2020 Canadian Championship tournament.



Women's Division – Regular Season

- 14 Teams organized into a Single Table
- 13 Regular Season matches (each team will play one match against each of the other teams in the league)
- The Team that finishes at the top of the table will be recognized as the Regular Season Champion.

Women's Division Playoff Format

- The top eight (8) teams in the regular season table qualify for the playoff tournament to determine the 2019 League1 Ontario Women's Division Champion. The tournament will operate as follows:

Quarter-Final Round

- Team that finishes 1st overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 8th overall in regular season
- Team that finishes 2nd overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 7th overall in regular season
- Team that finishes 3rd overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 6th overall in regular season
- Team that finishes 4th overall in regular season vs Team that finishes 5th overall in regular season

Each Quarterfinal grouping will see the two teams compete in a two-legged fixture, with each team playing one (1) match at their home ground and one (1) match away. The team that finished higher in the regular season standings will have the right to determine if they wish to play their first of the two legs at home or away. The winner of the fixture will be the team that has scored the most goals over the two legs. If the fixture is tied on goals after the end of 90 minutes in the 2nd match, the tie will be broken by kicks from the penalty spot.

Semi-Final Round

- Winner of 1v8 Fixture vs winner of 4v5 fixture
- Winner of 2v7 Fixture vs winner of 3v6 fixture

Each Semi-Final grouping will see the two teams compete in a two-legged fixture, with each team playing one (1) match at their home ground and one (1) match away. The team that finished higher in the regular season standings will have the right to determine if they wish to play their first of the two legs at home or away. The winner of the fixture will be the team that has scored the most goals over the two legs. If the fixture is tied on goals after the end of 90 minutes in the 2nd match, the tie will be broken by kicks from the penalty spot.

Championship Final

- The teams that emerge from the Semi-Final round fixtures will advance to compete in the League1 Ontario Women's Division Championship Final on September 28, 2019 (at a neutral venue).
- If the Women's Division Championship Final is tied at the end of 90 minutes of regulation time, the match will proceed to extra time (2 halves of 15 minutes each). If still tied after extra time, the match will be decided by kicks from the penalty spot.

Breaking of Ties in League1 Ontario Regular Season Standings

Breaking of ties in the regular league standings is accomplished by applying the following criteria, in order of importance:

1. Total wins in regular season league games.
2. Head-to-Head record based on total points in league games between the affected teams.
3. Best Goal Differential during the regular season.
4. Most Goals Scored during the regular season.
5. Best Goal Differential during the regular season in Away Games
6. Most Goals Scored during the regular season in Away Games
7. Best Goal Differential during the regular season in Home Games
8. Most Goals Scored during the regular season in Home Games
9. Coin Toss (if only two teams are tied) or Drawing of Lots (if 3 or more teams are tied)



~~APPENDIX D – 2018 L10 CUP COMPETITION STRUCTURE~~

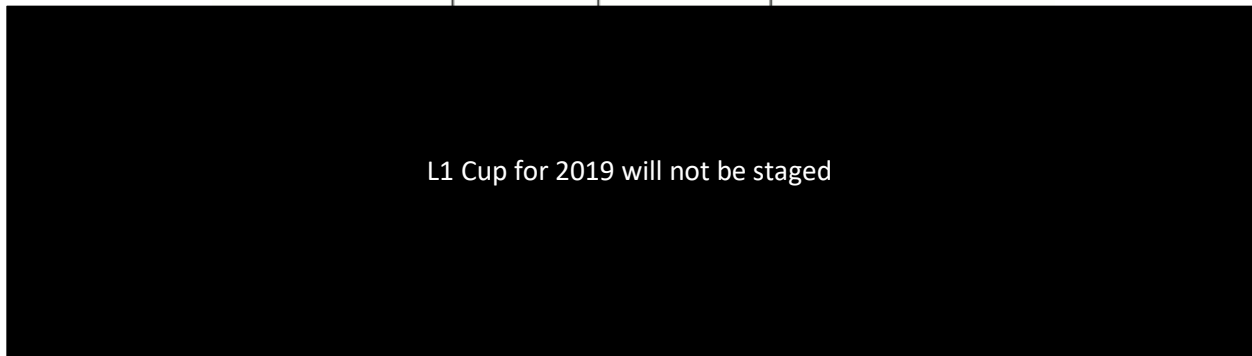
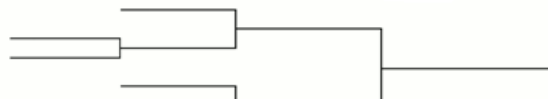
~~For the 2018 season, the League 1 Ontario Steering Committee, in consultation with the L10 Technical Committee, established the following competition structure for the L10 Cup~~

