



# INFORMATION BULLETIN

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**To:** Ontario Soccer: District Membership and Associate Members  
**CC:** Ontario Soccer; Board of Directors, Staff  
**From:** Matt Ferreira, Director, Development

**Subject:** Canada Soccer Announces Continued Evolution of Grassroots Soccer

Canada Soccer has announced [further enhancements](#) to its national Grassroots Standards as the organization continues preparing for full implementation ahead of the 2026 season. These refinements build on the updated standards first introduced in early 2025.

## Key Updates: What do you need to know?

Following continued collaboration with Provincial and Territorial Member Associations, an updated version of the **Grassroots Standards** has been released. Notable adjustments include:

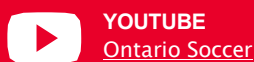
- More flexibility in selecting goal sizes, helping organizations adjust to available facilities and equipment limitations.
- Tiering will begin at the U10 age group, creating a more consistent approach for 7v7 play across both U10 and U11 divisions and supporting the natural start of league formats.

All other components of the 2025 Standards remain unchanged. The newest version is [available here](#).

## What's New?

A refreshed programming model, the new **Canada Soccer Grassroots Program Guide** replaces the former *Skill Centres and Dedicated Player Programs*. The guide can be found [online here](#).

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## Why?

To strengthen the delivery of the Grassroots Standards ensuring environments are safe, enjoyable, and developmentally appropriate.

## What's Next?

Both Canada Soccer and Ontario Soccer continues to work toward a unified grassroots system that encourages creativity, technical growth, and a lifelong love of the game. The updated Grassroots Standards, along with new program guide, tools, and educational materials, establish a consistent approach nationwide and help ensure that all children can experience soccer in an inclusive, safe, accessible, and enjoyable environment.

A fully updated section of the [Canada Soccer website](#) also houses grassroots-related information.

More supporting resource will be released over the coming months and be announced as they become available.

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