



**ONTARIO  
SOCCER**  
EST. 1901

# BY-LAW NO.1

**Ontario Soccer**

Approved: September 23, 2023

## Table of Contents

Article 1	DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION.....	1
1.1	Definitions .....	1
1.2	Interpretation.....	2
Article 2	GENERAL.....	3
2.1	Financial Year End .....	3
2.2	Corporate Seal .....	3
2.3	Conduct of Meetings .....	3
2.4	Execution of Documents .....	3
2.5	Operating Policies and Procedures .....	4
2.6	Auditor and Level of Financial Review.....	4
2.7	Annual Audited Financial Statements .....	4
Article 3	MEMBERS .....	4
3.1	Classes of Members.....	4
3.2	Eligibility for Membership in Ontario Soccer.....	6
3.3	Conditions of Membership.....	6
3.4	Dues , Fees and Other Monies .....	6
3.5	Renewal of Membership.....	6
3.6	Membership Transferability .....	7
3.7	Termination .....	7
3.8	Effect of Termination of Membership .....	7
3.9	Discipline of Members.....	8
3.10	Resignation Does not Affect Disciplinary Investigation .....	8
Article 4	MEMBERS' MEETINGS.....	8
4.1	Notice of Members Meetings .....	8
4.2	Waiver of Notice.....	9
4.3	Place of Members' Meetings .....	9
4.4	Participation by Electronic Means at Members' Meetings .....	9
4.5	Members' Meeting Held Entirely by Electronic Means .....	9
4.6	Persons Entitled to be Present at Members' Meetings.....	10
4.7	Authorized Representative of Member.....	10
4.8	Annual Meetings .....	10
4.9	Special Meetings.....	10
4.10	Special Business.....	10



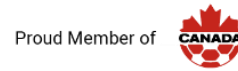
4.11 Members Calling a Members' Meeting .....	10
4.12 Chair of Members' Meetings.....	10
4.13 Quorum at Members' Meetings .....	11
4.14 Proxies.....	11
4.15 Voting by Mail or by Telephonic or Electronic Means at Members' Meetings .....	12
4.16 Voting Rights.....	12
4.17 Method of Voting .....	12
4.18 Votes to Govern .....	12
4.19 Changing the Method of Voting by Members not in Attendance at a Meeting of Members....	12
<b>Article 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS .....</b>	<b>13</b>
5.1 Number of Directors .....	13
5.2 Composition of Board .....	13
5.3 Eligibility .....	13
5.4 Qualifications .....	14
5.5 Director's Consent to Act .....	14
5.6 Nominations.....	14
5.7 Election of Directors .....	15
5.8 Term of Office and Number of Terms .....	15
5.9 Incumbent Directors .....	15
5.10 Automatic Vacation of Office .....	16
5.11 Effective date of Resignation of Director .....	16
5.12 Removal of Director .....	16
5.13 Filling Vacancies.....	16
<b>Article 6 MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS.....</b>	<b>17</b>
6.1 Calling of Meetings of the Board .....	17
6.2 Notice of Meetings of the Board.....	17
6.3 Chair of Board Meetings.....	17
6.4 Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors .....	18
6.5 Participation at Meeting by Telephone or Electronic Means.....	18
6.6 No Alternate Directors .....	18
6.7 Quorum.....	18
6.8 Votes to Govern at Meetings of the Board.....	18
6.9 Confidentiality .....	18
<b>Article 7 OFFICERS.....</b>	<b>18</b>
7.1 Composition.....	18



7.2	Term.....	18
7.3	Duties of Officers.....	19
7.4	Vacancy in Office.....	20
Article 8	COMMITTEES.....	21
8.1	Types of Committees.....	21
8.2	Restrictions on Committees.....	21
8.3	Standing Committees.....	21
8.4	Operational Committees.....	21
8.5	Nominations Committee.....	21
Article 9	VOTING MEMBERS' COUNCIL.....	23
9.1	Purpose, Composition and Commitment.....	23
9.2	Rules of Procedure, Meetings and Operating Policies.....	23
9.3	Involvement of and Interaction with Ontario Soccer.....	23
9.4	Associate Members of Ontario Soccer.....	24
Article 10	INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE.....	24
10.1	Limitation of Liability.....	24
10.2	Indemnity of Directors and Officers.....	24
10.3	Insurance.....	25
Article 11	GENERAL MATTERS.....	25
11.1	Method of Giving any Notice.....	25
11.2	Computation of Time.....	26
11.3	Undelivered Notices.....	26
11.4	Waiver of Notice.....	26
11.5	Omissions and Errors.....	26
11.6	Invalidity of any Provisions of this By-law.....	26
Article 12	DISPUTE RESOLUTION.....	27
Article 13	AMENDMENTS.....	27
13.1	Amendment to Articles.....	27
13.2	By-laws and Effective Date.....	27



**ONTARIO SOCCER**  
7601 Martin Grove Road, Vaughan ON, L4L 9E4  
905.264.9390 ontariosoccer.net



Play.  
Inspire.  
Unite.

A by-law relating generally to the conduct of the affairs of  
**THE ONTARIO SOCCER ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**

**BE IT ENACTED** as a by-law of Ontario Soccer as follows:

**ARTICLE 1 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION**

**1.1 Definitions**

In this by-law and all other by-laws of Ontario Soccer, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) *Act* means the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010*, S.O. 2010, c. 15 as from time to time amended, and every statute that may be substituted for it and, in the case of such substitution, any references in the By-laws of Ontario Soccer to provisions of the Act shall be read as references to the substituted provisions in the new statute or statutes.
- (b) *Articles* means the original or restated articles of incorporation or articles of amendment, amalgamation, continuance, reorganization, arrangement or revival of Ontario Soccer.
- (c) *Board* means the Board of Directors of Ontario Soccer.
- (d) *By-laws* means this by-law and all other by-laws of Ontario Soccer from time to time in force and effect.
- (e) *Districts* means incorporated district soccer associations that register players, coaches and managers within a geographic region in Ontario and that has club teams that participate in leagues in accordance with governing documents.
- (f) *Director* means an individual elected or appointed to the Board.
- (g) *Effective Date* means the date of the Certificate of Amalgamation, attached to the Articles of Amalgamation.
- (h) *Meeting of Members* includes an annual meeting of members and a special meeting of members.
- (i) *Member* means a Person having a membership in Ontario Soccer and Membership means the collective membership of Ontario Soccer.
- (j) *Member in Good Standing* means a Member who (i) continues to meet the conditions set out in Section 3.3 below, (ii) has not been disciplined by Ontario Soccer in

accordance with Section 3.9 below, and (iii) has completed and remitted all documents required by Ontario Soccer.