~~Men's Division~~

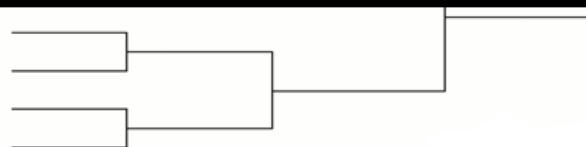
~~For 2018, the seventeen (17) teams will compete in a single knockout tournament, consisting of five (5) rounds, ending with a Cup Final on Saturday, August 4, 2018. Each team will play a minimum of one (1) L10 Cup game.~~

~~Team placement in the 17 team bracket will be determined by random draw. The only proviso is that, for reasons of travel distance, Ottawa South United cannot be drawn against either FC London or Windsor TFC until the final round.~~

~~The L10 Cup draw for the 1st and 2nd Round will take place on March 1, 2018. Additional draws will be conducted at the conclusion of each round of the Cup Competition.~~



L1 Cup for 2019 will not be staged



~~**PLAY IN ROUND (1 MATCH)**~~

~~Must be played May 8 or May 9, 2018~~

~~**ROUND OF 16**~~

~~Must be played May 25, May 26 or May 27, 2018~~

~~**QUARTER FINAL**~~

~~Must be played June 22, June 23 or June 24, 2018~~

~~**SEMI-FINAL**~~

~~Must be played July 21 or July 22, 2018~~

~~**FINAL**~~

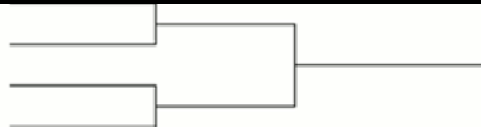
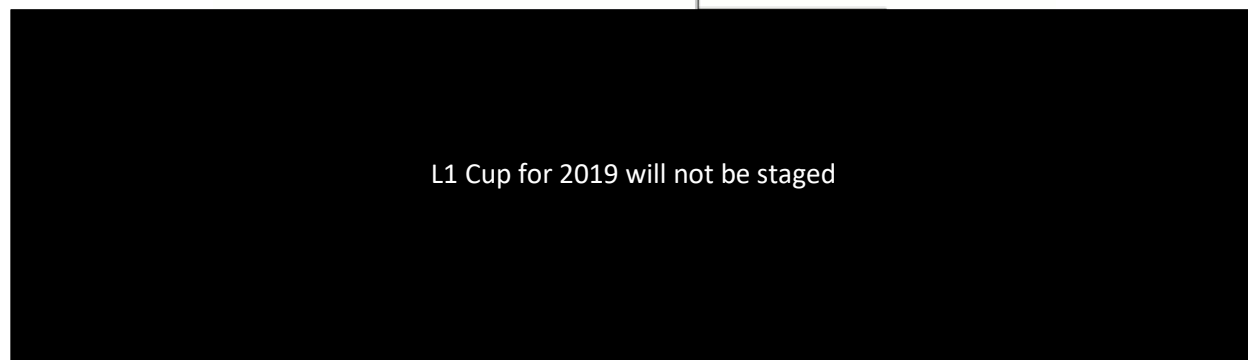
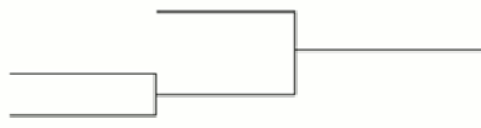
~~August 4, 2018 – Ontario Soccer Centre Stadium, Time TBA~~



~~For 2018, the thirteen (13) teams will compete in a single knockout tournament, consisting of four (4) rounds, ending with a Cup Final on Saturday, August 4, 2018. Each team will play a minimum of one (1) L10 Cup game.~~

~~Team placement in the 13 team bracket will be determined by random draw. The only proviso is that, for reasons of travel distance, West Ottawa SC cannot be drawn against FC London until the final round.~~

~~The L10 Cup draw for the 1st and 2nd Round will take place on March 1, 2018. Additional draws will be conducted at the conclusion of each round of the Cup Competition~~



