



## INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bulletin #: 12021-089

Date: Oct. 29, 2021

To: Ontario Soccer; District Membership, ORA and Associate Members

CC: Ontario Soccer Board of Directors, Staff

From: Johnny Misley, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Return to Play Guide Updates and Indoor Soccer 2021-2022

Ontario Soccer continues to work in consultation with the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as we communicate important government directives and updates related to the current global pandemic.

The Government of Ontario <u>announced on Oct. 22, 2021</u> its updated plan to exit Step 3 of the Government's Re-Opening Plan.

Ontario Soccer has reviewed the new regulations with the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries to confirm interpretation for sport and has now updated the Return to Play Guide in accordance with these changes.

The latest updates provide greater clarity for operations of indoor facilities and guidance on a safe indoor soccer experience this winter.

Ontario Soccer recognizes the membership has worked tirelessly to ensure a seamless transition from Outdoor 2021 to the 2021-22 Indoor Season for all participants. As a reminder, all affiliated Clubs and Academies must register their participants in OSCAR – the official Member Registry for Ontario Soccer, to ensure that insurance coverage is in place for the Indoor season.

As well, we are continuing our support of member organizations to capitalize on the further easing of restrictions and drive registration, as the Government of Ontario has laid out its plan to exit Step 3 of its original Re-Opening Ontario Plan.

Supported by Ontario Soccer's Pitch In. Play ON! – PIPO 2.0 Return to Play marketing campaign, collectively, soccer in Ontario was able to rebuild consumer confidence and boost 2021 Outdoor registrations to over 60% of 2019 pre-pandemic numbers. To continue to support your efforts at the Club, Academy, District Association and League level to bring participants back to our sport,



we have created an updated suite of support graphics to remind all our stakeholders that "Indoor Soccer is ON".

These marketing collateral elements expand upon the existing portfolio of PIPO 2.0 member support resources anchored by Ontario Soccer's regularly updated Return to Play Guide.

Please review and consider using the resources provided in your social media marketing and promotions campaigns to encourage participants to register for Indoor Soccer:

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For your use of assets, please <u>click here.</u>

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Ontario Soccer applauds the immense efforts by the membership in the recovery and re-building of our sport. Together, we will be able to not only restore soccer across the province but ultimately, elevate it to unprecedented levels of growth, fueled by the amazing successes and momentum of our Canadian Women's and Men's National Teams. As our community, collectively advances towards the hosting of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, to be staged in a few short years in Canada, Mexico and the United States, soccer in Ontario will strive to reach new heights.

## How do I stay connected to Ontario Soccer?

For further information please refer to the latest bulletins on the <u>COVID-19 Updates</u> page, which has all the latest information from Ontario Soccer, as well as resources for your members. Please consider placing a dedicated link to the <u>COVID-19 Updates</u> on the homepage on your website.

If you have not subscribed to our weekly e-Newsletter, <u>Subscribe to INSIDE THE 18</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

If you have any questions, please contact Patty Forbes, Director, Administration.