- (k) *Officer* means an individual elected or appointed as an officer of Ontario Soccer according to the provisions of Article 7.
- (l) *Ontario Soccer* means The Ontario Soccer Association Incorporated.
- (m) *Operating Policies and Procedures* have the meaning set out in section 2.5 below and include operating policies and operational procedures adopted by the Board as well as operating policies and procedures adopted by the Voting Members' Council.
- (n) *Ordinary Resolution* means a resolution that (i) is submitted to a Meeting of Members and passed at the meeting, with or without amendment, by at least a majority of the votes cast in favour of the resolution, or (ii) is consented to by each Member entitled to vote at a Meeting of Members or the Member's attorney.
- (o) *Person* includes an individual, sole proprietorship, partnership, unincorporated association, unincorporated syndicate, unincorporated organization, trust, body corporate and a natural person in their capacity as trustee, executor, administrator, or other legal representative.
- (p) *Player Registration Fees* refers to an annual fee that is paid by each player to a member club in good standing, through a District Association to Ontario Soccer. Such fees shall include those amounts paid to Canada Soccer and any software technology fee required for player registration, as recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the Voting Members.
- (q) *Associate Member Membership Fees* shall refer to the annual membership fee paid to Ontario Soccer by Associate Members as recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the Voting Members.
- (r) *Regional Director* means an individual elected or appointed as a Director of Ontario Soccer from the regions set out in Section 5.2(c) below.
- (s) *Regulations* means the regulations made under the Act, as amended, restated or in effect from time to time.
- (t) *Special Resolution* means a resolution that (i) is submitted to a Special Meeting of Members duly called for the purpose of considering the resolution and passed at the meeting, with or without amendment, by at least two-thirds of the votes cast in favour of the resolution, or (ii) consented to by each Member entitled to vote at a Meeting of Members or the Member's attorney.
- (u) *Voting Members' Council* means the representative body representing the Voting Members of Ontario Soccer constituted in accordance with Article 9 below.

## 1.2 Interpretation

In the interpretation of the By-laws, unless the context otherwise requires, the following rules shall apply:



Play. Inspire. Unite.



- (a) Terms defined in the Act and used in the By-laws but not otherwise defined in the By-laws have the same meaning when used in the By-laws;
- (b) Words importing the singular number only shall include the plural and vice versa;
- (c) Words referring to one gender include all genders;
- (d) The headings used in the By-laws are inserted for reference purposes only and are not to be considered or taken into account in construing the terms or provisions thereof or to be deemed in any way to clarify, modify or explain the effect of any such terms or provisions.
- (e) Notwithstanding any provision of the By-laws, where any such provision conflicts with the Act or the Articles, the Act or the Articles, as the case may be, shall govern.
- (f) The By-laws will be strictly interpreted at all times in accordance with and subject to the purposes contained in the Articles.

## ARTICLE 2 GENERAL

### 2.1 Financial Year End

Unless otherwise determined by the Board, the financial year end of Ontario Soccer shall be March 31<sup>st</sup> in each year.

### 2.2 Corporate Seal

Ontario Soccer may, but need not, have a corporate seal. If a corporate seal is approved by the Board, the Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Soccer shall oversee the corporate seal and its use.

### 2.3 Conduct of Meetings

Unless otherwise determined by the Board and the Voting Members' Council, acting together, Meetings of Members and meetings of the Board are to be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

### 2.4 Execution of Documents

- (a) Contracts, etc. Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations and other instruments in writing requiring execution by Ontario Soccer may be signed by any two officers or directors, signing together or as set out in the Operating Policies and Procedures. In addition, the Board may from time to time direct the manner in which and the person or persons by whom a particular document or type of document shall be executed by resolution of the Board or as set out in the Operating Policies and Procedures.
- (b) Cheques and Financial Instruments. All cheques issued or endorsed in the name of Ontario Soccer shall be signed by such Officers and employees of Ontario Soccer in such manner as shall be determined from time to time by resolution of the Board or as set out in the Operating Policies and Procedures.



## 2.5 Operating Policies and Procedures

- (a) Subject to the Act, the Board may adopt, amend or repeal such operating policies and operational procedures that are not inconsistent with the Articles or the By-laws relating to such matters as terms of reference of committees, duties of officers, Board code of conduct and conflict of interest, as well as procedural and other requirements relating to the By-laws as the Board may deem appropriate from time to time. Any operating policy or operational procedure adopted by the Board will continue to have force and effect until amended, repealed, or replaced by a subsequent resolution of the Board. The Board may not adopt policies and procedures in respect of matters that the Act contains mandatory rules about or which the Act requires to be included in either the Articles, the By-laws or both the Articles and the By-laws.
- (b) Subject to the Act, the Voting Members' Council may adopt, amend or repeal such policies and procedures that are not inconsistent with the Articles or the By-laws relating to the Voting Members, as the Voting Members' Council may deem appropriate from time to time. Any policy or procedure adopted by the Voting Members' Council will continue to have force and effect until amended, repealed, or replaced by a subsequent resolution of the Voting Members Council. The Voting Members' Council may not adopt policies and procedures relating to the Voting Members in respect of matters that the Act contains mandatory rules about or which the Act requires to be included in either the Articles, the By-laws or both the Articles and the By-laws.

## 2.6 Auditor and Level of Financial Review

Ontario Soccer shall be subject to the requirements relating to the appointment of an auditor and level of financial review required by the Act.

## 2.7 Annual Audited Financial Statements

Ontario Soccer shall send copies of the annual financial statements and any other documents required by the Act to the Members not less than twenty-one (21) days before the day on which an annual Meeting of Members is held or before the day on which a written resolution in lieu of an annual meeting is signed to all Members who have informed Ontario Soccer that they wish to receive a copy of those documents.

## ARTICLE 3 MEMBERS

### 3.1 Classes of Members

Subject to the Act and the Articles, there shall be three classes of members in Ontario Soccer: Voting Members, Associate Members and Life Members.

- (a) **Voting Members**
  - (i) Voting Membership will be available to Districts.
  - (ii) The term of membership of a Voting Member shall be annual, based on Ontario Soccer's financial year end, (from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>), and is subject to



renewal in accordance with this By-law or the Operating Policies and Procedures.

- (iii) Subject to the By-laws, each Voting Member is entitled to send up to two (2) delegates of the Voting Member to all Meetings of Members
- (iv) As set out in the Articles, each Voting Member is entitled to receive notice of, attend and vote at all Meetings of Members, in accordance with the provisions of the By-laws.

(b) **Associate Members**

- (i) Associate Membership will be available to soccer organizations operating in more than one District, meeting the qualifications defined in accordance with the Articles, the By-laws and the Operating Policies and Procedures; or a Professional and/or Semi-Professional soccer clubs, meeting the qualifications defined in accordance with the Articles, the By-laws and the Operating Policies and Procedures.
- (ii) The term of membership of an Associate Member shall be annual, based on Ontario Soccer's financial year end (from April 1<sup>st</sup> to March 31<sup>st</sup>), subject to renewal in accordance with this By-law or the Operating Policies and Procedures.
- (iii) As set out in the Articles, subject to the Act and the Articles, an Associate Member shall not be entitled to receive notice of, attend or vote at Meetings of the Members of Ontario Soccer. Associate Members may be invited by the Board to any Meeting of the Members.

(c) **Life Members**

- (i) Life Membership will be available to individuals who have exemplified the values of Ontario Soccer and have acted as a pinnacle example of Ontario Soccer. Individuals considered for life membership are individuals who have rendered special service and significant an overall contribution to the game of soccer in Ontario to an extent beyond normal participation.
- (ii) The term of membership of each Life Member is for the life of the Life Member, and not subject to renewal.
- (iii) As set out in the Articles, subject to the Act and the Articles, a Life Member shall not be entitled to receive notice of, attend or vote at Meetings of the Members of Ontario Soccer. Life Members may be invited by the Board to any Meeting of the Members.
- (iv) Life membership shall be approved by the Board.



### 3.2 Eligibility for Membership in Ontario Soccer

Membership in Ontario Soccer is not automatic and is not a right of any Person. With the exception of Life Members, membership in Ontario Soccer shall be available only to soccer organizations who are interested in furthering Ontario Soccer's purposes, who have applied for membership into Ontario Soccer in accordance with the provisions of the Articles, By-laws and the Operating Policies and Procedures, who meet the conditions set out in Section 3.3 below, and who have been admitted into the Membership in Ontario Soccer by the Voting Members in accordance with the provisions of the Operating Policies and Procedures.