<p>FIRST ROUND Must be played May 25, May 26 or May 27, 2018</p> <p>QUARTER FINAL Must be played June 22, June 23 or June 24, 2018</p> <p>SEMI FINAL Must be played July 21 or July 22, 2018</p> <p>FINAL August 4, 2018 — Ontario Soccer Centre Stadium, Time TBA</p>
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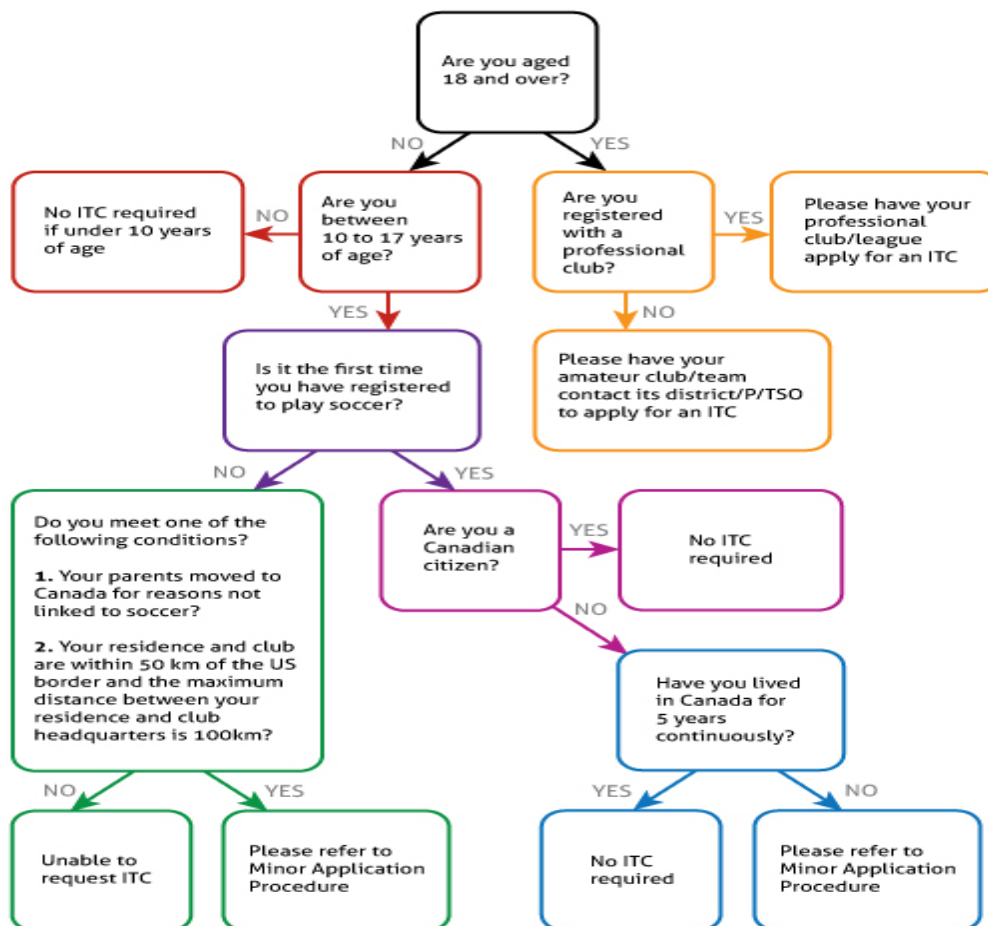
Please Note: L1 Cup matches cannot end in a draw.

~~In the event of a draw at the end of regulation time of an L1 Cup match, the match will proceed directly to kicks from the penalty mark. The procedure outlined in the FIFA Laws of the Game will apply.~~



APPENDIX E – INTERNATIONAL TRANSFER CERTIFICATES

International Transfer Certificates (ITC)



MINOR APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The Provincial/Territorial Association will forward the request(s) onto Canada Soccer. Included with the request, the following mandatory documents must be submitted by the player/parents (in PDF format, with no document larger than 2MB in size):

- Proof of identity and nationality (i.e. passport) - player
- Proof of identity and nationality (i.e. passport) - parents
- Proof of birth date (birth certificate) - player
- Employment contract - parents
- Work permits - parents
- Proof of residence (i.e. proof of home ownership, rental agreement) - player and player parents
- Proof of distance for 50km rule (i.e. Google maps showing location club/residence)
- Parental authorisation



