

PLAYER PATHWAY

Our region is one of four in the country where a player can develop from amateur to professional status while exclusively playing for teams in our district. Below showcases the Hamilton Soccer Player Pathway and the clubs in our region at each stage of development. Utilize the image and information below to determine what level you are at and what your next stage of development is.



HAMILTON SOCCER

PLAYER PATHWAY

NATIONAL TEAM



PRO CLUB



LEAGUE1 ONTARIO CLUB



UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES



PROVINCIAL TEAMS



ONTARIO PLAYER DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE



GRASSROOTS & COMMUNITY SOCCER



SANCTIONED ACADEMY SOCCER



ONTARIO SOCCER TALENTED PATHWAY AVAILABLE TO VIEW AT:
ONTARIOSOCCER.NET/PLAYER-TALENTED-PATHWAY

HAMILTONSOCCER.NET

National Teams

The highest level a player can play at, Canada Soccer provides multiple ages at which players can represent their country. Hamilton has seen a handful of players play at this level most notably Milan Borjan, Greg Sutton, Melissa Tancredi, Lydia Vamos and John McGrane.

Professional Clubs

Forge FC is the lone professional soccer team in our region, and the inaugural Canadian Premier League Champions of 2019. Playing out of Tim Hortons Field, Forge complete the player pathway allowing Canadians and Hamiltonians a chance to play professionally at home.

League One Ontario

L1O is Ontario's pro-am, standards-based, senior league. Founded in 2014, the league began with a ten team men's division, which has now grown to 16 teams in the men's division and includes a separate 14 team women's division. League1 Ontario serves as a stepping stone between the high-performance youth level and elite amateur and professional levels of the game. League One is often a home for collegiate players from USports or NCAA which allows them to continue high level play in the university offseason. Hamilton United Elite is the lone club to boasts teams in both the men's and women's divisions. Supported by Ancaster, Mount Hamilton and Saltfleet Stoney Creek, Hamilton United Elite recruits the best players in the district to compete at a higher level.

University & College Opportunities

With three post secondary schools in the region, players can be student athletes at McMaster University (USports), Mohawk College (OCAA) and Redeemer University College (OCAA).

Provincial Teams (U14, U15, U16)

Ontario Soccer provides provincial competition opportunities to further development of talented players in the region and be scouted for the national team. The OPDL is the primary competition that players are scouted and selected to the program.

Ontario Player Development League (U13, U14, U15, U17)

Hamilton United Elite is the only club in our region that holds and OPDL License, similar to the L10 teams, are supported by other teams in the region. This allows for the movement of talented players to move to a higher level and develop with the best young players in the region against the best competition in the province.

Grassroots Community Soccer

Available to all ages and skill levels, our community clubs are the best places to start when new to soccer. Supported by technical staff and standards based training, players have the ability to move from fun to competitive levels of the game.

Sanctioned Academy Soccer

Chantilly Forever is the only Ontario Soccer sanctioned academy in our region. While other academies exist across the region, Chantilly Forever is the only academy held to and meets Ontario Soccer standards. Providing an alternative to club soccer, the academy route allows players to compete in the Ontario Academy

Soccer League and Ontario Soccer League against standards based academies from across the province.