### 3.3 Conditions of Membership

Subject to Section 3.1, a soccer organization may become a Member provided that:

- (a) it applies for membership in Ontario Soccer in writing on the form approved by the Board;
- (b) it pays all fees, dues and other monies approved by the Board and the Voting Members;
- (c) it agrees to comply with all of Ontario Soccer's governing documents, including the Articles, the By-laws and the Operating Policies and Procedures.

### 3.4 Dues , Fees and Other Monies

- (a) Annual Player Registration Fees and Annual Associate Member Membership Fees may only be implemented after such annual Player Registration Fees and Annual Associate Member Membership Fees have been approved by the Voting Members by Ordinary Resolution at a Meeting of Members.
- (b) Members will be notified in writing of all dues, fees, annual Player Registration Fees, annual Associate Member Membership Fee, and other monies at any time payable, and if such dues, fees, annual Player Registration Fees, annual Associate Member Membership Fee, or other monies are not paid within sixty (60) days of the membership renewal date or notice of default, the Member may be referred for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 3.9 below.

### 3.5 Renewal of Membership

- (a) Other than Life Members, all Members must apply for renewal of their membership before the end of the term of membership. In order for a Member, other than a Life Member, qualify to remain a Member of Ontario Soccer, such Member must
  - (i) continue to meet the eligibility requirements set out in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 above;
  - (ii) apply for renewal of their membership in writing using the form approved by the Board;
  - (iii) submit all documentation set out in the renewal application form;



- (iv) agree to continue to comply with all of Ontario Soccer's governing documents, including the Articles, the By-laws and the Operating Policies and Procedures; and
  - (v) pay all fees, dues, annual Player Registration fees, annual Associate Member Membership Fees, and other monies approved in accordance with the By-laws and the Operating Policies and Procedures.
- (b) Approval of Renewal – Only renewal applications that are complete and which include all of the required documents, all payments due to Ontario Soccer and meet all of the conditions and qualifications set out in the By-laws will be approved. Should a renewal application be incomplete (including lack of required documentation and/or monetary payments), the Member may be referred for disciplinary action in accordance with Section 3.9 below.

### 3.6 Membership Transferability

A Membership may only be transferred to Ontario Soccer.

### 3.7 Termination

Membership in Ontario Soccer is terminated when:

- (a) the Member dies, if the Member is an individual;
- (b) the Member is liquidated or dissolved, if the Member is an incorporated organization;
- (c) the Member resigns by delivering a written resignation to the Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Soccer, in which case such resignation shall be effective on the date specified in the resignation;
- (d) the Member's term of Membership expires and has not been renewed in accordance with the By-laws or the Operating Policies and Procedures;
- (e) the Member fails to maintain any of the qualifications or conditions of membership described in Sections 3.1, 3.2 or 3.3 of these By-laws;
- (f) the Member is expelled or their Membership is otherwise terminated in accordance with the Articles or By-laws; or
- (g) Ontario Soccer is liquidated or dissolved under the Act.

### 3.8 Effect of Termination of Membership

Subject to the Act and the Articles, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the Member, including any rights in the property of Ontario Soccer, automatically cease to exist.



### 3.9 Discipline of Members

- (a) The Board shall have authority to suspend or recommend to the Voting Members to expel any Voting Member or Associate Member from Ontario Soccer on any one or more of the following grounds:
  - (i) violating any provision of the Articles, By-laws or the Operating Policies and Procedures;
  - (ii) carrying out any conduct which may be detrimental to Ontario Soccer as determined by the Board in its sole discretion;
  - (iii) for any other reason that the Board in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the purposes of Ontario Soccer.
- (b) In the event that the Board determines that a Member should be suspended or expelled from Membership in Ontario Soccer, the Chair of the Board, or such other Officer as may be designated by the Board, shall provide at least fifteen (15) days' written notice of suspension or expulsion to the Member and shall provide reasons for the proposed suspension or expulsion. The Member may make written submissions to the Chair of the Board, or such other Officer as may be designated by the Board, in response to the notice received within such fifteen (15) day period. In the event that no written submissions are received by the Chair of the Board, or such other Officer as may be designated by the Board, may proceed to notify the Member that the Member is suspended or will be making a recommendation to the Voting Members that the Member be expelled from Membership in Ontario Soccer. If written submissions are received in accordance with this section, the Board will consider such submissions in arriving at a final decision and shall notify the Member concerning such final decision within a further fifteen (15) days from the date of receipt of the submissions. The Board's decision shall be final and binding on the Member, without any further right of appeal.
- (c) Should the Board determine that a Voting Member or an Associate Member be expelled from the Membership of Ontario Soccer, the Board shall call a special Meeting of Members and present its recommendation to the Voting Members at such meeting. The expulsion of a Voting Member or an Associate Member must be passed by the Voting Members at such meeting by Special Resolution.

### 3.10 Resignation Does not Affect Disciplinary Investigation

The resignation of a Member does not affect any disciplinary investigation undertaken by Ontario Soccer involving the Member pursuant to Section 3.9 above.

## ARTICLE 4 MEMBERS' MEETINGS

### 4.1 Notice of Members Meetings

- (a) Means of Notice. In accordance with and subject to the Act, notice of the time and, if applicable, the place of a Meeting of Members shall be given to each Member entitled to vote at the meeting not less than ten (10) days and not more than fifty (50) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.



- (b) Instructions for Attending Meetings by Telephonic or Electronic Means. A notice of a meeting to be held completely or partially by telephonic or electronic means must include instructions for attending and participating in the meeting, including, if applicable, instructions for voting by such means at the meeting.
- (c) Notice to Others. Notice of a Meeting of Members shall also be given to each Director and to the auditor of Ontario Soccer (or the person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer) not less than ten (10) days and not more than fifty (50) days before the day on which the meeting is to be held.
- (d) Special Business. Notice of any Meeting of Members at which special business is to be transacted shall state the nature of that business in sufficient detail to permit the Member to form a reasoned judgment on the business and provide the text of any Special Resolution or By-law to be submitted to the meeting.
- (e) Record Date. The Directors may fix a record date for determination of Members entitled to receive notice of any Meeting of Members in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

#### **4.2 Waiver of Notice**

A Member and any other person entitled to attend a Meeting of Members may in any manner and at any time waive notice of a Meeting of Members, and attendance of any such person at a Meeting of Members is a waiver of notice of the meeting, except where such person attends a Meeting of Members for the express purpose of objecting to the transaction of any business on the grounds that the meeting was not lawfully called.

#### **4.3 Place of Members' Meetings**

Meetings of Members may be held at any place within Ontario determined by the Board or, if all of the Members entitled to vote at such meeting so agree, outside Ontario.

#### **4.4 Participation by Electronic Means at Members' Meetings**

If Ontario Soccer chooses to make available a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during a Meeting of Members, any person entitled to attend such meeting may participate in the meeting by means of such telephonic, electronic or other communication facility in the manner provided by the Act and the Regulations. A person participating in a meeting by such means is deemed to be present at the meeting. Notwithstanding any other provision of this By-law, any person participating in a Meeting of Members pursuant to this section who is entitled to vote at that meeting may vote, in accordance with the Act and the Regulations, by means of any telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that Ontario Soccer has made available for that purpose.