APPENDIX F – NCAA PLAYER ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

1. L10 will supply each License Holder with the NCAA's most current "Guide for the College-Bound Student Athlete".
 - This document is the most comprehensive resource published by the NCAA for all issues related to an athlete's initial eligibility, including academics, amateurism, and recruiting.
2. L10 will supply each License Holder with the NCAA's most current "Path to the Student-Athlete Experience":
 - This document offers a useful "initial eligibility checklist" specifically regarding academics, including new academic standards for NCAA Division I that comes into play for students enrolling for Fall 2018 and later.
3. In regards to the issue of amateurism, the NCAA's Eligibility Center has provided the following information that should prove useful for all L10 License Holders who have players in their program who currently compete in collegiate soccer at the NCAA Div. I or Div. II level or who intend to do so in the future:

Actions resulting in being permanently ineligible by NCAA include:

- a) Players receiving payment above expenses for their participation in Organized Competition prior to enrolling **
- b) Ongoing Student Athlete receiving payment above expenses (e.g. receiving payment above expenses by a club team during the summer months when they are not in school)
- c) Ongoing Student Athletes who play alongside other players who receiving payment above expenses
- d) Players signing an agreement with an agent
- e) Players signing a contract which promises payment above expenses in the future.

** Please Note: Players enrolling at an NCAA Division II **would not** be deemed permanently ineligible if they received payment above expenses prior to enrolling full-time in college/university.

Information regarding "Ongoing" Student Athletes' participation in Organized Amateur Competition:

- a) An Ongoing Student Athlete will have their Organized Amateur Competition evaluated by the NCAA Eligibility Center on a case by case basis each year.
- b) An Ongoing Student Athlete may participate on an Amateur team that plays AGAINST professional players in league or non-league competition.
- c) An Ongoing Student Athlete cannot receive payment above expenses for their participation in Organized Amateur Competition.
- d) An Ongoing Student Athlete cannot play alongside other players who receiving payment above expenses for their participation in Organized Competition.



Actions resulting in loss of season(s) of eligibility:

- a) Taking part in organized competition during a “delay” period (see below examples) will result in loss of season(s) of eligibility (please refer to the NCAA’s Guide for the College-Bound Student Athlete for a definition of “organized competition”)

Example #1:

- A player’s high school graduation date is determined by the NCAA Eligibility Centers to be June 2011.
- The player is planning to enroll at an NCAA Division I or II school as a Freshman in Fall 2014.
- Player competed in “organized competition” during the 2011-12, 2012-13, and 2013-14 academic years.
- NCAA legislation provides a player with a 1-year “grace” period after their first opportunity to enroll at post-secondary institution (based on their determined high school graduation date). During this “grace” period, the player is not subject to organized competition legislation.
- In the case of this player, their “grace” period expired at the end of the 2011-12 academic year.
- With the start of the Fall 2012 semester, since the player did not enroll at a post-secondary institution (university) as a full-time student, the player’s “delay” period began. During the “delay” period, the player is examined for organized competition.
- Competition during a “delay” year(s) results the player using up season(s) of NCAA eligibility.
- The player’s competition during the 2011-12 season is non-problematic since it occurred during the “grace” period.
- The player’s competition during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 are problematic because they occurred during the player’s “delay” period.
- For competition during two “delay” years (2012-13 and 2013-14), the player’s amateurism will be Final Certified with Conditions: the player will be subject to the use of 2 seasons of competition and have to serve an academic year in residence.
- Under this same scenario, if the player had enrolled in university/college full-time in Fall 2012 and had only competed in amateur competition during the 2012-13 and 2013-14 years, the player’s amateurism would be Final Certified (with NO conditions).

Example #2:

- A player’s high school graduation date is determined by the NCAA Eligibility Center as June 2013.
- Player is planning to enroll at an NCAA Division I or II school as Freshman in Fall 2014.
- Player has competed in “organized competition during the 2013-14 academic year.
- Player has no professionalism issues (no agent, payments, contracts, preferential treatment, etc.)
- Since the competition occurred during the “grace” period, the player’s amateurism will be Final Certified (with NO conditions).



APPENDIX G – LEAGUE1 ONTARIO SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY

League1 Ontario acknowledges the importance of participating in online conversations and we are committed to ensuring that we participate and engage in online social media in an appropriate manner.

