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## INFORMATION BULLETIN

**Bulletin #:** I2024-20  
**Date:** April 23, 2024  
**To:** Ontario Soccer; District Membership and Associate Members  
**CC:** Ontario Soccer; Board of Directors; Staff  
**From:** Johnny Misley, Chief Executive Officer  
**Subject:** #OPDL10 - Ontario Player Development League Celebrates Historic Tenth Season in 2024

As the Indoor season comes to a close, Ontario Soccer is excited to shift focus to the 2024 Outdoor Season, which will be highlighted by a significant milestone. Proudly supported by its Premier Partners, Toronto FC and the Canadian Premier League, [Ontario Soccer is announcing #OPDL10](#), a campaign that will celebrate a successful ten years of the Ontario Player Development League (OPDL) through various digital and in-person marketing activations throughout the 2024 Outdoor Season.

Launched in 2014 with the 2001 age group, the OPDL is the province's first standards-based, youth development program that combines top-level competition with strict high-performance training standards in alignment with global best practices. This innovative, exciting youth development program is an important component of the overall movement to adopt the core principles of Long Term Player Development (LTPD) for soccer in Ontario and Canada. Encompassing the Under-13 to Under-17 age categories, for both males and females, the OPDL continues to be the primary vehicle for the advancement of players, coaches and match officials alike.

To celebrate this legacy, the Ontario Soccer Membership can expect to see #OPDL10 manifested throughout soccer communities in Ontario in the form of event-space takeovers featuring fun games, contests, branding overhauls and more. These activations will be centered on the OPDL's Central Venue Weekends with a #OPDL10 Anniversary Party also planned at the Zanchin Automotive Soccer Centre in Vaughan. Stay tuned for the details!


Ontario Soccer Membership can also expect to see #OPDL10 on the digital spaces where we'll be sharing content and telling stories of all those who have been involved with the OPDL from its inception, to present day, including those who advanced along the Talented Pathway and have now reached the pinnacle of the game on the world stage.



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To illustrate and encapsulate this milestone celebration, a special commemorative OPDL 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo has been created that will debut across Ontario Soccer's digital channels today and will act as the umbrella under which compelling and inspirational OPDL spotlight stories as well as engaging community events are presented.

Two years ago, Ontario Soccer commissioned an [in-depth long-term examination of the OPDL](#) - led by Capitis Consulting – which confirmed the program is achieving its main objectives. The report also confirmed the success of the OPDL and LTPD programs, as evidenced by the increasing number of OPDL players advancing to the Provincial Xcel program, Toronto FC Academy, Canada Soccer's National Development Centre (NDC) and, furthermore, the increase of Ontario players representing Canada Soccer's National Teams.

As we get set to celebrate 10 years of the OPDL, we must highlight the impact and contributions of the late Gary Miller, Ontario Soccer's former Director of Soccer Operations who tragically passed away in 2020. Gary was an invaluable member of the soccer community, having held multiple positions at Ontario Soccer, Canada Soccer and a number of other influential organizations over his illustrious career - and more notable in relation to today's announcement - Gary, along with members of the Technical Advisory Committee, was instrumental in the ideation and launch of the OPDL. The vision, through standards-based programming, continues to influence the soccer community and its legacy will never be forgotten.

Specific details around #OPDL10 activities will be released throughout the 2024 Outdoor Season as they become available. Follow Ontario Soccer's digital channels ([Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#)) and subscribed to our weekly e-Newsletter, [Subscribe to INSIDE THE 18](#), to stay up to date on the campaign.

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