#### **4.5 Members' Meeting Held Entirely by Electronic Means**

Notwithstanding Section 4.3, if the Directors or Members of Ontario Soccer call a Meeting of Members, those Directors or Members, as the case may be, may determine that the meeting shall be held, in accordance with the Act and the Regulations, entirely by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting.



#### **4.6 Persons Entitled to be Present at Members' Meetings**

The only persons entitled to be present at a Meeting of Members shall be those entitled to vote at the meeting, the Directors, and the auditor of Ontario Soccer (or the person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer) and such other persons who are entitled or required under any provision of the Act, Articles or By-laws of Ontario Soccer to be present at the meeting. Any other person may be admitted only on the invitation of the chair of the meeting or by Ordinary Resolution of the Members.

#### **4.7 Authorized Representative of Member**

Voting Members shall inform Ontario Soccer in writing at least seven (7) days prior to a Meeting of Members, the name of the authorized representative of the Voting Member. Only the authorized representative of the Voting Member may vote on behalf of such Voting Member.

#### **4.8 Annual Meetings**

An annual Meeting of Members shall be held at such time in each year as the Board may from time to time determine, provided that the annual meeting must be held not later than six (6) months after the end of Ontario Soccer's preceding fiscal year end. The annual meeting shall be held for the purpose of: considering the financial statements and reports of Ontario Soccer required by the Act to be presented at the meeting, considering the audit or review engagement report, if any; considering an extraordinary resolution to have a review engagement instead of an audit or not to have an audit or a review engagement; electing directors, if applicable; reappointment of incumbent auditor or person appointed to conduct a review engagement; and transacting such other business as may properly be brought before the meeting or is required under the Act (the "Annual Meeting Business").

#### **4.9 Special Meetings**

The Board may at any time call a special Meeting of Members for the transaction of any business which may properly be brought before the Members.

#### **4.10 Special Business**

All business transacted at a Meeting of Members, except for the Annual Meeting Business, is special business.

#### **4.11 Members Calling a Members' Meeting**

Subject to the exceptions in the Act, the Board shall call a special Meeting of the Members in accordance with the Act, on written requisition of Members in Good Standing carrying not less than ten percent (10%) or more of the voting rights that may be cast at a Meeting of the Members sought to be held. Subject to the Act, if the Board does not call a meeting within twenty-one (21) days of receiving the requisition, any Member who signed the requisition may call the meeting.

#### **4.12 Chair of Members' Meetings**

The chairperson of Meetings of the Members shall be the Chair of the Board. In the event that the Chair of the Board is absent, the Vice-Chair of the Board, if any, shall be the chair of Meetings of the Members. In the event that both the Chair of the Board and the Vice-Chair of



the Board are absent, the Members who are present and entitled to vote at the meeting shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

#### 4.13 Quorum at Members' Meetings

- (a) Subject to the Act, a quorum at any Meeting of Members shall be that number of Members entitled to vote at the meeting representing a majority of allocated votes in accordance with Section 4.16 below. If a quorum is present at the opening of a Meeting of the Members, the Members present may proceed with the business of the meeting, even if a quorum is not present throughout the meeting. For the purposes of determining quorum, a Member may be present in person, by proxy, or by telephonic and/or by other electronic means.
- (b) If a quorum is not present at the opening of a Meeting of Members, the Members present may adjourn the meeting to a fixed time and place but may not transact any other business.

#### 4.14 Proxies

- (a) Every Member entitled to vote at a Meeting of Members may vote by proxy by appointing in writing a proxyholder, and one or more alternate proxyholders, who are not required to be Members, to attend and act at the meeting in the manner and to the extent authorized by the proxy and with the authority conferred by it subject to the following requirements:
  - (i) a proxy is valid only at the meeting in respect of which it is given or at a continuation of that meeting after an adjournment;
  - (ii) a Member may revoke a proxy by depositing a document signed by the Member or the Member's attorney in accordance with the Act and the Regulations;
  - (iii) a proxyholder or an alternate proxyholder has the same rights as the Member by whom they were appointed, including the right to speak at a Meeting of Members in respect of any matter, to vote by way of ballot at the meeting, to demand a ballot at the meeting and, except where a proxyholder or an alternate proxyholder has conflicting instructions from more than one Member, to vote at the meeting by way of a show of hands;
  - (iv) a proxy shall be in writing, executed by the Member or the Member's attorney and shall conform with the requirements of the Act and the Regulations; and
  - (v) votes by proxy shall be collected, counted, and reported in such manner as the chair of the meeting directs, in accordance with the Act and the Regulations.
- (b) No person may hold more than two (2) proxies.



#### 4.15 Voting by Mail or by Telephonic or Electronic Means at Members' Meetings

- (a) In addition to voting by proxy as set out in Section 4.14, each Member entitled to vote at a Meeting of Members may vote by mailed-in ballot or by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communication facility.

#### 4.16 Voting Rights

- (a) Subject to the Act and in accordance with the Articles, each Voting Member who is a Member in Good Standing has the following voting rights at all Meetings of the Members:
- (i) One (1) vote for the first one hundred dollars, or part thereof, of Player Registration Fees paid to Ontario Soccer by the Voting Member;
  - (ii) One (1) vote for each additional three hundred dollars, or part thereof, of Player Registration Fees paid to Ontario Soccer by the Voting Member up to a maximum of six (6) votes by the Voting Member;
  - (iii) One (1) vote for each additional five hundred dollars, or part thereof, of Player Registration Fees paid to Ontario Soccer by the Voting Member;
- (b) Subject to the Act, each Voting Member who is a Member in Good Standing is entitled to be reimbursed by Ontario Soccer for the expenses of no more than two (2) delegates who attend a Meeting of Members to represent such Voting Member.

#### 4.17 Method of Voting

Subject to the methods of voting set out in Section 4.15 above,

- (a) Voting for the election of Directors shall be by way of secret ballot; and
- (b) Voting for all other matters shall be by way of a show of hands, unless a secret ballot is requested by a Member entitled to vote at the meeting.

#### 4.18 Votes to Govern

At any Meeting of Members every question shall, unless otherwise provided by the Act, the Articles or the By-laws, be determined by a majority of the votes cast on the question. In case of an equality of votes either on a show of hands or on a ballot or on the results of electronic voting, the chair of the meeting shall not have a casting vote and the resolution is defeated.

#### 4.19 Changing the Method of Voting by Members not in Attendance at a Meeting of Members

Pursuant to the Act, a Special Resolution is required to make any amendment to the By-laws of Ontario Soccer to change the method of voting by Members not in attendance at a Meeting of Members.



## ARTICLE 5 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### 5.1 Number of Directors

The Board shall consist of the number of Directors specified in the Articles. If the Articles provide for a minimum and maximum number of Directors, the Board shall be comprised of the fixed number of Directors as determined from time to time by the Members entitled to vote on such resolution by Special Resolution.