We have developed this Social Media Policy to help empower all individuals involved with League1 Ontario (League Officials, League Staff, Players, Team Officials, etc...) to participate in this connected world and to represent L10 by sharing the vision and mission of our organization and the story of our beautiful game.

All individuals involved in L10 are encouraged to engage in social media communities at a level which each person feels comfortable. Have fun but be smart. The best advice is to approach the online world in the same way we would operate in the “real” world -- use sound judgment and common sense, stay true to the L10 Code of Conduct (see Appendix A of the L10 Operations Manual) and ensure compliance with the L10 Social Media Policies noted below.

Non-compliance with these guidelines may be construed as misconduct, harassment, discrimination, or in certain circumstances contravention of the law. Those who fail to comply with these guidelines may be disciplined according to the L10 Discipline Code.

Definitions of Social Media

Social Media is formally defined as “content created by people using highly accessible and scalable publishing technologies. Social media is distinct from traditional media, such as newspapers, television, and film. Social media comprises relatively inexpensive and accessible tools that enable anyone (even private individuals) to publish or access information”.

Social Media may include (but is not limited to):

- Social networking sites (e.g. Facebook, LinkedIn)
- Video and photo sharing websites (e.g. Flickr, YouTube, Instagram)
- Blogs, including corporate and personal blogs
- Blogs hosted by media outlets (e.g. comments posted to news stories)
- Micro-blogging (e.g. Twitter)
- Wikis and online collaborations (e.g. Wikipedia)
- Forums, discussion boards and groups (e.g. Canadian Soccer News, VoyageursForum)
- Video or podcasting
- Online multiplayer gaming platforms (e.g. World of Warcraft, SecondLife)
- Instant messaging (including text messaging)
- Geo-spatial tagging (e.g. Foursquare, Facebook Places)

League1 Ontario Social Media General Guidelines

1. Transparency in every social media engagement is mandatory. Ontario Soccer and L10 do not condone manipulating the social media flow by creating “fake” destinations and posts designed to mislead followers and control a conversation. Every website, “fan page”, or other online destination that is ultimately managed by Ontario Soccer and/or L10 must make that fact known.
2. Respect copyrights, trademarks, rights of publicity, and other third-party rights in the online social media space, including user-generated content (UGC). How exactly one does this may vary from one situation to another, so individuals are expected to refer to L10 communications staff to make informed, appropriate decisions.
3. We will utilize best practices, listen to the online community, and comply with applicable regulations to ensure that these Social Media Guidelines remain current and reflect the most appropriate standards of behavior.



We respect the right of each individual involved in L10 to use blogs and other social media tools, not only as a form of self-expression but also as a means to further develop awareness for L10 and the sport of soccer in general.

However, it is important that each individual is aware of the implications of engaging in forms of social media and online conversations that reference League1 Ontario, and/or the individual's relationship with L10 and its brand, and that you recognize when L10 might be held responsible for a person's behavior online.

Expectations for Personal Behavior in Social Media

There is a difference between speaking "on behalf of League1 Ontario" and speaking "about" L10. The following set of principles refers to those personal or unofficial online activities where an individual might refer to L10.

1. Adhere to all applicable policies. You are subject to the L10 Code of Conduct in every public setting, including your personal activities online.
2. You are responsible for your actions. Anything you post that can potentially tarnish the image of League1 Ontario will ultimately be your responsibility. While we do encourage individuals associated to L10 to participate in the online social media space, we urge you to do so properly, exercise sound judgment and use common sense. Please make sure to include the following disclaimer to each profile or platform you use where you can be identified as related to L10: "The views expressed on this website/blog are the views of the author alone and do not reflect the views of League1 Ontario".
3. Be a "scout" for compliments and criticism. Even if you are not an official online spokesperson for League1 Ontario, your time spent online can be vitally important in terms of monitoring the social media landscape. If one comes across positive or negative remarks online about League1 Ontario, please consider sharing them with League1 Ontario staff.
4. Let subject matter experts respond to negative posts. You may come across negative or disparaging posts about L10. Unless you are an authorized online spokesperson, avoid the temptation to react to these comments yourself. Pass the post(s) along to L10 staff, who are better equipped to address such comments. Be mindful of the state of mind you are in when engaging online and know that it will affect the way you react and respond to postings.
5. It is wise to be very conscious when mixing your business and personal lives in the online sphere. Online, your personal and business personas are likely to intersect. League1 Ontario respects each individual's free speech rights, but you must remember that anyone has access to the online content you post. Keep this in mind when publishing information online that can be seen by more than friends and family and know that information originally intended just for friends and family can be forwarded on. Remember that everyone can see what you do on these platforms, including sponsors, rivals, and most importantly, fans of the league and its teams.
6. Do not present yourself as an official spokesperson of League1 Ontario in any social media forum unless it has been approved and authorized beforehand and never disclose non-public information (including confidential information). Be aware that taking public positions online that are counter to League1 Ontario's interests may be harmful and could be considered a breach of compliance.