### 5.2 Composition of Board

Unless changed in accordance with the Act, the Articles and the By-laws, the composition of the Board shall include the following:

- (a) The Chair of the Board of Ontario Soccer,
- (b) The Vice-Chair of the Board of Ontario Soccer,
- (c) One (1) individual from each of the following five (5) regions:
  - (i) North region, which, as of the Effective Date, is made up of: (i) Greater North Soccer Association, and (ii) Soccer Northwest Ontario Soccer Association;
  - (ii) South region, which, as of the Effective Date, is made up of: (i) Hamilton Soccer, (ii) Niagara Soccer Association, and (iii) Peel Halton Soccer Association;
  - (iii) East region, which, as of the Effective Date, is made up of: (i) Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association, and (ii) Southeast Ontario Soccer Association;
  - (iv) West region, which, as of the Effective Date, is made up of: (i) Elgin Middlesex Soccer Association, (ii) Essex County Soccer Association, (iii) Lambton Kent Soccer Association, and (iv) South-West Soccer; and
  - (v) Central region, which, as of the Effective Date, is made up of: (i) Durham Regional Soccer Association, (ii) East Central Ontario Soccer Association, (iii) Huronia District Soccer Association, (iv) North York Soccer Association, (v) Scarborough Soccer Association, (vi) Toronto Soccer Association, and (vii) York Region Soccer Association; and
- (d) Up to Five (5) independent directors.

### 5.3 Eligibility

In order for an individual to be eligible to be elected as a director of Ontario Soccer,

- (a) such individual shall not have been an employee of Ontario Soccer within the twenty-four (24) month period preceding such individual's nomination or expression of interest for election as a director;



- (b) such individual shall not have been the chair or a member of the nominations committee within the twelve (12) month period preceding such individual's nomination or expression of interest for election as a director;
- (c) such individual must (i) be a resident of Ontario, and (ii) maintain a primary residence within the region such individual wishes to represent, if the individual wishes to be nominated as a Regional Director;
- (d) if the individual is nominated to be an independent director, such individual must meet the eligibility requirements and competencies set out in the Operating Policies and Procedures; and
- (e) such individual shall not have been convicted of a criminal offence under the *Criminal Code* of Canada

#### 5.4 Qualifications

In addition to the qualifications for Directors set out in the Act, each Director shall at the time of such individual's election or appointment as a Director and throughout the Director's term of office,

- (a) Pass Ontario Soccer's Operating Policies and Procedures related to screening individuals who volunteer with Ontario Soccer;
- (b) Not be a paid employee, consultant, contractor, match official, or member of a judicial body of any of (i) Ontario Soccer, (ii) a Voting Member, (iii) an Associate Member, or (iv) Canada Soccer.
- (c) Not be a director or officer of (i) a Voting Member, (ii) an Associate Member, (iii) any league or club affiliated with either a Voting Member or an Associate Member, or (iv) Canada Soccer.

#### 5.5 Director's Consent to Act

An individual who is elected or appointed as a Director must consent in writing to be a Director in accordance with the Act. A Director who is re-elected or re-appointed as a Director where there is no break in the Director's term of office does not need to consent to act as a director each time such individual is re-elected or re-appointed as a Director.

#### 5.6 Nominations

- (a) The Board shall appoint a nominations committee in accordance with Section 8.3 below. The nominations committee shall be responsible for soliciting and evaluating the eligibility of all candidates for election as directors of Ontario Soccer in accordance with Section 8.5.
- (b) Nominations for the election of directors from the floor at any Meeting of Members are not allowed.



## 5.7 Election of Directors

- (a) The Directors shall be elected by the Members at each annual Meeting of Members at which an election of directors is required.
- (b) Directors shall be elected on the following rotational basis, based upon the rotation of the election of directors of the by-law in place immediately prior to the Effective Date:
  - (i) The Director who is the Chair of the Board or who is expected to be elected or appointed as the Chair of the Board, one (1) independent director, one (1) Regional Director from the North Region, and one (1) Regional Director from the Central Region;
  - (ii) The Director who is the Vice-Chair of the Board or who is expected to be elected or appointed as the Vice-Chair of the Board, two (2) independent directors, and one (1) Regional Director from the West Region; and
  - (iii) One (1) Regional Director from each of the East Region and South Region, and up to five (5) independent directors.
- (c) As of the election of Directors at the annual meeting of Members held immediately prior to the Effective Date, any individual elected as a 'designated director' as that term was used by Ontario Soccer prior to the Effective Date, shall be deemed to be independent directors.
- (d) The election of directors shall take place based on each position to be filled on the Board in accordance with the rotation set out in Section 5.7(b) above and taking into consideration Section 5.7(c).
- (e) A candidate shall be declared elected as a Director when the candidate receives a majority of votes cast. If no candidate is declared elected, the candidate receiving the lowest number of votes and any candidate(s) receiving less than ten (10%) percent of the total vote shall be removed from the ballot and the vote repeated until such time as a candidate is elected. If there is only one candidate nominated for a particular position on the Board, that candidate shall be elected by acclamation.

## 5.8 Term of Office and Number of Terms

- (a) Each Director shall be elected to hold office until the third annual meeting after such Director is elected, at which time, each such Director shall retire as a Director, but, if qualified, shall be eligible for re-election.
- (b) There is no limit to the number of consecutive terms a Director may serve as long as such individual remains qualified pursuant to the Act, the Articles and the By-laws.

## 5.9 Incumbent Directors

If an election of directors is not held at the proper time, the incumbent directors shall continue in office until their successors are elected.



### 5.10 Automatic Vacation of Office

The office of a Director shall automatically be vacated when

- (a) the Director dies;
- (b) the Director resigns in accordance with the Act and Section 5.11 below;
- (c) the Director no longer meets the eligibility requirements set out in Section 5.3 above or no longer fulfils all of the qualifications to be a Director set out in Section 5.4 above, as determined in the sole discretion of the Board;
- (d) the Director has not consented in writing to hold the office of a Director, despite being requested to so by the Board, within a reasonable period of time after such individual's election or appointment as a Director;
- (e) the Director is removed from office by the Members in accordance with Section 5.12 below; or
- (f) the Director violates any provision of the Articles, By-laws or Operating Policies and Procedures (including any ethics statement), as determined in the sole discretion of the Board.

Where an individual automatically vacates the office of a Director for one or more reasons set out in subsection 5.10(c) to subsection (f), the Board shall pass a resolution to (i) acknowledge such vacation of office, and (ii) confirm the effective date of such vacation of office. In addition, Ontario Soccer shall provide written confirmation to the individual in question confirming the reason for and effective date of such vacation of office.

### 5.11 Effective date of Resignation of Director

A resignation of a Director becomes effective at the time a written resignation is sent to Ontario Soccer or at the time specified in the resignation, whichever is later.

### 5.12 Removal of Director

Subject to the Act, the Members may by Ordinary Resolution at a special Meeting of Members remove any Director from office before the expiration of the Directors' term and may elect a qualified individual to fill the resulting vacancy for the remainder of the term of the Director so removed, failing which such vacancy may be filled by the Board.

### 5.13 Filling Vacancies

In accordance with and subject to the Act and the Articles, a vacancy among the directors however caused may be filled only by a vote of the Voting Members in Good Standing, except a vacancy resulting from an increase in the number or the minimum or maximum number of Directors provided for in the Articles. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the vacancy has arisen from a failure of the Members to elect the number or minimum number of Directors provided for in the Articles, the Board shall forthwith call a special Meeting of Members to fill the vacancy. If the Board fails to call such meeting or if there are no Directors then in office, any



Member may call the meeting. A Director appointed or elected to fill a vacancy holds office for the unexpired term of their predecessor.

## **ARTICLE 6 MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS**

### **6.1 Calling of Meetings of the Board**

Meetings of the Board may be called by the Chair of the Board, the Vice-Chair of the Board or any two (2) Directors at any time.

### **6.2 Notice of Meetings of the Board**

- (a) Notice of the time and, if applicable, place for the holding of a meeting of the Board shall be given in the manner provided in Section 11.1 of this By-law to every Director of Ontario Soccer not less than seven (7) days before the time when the meeting is to be held.
- (b) If the meeting of the Board is to be held completely or partly by telephonic or electronic means, the notice for such meeting must include instructions for attending and participating in such meeting, and, if applicable, instructions for voting at such meeting.
- (c) Notice of a meeting shall not be necessary if all of the Directors are present, and none objects to the holding of the meeting, or if those absent have waived notice of or have otherwise signified their consent to the holding of such meeting.
- (d) Notice of an adjourned meeting is not required if all of the following are announced at the time of adjournment: (i) the time of the continued meeting, (ii) if applicable, the place of the continued meeting, and (iii) if applicable, instructions for attending and participating in the continued meeting by the telephonic or electronic means that will be made available for the meeting, including, if applicable, instructions for voting by such means at the meeting.
- (e) Unless the By-laws otherwise provide, no notice of meeting need specify the purpose or the business to be transacted at the meeting except that a notice of meeting of Directors shall specify any matter referred to in subsection 36(2) of the Act that is to be dealt with at the meeting.
- (f) For the first meeting of the Board to be held following the election of Directors at an annual Meeting of Members, no notice of such meeting need be given in order for the meeting to be duly constituted, provided a quorum of the Directors is present.

### **6.3 Chair of Board Meetings**

The Chair of the Board of Ontario Soccer shall chair all meetings of the Board. In the absence of the Chair of the Board, or if the meeting of the Board was not called by the Chair of the Board, the Vice-Chair of the Board (or designate) shall be the Chair of the meeting.



#### **6.4 Regular Meetings of the Board of Directors**

The Board shall meet not less than four (4) times in each calendar year. The Board may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings of the Board at an hour and, if applicable, place to be named. A copy of any resolution of the Board fixing the time and, if applicable, place of such regular meetings of the Board shall be sent to each Director forthwith after being passed, but no other notice shall be required for any such regular meeting except if subsection 34(3) of the Act requires the purpose thereof or the business to be transacted to be specified in the notice.

#### **6.5 Participation at Meeting by Telephone or Electronic Means**

A Director may, in accordance with the Act and the Regulations, participate in a meeting of the Board by means of a telephonic, electronic or other communications facility that permits all participants to communicate with each other simultaneously and instantaneously during the meeting. A Director participating in the meeting by such means shall be deemed for the purposes of the Act to have been present at the meeting.

#### **6.6 No Alternate Directors**

No person shall act for an absent Director at a meeting of the Board, specifically: no Director may send another person to attend a meeting of the Board to represent that director and no Director may appoint another person as that Director's proxy to attend a meeting of the Board on that Director's behalf.

#### **6.7 Quorum**

Subject to the Act or the Articles, a majority of the number of Directors elected or appointed according to Section 5.7 shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the Board. For the purpose of determining quorum, a Director may be present in person or by telephonic or electronic means.

#### **6.8 Votes to Govern at Meetings of the Board**

Each Director has one (1) vote. At all meetings of the Board, every question shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast on the question. In case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting shall not have a casting vote.

#### **6.9 Confidentiality**

Every Director shall respect the confidentiality of matters brought before the Board or before any committee of the Board.

### **ARTICLE 7 OFFICERS**

#### **7.1 Composition**

The Officers of Ontario Soccer shall be a Chair of the Board, a Vice-Chair of the Board, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Chief Executive Officer.

#### **7.2 Term**

The term of each officer, other than the Chair of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, the Secretary and the Treasurer, shall be three (3) years or until they or their successors are



elected or appointed. The term of the Chair of the Board is limited to three (3) consecutive terms of three (3) years each, unless the individual was appointed as Chair of the Board to fill a vacancy in the position of Chair of the Board. In such a circumstance, the individual may serve three (3) full consecutive terms of three (3) years each, in addition to completing the unfinished term of the individual's predecessor as Chair of the Board.

### 7.3 Duties of Officers

Unless otherwise specified by the Board (which may, subject to the Act modify, restrict or supplement such duties and powers), the officers of Ontario Soccer, if designated and if officers are appointed, shall have the following duties and powers associated with their positions:

- (a) Chair of the Board – The Chair of the Board shall be a Director and shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of section 5.7. No individual may serve as Chair of the Board of Ontario Soccer unless that individual has had prior experience with Ontario Soccer or prior experience with a Voting Member. The Chair of the Board shall not hold the position of Secretary at the same time as the position of Chair of the Board. The Chair of the Board shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board and of the Members. The Chair of the Board will be an official spokesperson of Ontario Soccer. The Chair of the Board will oversee and supervise the Chief Executive Officer and will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- (b) Vice-Chair of the Board – The Vice-Chair of the Board shall be a Director and shall be elected in accordance with the provisions of section 5.7. The Vice-Chair of the Board shall not hold the position of Secretary at the same time as Vice-Chair of the Board. If the Chair of the Board is absent or is unable or refuses to act, the Vice-Chair of the Board shall, when present, preside at all meetings of the Board and of the Members. In the absence or disability of the Chair of the Board, the Vice-Chair of the Board shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chair of the Board. The Vice-Chair of the Board will perform such other duties as may from time to time be established by the Board.
- (c) Secretary – The Secretary shall not be a Director. The Secretary is an employee of Ontario Soccer. In accordance with the terms of the Secretary's employment agreement with Ontario Soccer, the Secretary shall attend and be the Secretary of all meetings of the Board, Members and committees of the Board. The Secretary shall enter or cause to be entered in Ontario Soccer's minute book, minutes of all proceedings at such meetings; the Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, as and when instructed, notices to Members, Directors, the auditor (or person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer) and members of committees. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all books, papers, records, documents and other instruments belonging to Ontario Soccer.
- (d) Treasurer – The Treasurer shall not be a Director. The Treasurer is an employee of Ontario Soccer, holding the title of Chief Financial Officer. In accordance with the terms of the Treasurer's employment agreement with Ontario Soccer, the Treasurer shall be responsible for the maintenance of proper accounting records in compliance with the Act as well as the deposit of money, the safekeeping of securities and the disbursement of funds of Ontario Soccer; whenever required, the Treasurer shall



render to the Board an account of all such person's transactions as Treasurer and of the financial position of Ontario Soccer. The Treasurer may attend meetings of the Board at the invitation of the Chair of the Board or the Chief Executive Officer to provide financial reports and discuss financial matters before the Board. Under no circumstances shall the Treasurer vote on any matter put before the Board.

- (e) Chief Executive Officer – The Chief Executive Officer shall not be a Director. The Chief Executive Officer shall be responsible for implementing the strategic plans and policies and procedures of Ontario Soccer. The Chief Executive Officer shall, subject to the authority of the Board, have general supervision of the affairs of Ontario Soccer. The Chief Executive Officer is an employee of Ontario Soccer. In accordance with the terms of the Chief Executive Officer's employment agreement with Ontario Soccer, the Chief Executive Officer may attend meetings of the Board at the invitation of the Chair of the Board to provide reports and discuss matters before the Board. Under no circumstances shall the Chief Executive Officer vote on any matter put before the Board. The Chief Executive Officer shall have the following responsibilities (or may delegate such responsibilities to other staff of Ontario Soccer):
- (i) Enforce the By-laws and recommend any changes to the Board;
  - (ii) Attend committee meetings (or designate an alternate staff person);
  - (iii) Attend Voting Member Council meetings (or designate an alternate staff person), and when requested pursuant to subsection 9.3(b), meetings of the Voting Members' Council;
  - (iv) Enforce all policies and procedures of Ontario Soccer;
  - (v) Provide technical expertise, leadership, advice and direction related to financial management, communications, publicity, promotion and marketing;
  - (vi) Formulate and recommend for action any matters pertaining to program development, services to Members, general legislation, policies, functions, activities, objectives or general welfare of Ontario Soccer;
  - (vii) An official spokesperson for Ontario Soccer; and
  - (viii) Other responsibilities as the Board may direct.