Expectations for Official League1 Ontario Spokespeople

Just as with traditional media, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to effectively manage the reputation of League1 Ontario when we engage online. We will be selective about how and when we opt to participate in the online conversations that mention us every day.



The following guidelines, in addition to general guidelines provided earlier, are how L10 Spokespeople should represent L10 online in an official capacity (when speaking "on behalf of League1 Ontario"):

1. Always be mindful that you are representing League1 Ontario. As an L10 representative, it is important that your posts convey a positive, optimistic spirit that aligns with the league's overall communications strategy. Be respectful of all individuals, races, religions and cultures. How you conduct yourself in the online social media space not only reflects on you but is also a direct reflection on League1 Ontario.
2. Fully disclose your affiliation with L10. We require that anyone who is communicating on behalf of L10 always discloses their name and their affiliation. It is never acceptable to use aliases or otherwise deceive people. State your relationship with L10 from the outset.
3. When in doubt, do not post. You are personally responsible for your words and actions, wherever you are. As an online spokesperson, you must ensure that your posts are completely accurate and not misleading, and that they do not reveal "non-public" information. Exercise sound judgment and common sense, and if there is any doubt, DO NOT POST IT. In any circumstance in which you are uncertain about how to respond to a post, contact the Commissioner of League1 Ontario for guidance.
4. Give credit where credit is due and don't violate others' rights. DO NOT claim authorship of something that is not yours. If you are using another party's content, make certain that they are credited for it in your post and that they approve of you utilizing their content. Do not use the copyrights, trademarks, publicity rights, or other rights of others without the necessary permissions of the rights holder(s). If the content has been internally created, please make sure that all credits are directed accordingly.
5. Know that the Internet is permanent. Once information is published online, it is essentially part of a permanent record, even if you "remove/delete" it later or attempt to make it anonymous. If your complete thought, along with its context, cannot be squeezed into a character-restricted space (such as Twitter), provide a link to an online space where the message can be expressed completely and accurately.

Specific applications and situations

Some situations require you to refrain from uploading content or participating in social media. These situations include (but are not limited to):

1. During a non-public event or meeting organized by League1 Ontario
2. Before, during or after a meeting where non-public information is discussed
3. Before, during or after a match or training session when strategic, tactical or medical information is discussed. We ask that you please refer to the team's coaching or medical staff before making any comments pertaining to these sorts of situations.

We recognize that players and team officials may see value in using pictures or videos where they are wearing official clothing of an L10 licensee. The usage of such content is permitted, but it is important to remember that the use of such photos (e.g. using them as your profile picture), automatically links you to League1 Ontario and we therefore ask that you be conscious of the comments and content you post. The use of any other official marks should follow copyrights and trademarks regulations.

League1 Ontario will impose fines and other forms of discipline (as stipulated in the League1 Ontario Discipline Code), upon any individual who violates the terms of the League1 Ontario Social Media Policy.



APPENDIX H – ROSTER DECLARATION REGULATIONS FOR THE LEAGUE1 ONTARIO TEAM PARTICIPATING IN THE CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

1. By November 30 of each year, the League1 Ontario team that qualifies for the following year's Canadian Championship tournament must submit a "Roster Declaration" document to Canada Soccer, consisting of a maximum of 50 players.
 - a) All 50 players listed on the Roster Declaration must have been properly registered to that organization's League1 Ontario team roster or to the roster of lower level teams operated by that organization for the just completed season. They must have been registered by no later than that year's roster freeze deadline date. All players must be registered using Ontario Soccer's registration system.
 - b) Of those 50 players, a minimum of 18 players and a maximum of 25 players must have been specifically registered to that organization's League1 Ontario (First Team) by no later than that year's roster freeze deadline date. The remaining players can be registered to lower level teams operated by that organization.
2. The Roster Declaration form must include the following information:
 - a) Each Player's full name, date of birth, citizenship and their Ontario Soccer Registrant ID number.
 - b) Each Player's must provide their Passport number (Passport must be valid / not expired). If a player does not possess a valid Passport, they must provide the ID number found on some other valid form of Photo ID (e.g. Drivers License, Health Card, Permanent Resident Card, etc...) that has been issued to the player by a Federal or Provincial Government agency.
3. By May 1st of the following year, the League1 Ontario team that has qualified for the upcoming Canadian Championship must submit an updated "Roster Declaration" document to Canada Soccer, again consisting of a maximum of 50 players.
 - a) All 50 players listed on the May 1st Roster Declaration must have been properly registered to that organization's League1 Ontario (first team) roster or to the roster of lower level teams operated by that organization for that season. All players must be registered using Ontario Soccer's registration system and they must also be registered to Canada Soccer's Canada Connect registration system.
 - b) Of those 50 players included on the May 1st Roster Declaration, a minimum of 18 players and up to a maximum of 25 players must have been specifically registered to that organization's League1 Ontario (First Team) roster. The remaining players can be registered to lower level teams operated by that organization.
 - c) Of the maximum fifty (50) players listed on the May 1st Roster Declaration document, **no more than ten (10) players can be new additions** to the list of players submitted by November 30 of the previous year.
4. Only players that are properly registered and listed on the May 1st Roster Declaration can be selected to participate in that year's Canadian Championship tournament.
 - a) Players registered to an affiliated organization are not permitted to be included on the Roster Declaration and cannot be called in to play in the Canadian Championship tournament.
 - b) Temporary Eligibility Permits are not permitted in the Canadian Championship tournament.



APPENDIX I – POLICY ON TRANSGENDER ATHLETES

League1 Ontario license holders will adhere to the following policy regarding transgender athletes, as found in Section 5.13 (Transgender Player) of Ontario Soccer’s Operating Policies:

As per CSA Policy regarding Transgender Players, the following operational procedure shall apply unless otherwise stipulated and will be assessed accordingly.

For the purpose of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies, and confirmation sufficient for guaranteeing access shall be satisfied by documentation or evidence that shows the stated gender is sincerely held, and part of a person’s core identity. Documentation satisfying the herein stated standard includes, but is not limited to, government-issued documentation or documentation prepared by a health care provider, counsellor, or other qualified professional not related to the player.



APPENDIX J– SUMMARY OF CHANGES TO OPERATIONS MANUAL

The following is a summary of the noteworthy changes that have been made to the League1 Ontario Operations Manual from the 2018 edition to the 2019 edition (Edition 10.2, updated January 29, 2019).

Section 1

1.1 Steering Committee is dissolved and replaced by L10 Board of Directors.

1.2 Technical Committee restructured

1.3. Former Operations Committee and Technical Committee renamed Operations Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group. Minimum notice for calling of a meeting of either advisory group increases to 15 days.

Section 2

2.3 (b) New Email Address for Melissa McKinnon

Section 3

3.3 (h) Staging of the L1 Cup is now optional, at the discretion of the BoD

3.9 (e) For the 2019 season, a U23 player is one that is born in 1996 or later

Section 4

4.1 (b) (iv) An amateur player may now play down to a lower level team, but only to an L10 team's official L10 reserve team that operates in the official L10 reserve league

4.2 (d) For 2019, the roster freeze date is moved to July 17 from September 1

4.4 (g) Roster freeze date for call up players is also moved to July 17 from September 1

4.4 (h) Stricken entirely from the Operations Manual

4.4 (i) This section has been updated to reflect current Canada Soccer requirements entering into affiliation agreements with professional clubs that are members of Canada Soccer and for the loaning of professional players to a League1 Ontario team.

4.7 (e) New regulation added for 2019 that establishes under what circumstance an amateur player may seek their release from an L10 club during a season due to "sporting just cause"

4.7 (f) Stricken entirely from the Operations Manual

4.7 (g) This regulation has been re-worded for better clarity and alignment with FIFA regulation

Section 5

5.1 (b) clarifies which members of a team's technical staff must have appropriate licensing as per standards

Appendix C

- Updated from 2018 to reflect new competition structure for 2019 season.
- Men's Division schedule increased to 16 games from 15 games.
- Still to be decided if Championship Final will be played at a Neutral Venue or at Home Field of the top ranked team (based on regular season record) that qualifies for the final.

Appendix D

- Stricken entirely from the Operations Manual.