#### 7.4 Vacancy in Office

- (a) In the absence of a written agreement to the contrary, the Board may remove, whether for cause or without cause, any Officer. Unless so removed, an Officer shall hold office until the earlier of:
- (i) the expiry of the Officer's term of office,
  - (ii) the Officer's successor being appointed,
  - (iii) the Officer's resignation,



- (iv) such Officer ceasing to be a Director (if a necessary qualification of appointment) or
  - (v) such Officer's death.
- (b) If the office of any Officer shall be or become vacant, the Directors may, by resolution, appoint an individual to fill such vacancy.

## **ARTICLE 8 COMMITTEES**

### **8.1 Types of Committees**

- (a) Ontario Soccer shall establish both Operational Committees and Standing Committees.
- (b) The Board may also establish ad hoc committees from time to time that the Board deems necessary for managing the affairs of the Corporation. The Board may appoint members of such ad hoc committees or provide for the election of members of committees, and may prescribe the duties and terms of reference of such ad hoc committees.

### **8.2 Restrictions on Committees**

No committee has the authority to incur debts in the name of Ontario Soccer.

### **8.3 Standing Committees**

The Board shall appoint the following standing committees: (i) Finance and Audit Committee, (ii) Risk Management Committee, (iii) Governance Committee, (iv) Nominations Committee, and (v) Strategic Planning Committee. The Board may appoint members of each standing committee, remove members of standing committees and fill vacancies that may occur on standing committees. The Chair of the Board shall be an ex-officio and non-voting member of all standing committees.

### **8.4 Operational Committees**

The Chief Executive Officer may appoint such operational committees as the Chief Executive Officer deems necessary for managing the operations of Ontario Soccer and may appoint members of committees or provide for the election of members of committees, remove members of operational committees and fill vacancies that may occur on operational committees. The Chief Executive Officer may prescribe the duties and terms of reference of operational committees and may delegate to any operational committee any of its powers, duties, and functions. A Director shall not sit on an operational committee.

### **8.5 Nominations Committee**

- (a) Nominations of Directors shall be conducted in accordance with the following procedures:
  - (i) At least ninety (90) days prior to an annual Meeting of Members at which elections of directors are to be held, the Nominations Committee shall issue a public call for nominations for directors that will be open for election at that



annual Meeting of Members. This will include any vacant positions that remain unfilled. The public call for nominations for directors will state that individuals may only apply for one position on the Board. In other words, no candidate may apply for multiple vacant positions on the Board.

- (ii) The Nominations Committee shall conduct a search of qualified individuals from all genders and possessing the competencies that will assist the Board in performing its strategic and stewardship functions.
  - (iii) In order to be nominated for a position on the Board, nominations for individuals who will be elected as the Chair of the Board or Vice-Chair of the Board, when applicable, must be made by a Voting Member who is a Member in Good Standing and supported by at least two (2) other Voting Members who are a Members in Good Standing. Nominations for a Regional Director must be made by a Voting Member who is a Member in Good Standing in the Region that the Director represents. Nominations for an independent director may be made by any Voting Member who is a Member in Good Standing.
  - (iv) Expressions of interest, together with all supporting documentation, must be submitted to the Nominations Committee at least seventy (70) days prior to the annual Meeting of Members and may be submitted by any individual who feels that they can contribute to the purposes of Ontario Soccer by serving as a director.
  - (v) All expressions of interest and supporting documentation shall be reviewed by the Nominations Committee for completeness and all individuals meeting the criteria in subsections 5.3 and 5.4 above may be interviewed by the Nominations Committee.
  - (vi) All final nominations shall be circulated to the Voting Members by the Nominations Committee and posted on Ontario Soccer's website at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the annual Meeting of Members.
  - (vii) If no nominations have been submitted for a particular position, the Nominations Committee will issue a special call for nominations for that position. Nominations for that position must be submitted by a Voting Member who is a Member in Good Standing at least fifteen (15) days prior to the annual Meeting of Members and must include the supporting documentation. Nominations will be reviewed by the Nominations Committee for completeness. The Nominations Committee shall circulate the additional nominations to the Voting Members who are Members in Good Standing when verified as complete but at least ten (10) days prior to the annual Meeting of Members.
  - (viii) If the process outlined in this subsection 8.5(a) still results in no valid nomination for a particular position, that position will remain vacant.
- (b) Elections of Directors shall be held according to section 5.7 above.



## ARTICLE 9 VOTING MEMBERS' COUNCIL

### 9.1 Purpose, Composition and Commitment

- (a) Ontario Soccer shall have a Voting Members' Council the purpose of which is to represent the interests of the Voting Members of Ontario Soccer.
- (b) The Voting Members' Council shall be comprised of the President or designate of each District, which is a Voting Member of Ontario Soccer.
- (c) Each member of Voting Members' Council shall accept the responsibility of carrying out all duties with integrity, independence and in the best interests of both District and soccer in Ontario.

### 9.2 Rules of Procedure, Meetings and Operating Policies

- (a) The Voting Members' Council may formulate its own rules of procedure, subject to the Act, the Articles and the By-laws.
- (b) The Voting Members' Council may adopt operating policies as described in Section 2.5(b) and may include but is not limited to the following governance matters: (i) the process for electing a Chair of the Voting Members' Council, (ii) the term of office of the Chair of the Voting Members' Council, (iii) the number of meetings to be held annually, (iv) notice requirements for meetings, (v) the type of meetings to be held (virtual, in person, hybrid, etc.), (vi) the agenda and duration of each meeting, (vii) guests to be invited to meetings, and (viii) other meeting requirements.

### 9.3 Involvement of and Interaction with Ontario Soccer

- (a) Subject to the budget of Ontario Soccer, Ontario Soccer shall fund a maximum of two (2) in person meetings of the Voting Members' Council per calendar year.
- (b) The Voting Members' Council may request in writing the attendance of any number of the following at a Voting Members' Council meeting: the Chair of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer, one or more Directors, or the chairs of one or more standing committees. Any such request shall be made to the Chair of the Board of Ontario Soccer and shall be given at least seven (7) days prior to the subject Voting Members' Council meeting.
- (c) At the discretion of the Voting Members' Council, the Voting Members' Council may provide reports to the Board on all member matters including player registration fees, strategic planning, governance structure and roles, governance processes and relationships, as well as submit recommendations pertaining to game related operational procedural changes. Any such input shall be directed to the Chair of the Board.
- (d) When directed by the Voting Members' Council, the Chair of the Voting Members' Council shall request in writing an invitation to a meeting of the Board to present items of concern of or reports prepared by the Voting Members' Council. Any such request



shall be made to the Chair of the Board and shall be made at least ten (10) days prior to the subject meeting of the Board.

- (e) The Voting Members' Council may request in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Soccer, the assistance of designated staff of Ontario Soccer for the following:
  - (i) administrative support including the scheduling and notification of meetings of the Voting Members' Council along with distribution of a published agenda; and
  - (ii) preparation, storing, and distribution of minutes, reports, briefing papers, or other ancillary work undertaken by the committees and sub-committees of the Voting Members', and other matters related to meeting organization.
- (f) The Voting Members' Council will assist and provide input to the Chief Executive Officer of Ontario Soccer regarding biennial changes to Ontario Soccer's game related operational procedures, as contained throughout Ontario Soccer's operational procedures governing document. Before any changes to Ontario Soccer's operational procedures governing document in respect of game related operational procedures may be adopted by the Board, all such changes shall be passed by the Voting Members' Council by a majority of votes cast in favour of such changes.

#### **9.4 Associate Members of Ontario Soccer**

An Associate Member of Ontario Soccer, through its recognized designate, may request that a representative of the Associate Member attend a meeting of the Voting Members' Council to present or discuss specific items that relate to the members of that Associate Member.

### **ARTICLE 10 INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE**

#### **10.1 Limitation of Liability**

No director or officer shall be liable for the acts, receipts, neglects or defaults of any other director or officer or employee or for joining in any receipt or act for conformity or for any loss, damage or expense happening to Ontario Soccer through the insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired by Ontario Soccer for or on behalf of Ontario Soccer or for the insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the monies of Ontario Soccer shall be invested or for any loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy, insolvency or tortuous act of any person with whom or which any of the monies, securities or effects of Ontario Soccer shall be deposited or for any loss occasioned by any error of judgement or oversight on his part, or for any other loss, damage or misfortune whatever which shall happen in the execution of the duties of his office or in relation thereto, unless the same are occasioned by his own wilful neglect or default; provided that nothing herein shall relieve any director or officer from the duty to act in accordance with the Act or from liability for any breach thereof.

#### **10.2 Indemnity of Directors and Officers**

Except as provided in section 46 of the Act, every director and officer of Ontario Soccer, every former director or officer of Ontario Soccer or a person who acts or acted at Ontario Soccer's request as a director or officer of a body corporate of which Ontario Soccer is or was a shareholder or creditor, and his heirs and legal representatives shall, from time to time, be



indemnified and saved harmless by Ontario Soccer from and against all costs, charges and expenses, including an amount paid to settle an action or satisfy a judgment, reasonably incurred by him in respect of any civil, criminal or administrative action or proceeding to which he is made a party by reason of being or having been a director or officer of such corporation or body corporate if,

- (a) the individual acted honestly and in good faith with a view to the best interests of Ontario Soccer or other entity, as the case may be; and
- (b) in the case of a criminal or administrative action or proceeding that is enforced by a monetary penalty, the individual had reasonable grounds for believing that the individual's conduct was lawful.

### 10.3 Insurance

Subject to the limitations contained in the Act, Ontario Soccer may purchase and maintain insurance for the benefit of an individual referred to in subsection 46(1) of the Act against any liability incurred by the individual:

- (a) in the individual's capacity as a director or officer of Ontario Soccer; or
- (b) in the individual's capacity as a director or officer, or similar capacity, of another entity, if the individual acts or acted in that capacity at Ontario Soccer's request.

## ARTICLE 11 GENERAL MATTERS

### 11.1 Method of Giving any Notice

- (a) Method of Delivery. Subject to Sections 4.1 and 6.2 above, any notice to be given (which term includes sent, delivered or served) pursuant to the Act, the Articles, the By-laws or otherwise to a Member, Director, Officer or member of a committee of the Board or to the auditor (or person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer) shall be sufficiently given:
  - (i) if delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person's address as shown in the records of Ontario Soccer or in the case of notice to a Director to the latest address as shown in the last notice that was filed by Ontario Soccer in accordance with the Act;
  - (ii) if mailed to such person at such person's recorded address by prepaid ordinary mail;
  - (iii) if sent to such person by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's recorded address for that purpose; or
  - (iv) if provided in the form of an electronic document in accordance the Act.
- (b) Time of Delivery. A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the recorded address as aforesaid; a notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box; and



a notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch. The Secretary may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any Member, Director, Officer, auditor (or person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer) or member of a committee of the Board in accordance with any information believed by the Secretary to be reliable. The declaration by the Secretary that notice has been given pursuant to this By-law shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The signature of any Director or Officer of Ontario Soccer to any notice or other document to be given by Ontario Soccer may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

## **11.2 Computation of Time**

Where a given number of days' notice or notice extending over a period is required to be given under the By-laws, the day of service, posting or other delivery of the notice shall not, unless it is otherwise provided, be counted in such number of days or other period.

## **11.3 Undelivered Notices**

If any notice given to a Member is returned on two consecutive occasions because such Member cannot be found, Ontario Soccer shall not be required to give any further notices to such Member until such Member informs Ontario Soccer in writing of the Member's new address.

## **11.4 Waiver of Notice**

Any Member, proxyholder, Director, Officer, member of a committee of the Board or auditor (or person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer) may waive or abridge the time for any notice required to be given to such person, and such waiver or abridgement, whether given before or after the meeting or other event of which notice is required to be given shall cure any default in the giving or in the time of such notice, as the case may be. Any such waiver or abridgement shall be in writing except a waiver of notice of a Meeting of Members or of the Board or of a committee of the Board, which may be given in any manner.

## **11.5 Omissions and Errors**

The accidental omission to give any notice to any Member, Director, Officer, member of a committee of the Board or auditor (or person appointed to conduct a review engagement of Ontario Soccer), or the non-receipt of any notice by any such person where Ontario Soccer has provided notice in accordance with the By-laws or any error in any notice not affecting its substance shall not invalidate any action taken at any meeting to which the notice pertained or otherwise founded on such notice.

## **11.6 Invalidity of any Provisions of this By-law**

The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this By-law shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this By-law.



## ARTICLE 12 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Disputes or controversies among Members, Directors, Officers, Registrants, committee members and the Voting Members' Counsel are as much as possible to be resolved in accordance with the dispute resolution provisions of the Operating Policies and Procedures.

## ARTICLE 13 AMENDMENTS

### 13.1 Amendment to Articles

The Articles may only be amended if the amendment is confirmed by a Special Resolution. Any amendment to the Articles is effective on the date shown in the certificate of amendment.

### 13.2 By-laws and Effective Date

- (a) Subject to the Act and the Articles,
  - (i) the Board and the Voting Members' Council, acting together, may, by resolution, make, amend or repeal any By-laws that regulate the activities or affairs of Ontario Soccer.
  - (ii) any such By-law, amendment or repeal shall be effective from the date of the Special Resolution of the Members confirming such By-law, amendment or repeal.
  - (iii) the Voting Members may make a proposal to make, amend or repeal a by-law in accordance with the Act.
- (b) In accordance with the Articles and subject to the Act, any By-law, amendment or repeal of a By-law shall require confirmation by the Members by Special Resolution.
- (c) Notwithstanding Section 13.2(a)(ii), this By-law No. 1 shall come into effect on the Effective Date.
- (d) Previous By-laws - All previous By-laws of Ontario Soccer are repealed as of the coming into force of this By-law. Such repeal shall not affect the previous operation of the By-laws or affect the validity of any act done or right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired or incurred prior to their repeal.

**ENACTED** by the Board as of the 23rd day of September 2023.



Chair of the Board



Chief Executive Officer



Play. Inspire. Unite.



**CONFIRMED** by the Members as of the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September 2023.



---

Chief Executive Officer



Play. Inspire. Unite.





**ONTARIO  
SOCCER.**

EST. 1901



Play. Inspire. Unite.

