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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



2015: A YEAR OF CHANGE, PROGRESS—AND SUCCESS

2015 was another year of significant and positive change for The Ontario Soccer Association (OSA). With the creation of our new Strategic Plan (2016-2018) we are striving for alignment with that of the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA), for the benefit of players, coaches and match officials. The four "pillars" in our Strategic Plan are: Organizational Stability, Long Term Player Development, Membership Engagement and Partnership Building. Respect and integrity will remain the cornerstone values of the Association. The OSA strives to be player-centered in every decision and initiative that we undertake.

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

There is much work be done in 2016. Every major sports organization faces challenges and we are no different. The Association is endeavouring to be more responsive to our members, to build partnerships and create relationship opportunities for all those who want to be part of this great sport. We are all very proud of the work done by our Districts, Clubs, Associate Members, Academies and Leagues, large and small, in every corner of the province. Whether one is looking at the grassroots level, in our competitive leagues or our standards-based Ontario Player Development League and League1 Ontario, progress is evident—and ongoing.

The Association is providing leadership at all levels and is helping Members embrace innovation along with new and improved strategies. This includes staff's goal of implementing a new registration system for 2017, which will deliver better service to our Members.

It's important for all of us to remember that the Association is not simply the Board of Directors, or the OSA staff. It's all of us. We have worked as an organization in recent years to become more responsive. We strive to embrace our role as the leading Provincial Soccer Association in Canada but at the same time we recognize the need to respond to the concerns of our Members. We rely on our Districts, Clubs, Associate Members and Leagues to support the Association and embrace their leadership role as well.

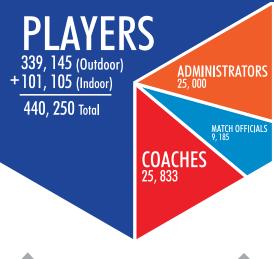
If the Association succeeds, we only do so together. We all want to grow the game and develop our players so they can achieve their potential, whatever that may be. But unfortunately, there is still too much fragmentation across soccer organizations in Ontario. So as we undertake governance modernization it is vital that we be unified, and continue to build trust and mutual respect.

Countless volunteers continue to be involved in every level of the game. Just as grassroots soccer is and will always be the foundation of our game, our volunteers have always been and will always be the backbone of The OSA. I speak often about the importance of working together. Healthy debate is always essential but at the end of the day, it is being unified that will make us stronger. Let's move forward together to make the soccer experience all that it can and should be for all.

Ron Smale, President

Kon Inale





**ANNUAL BUDGET:** \$11.4 million **FULL TIME STAFF:** 35

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS 475, 268 + Administrators Founded: 1901

Affiliation: The Canadian

Soccer Association

**President:** Ron Smale

**Executive Director:** Johnny Misley

**Board of Directors:** 21 Directors

**Executive Committee:** 7 Members

### **Members:**

- 21 District Associations
- 13 Associate Members



The 2015 OSA Player Development initiatives have contributed to the continued success of The OSA's Long Term Player Development (LTPD) philosophy.

Constant creation of resources in a variety of media, the delivery of coaching workshops, and parent and Board member education sessions, continue to inform the various levels of our membership of the many improvements being made in the delivery of the youth game.

Being on the cutting edge of children's development through the vehicle of sport leads the program to continually stay abreast of new techniques, educational practices and emerging trends.

Continuous research and communication with experts around the country and internationally allows the team to propose and implement the latest development programs and philosophies. But most of all, OSA Player Development keeps soccer fun for all!



- 400+ attendees learning at Grassroots Coaching & Workshop Introduction Presentations
- 4,200+ viewers taking in Player Development Webinars (covering topics such as the Retreat Line, 4-Corner Holistic Development and more)
- 9 in-depth coaching resources and 52 session plans created
- 600+ students and teachers reached through 8 School Program Presentations
- 60+ combined Club Excellence Visits, ORNCA Assessments and OPDL Audits
- Over 80 C License Coaches and 165 B License Coaches trained in tandem with the Coaching Development Department
- Countless other presentations for Districts, Universities, Leagues, Coaching Conferences, Clubs and more!



The Quebec-Ontario Series pitted Ontario's talent against strong Provincial competition from our easterly neighbours. The 6 teams that were fielded in the U14, U15 and U16 age groups played with opportunity of being scouted by National Team staff on site.

### PROVINCIAL PLAYER IDENTIFICATION

The OSA High Performance Staff detected over 500 players from the OPDL and Talent on Location Days for the Provincial Screening Competition in Novemberfor Provincial Team Projects. (From the 500 players identified at the PSC, approximately 160 players were selected for continued screening within the Provincial Projects program in 2016.)

This was across the U13 and U14 age groups for girls and boys. In 2015, TFC Academy had selected 14 male athletes across multiple age groups from OPDL Clubs.

#### NATIONAL PLAYER IDENTIFICATION

Ontario continues to provide an average of 50% of the athletes selected for Canadian National Men's, Women's and Para Teams.



OPDL expanded from the U13 into the U14 age groups, and saw 704 games played across 49 different venues, including the home turfs of the License Holders themselves

Talent continues to be seen in the program, with 85% of the Provincial Screening weekend consisting of OPDL players.

This past year 45 grants were awarded to players as part of the OPDL Fee Assistance Program.

The OPDL continues to develop not just players, with over 3,120 Match Official appointments made over the course of the 2015 season. Amongst this group, 79% indicated that officiating in the OPDL contributed to their Match Official development.

Overall, 92% of players are satisfied with the OPDL program delivery at their club. Clearly, the OPDL continues to grow and improve, providing a development environment at the highest level for Ontario's youth players. In 2016, the U15 age group will be added.

A pinnacle of the OPDL season was the 2015 OPDL Charity Shield for the U14 age groups. Congratulations to Whitby FC and Richmond Hill SC for coming out victorious in the girls and boys divisions respectively, and donating the proceeds of the event to the Charles H Best Diabetes Centre in Whitby and the Sick Kids Foundation in Toronto.

# BUILDING OUR GAME | UNITING ONTARIO





















































**SickKids** 

SickKids Foundation

\$ 1,295. %

2016

THE SUM OF: ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED NINETY-FIVE /100 DOLLARS

**TOGETHER WE WILL** MAKE A DIFFERENCE. OPDL CHARITY SHIELD 2015

THE ONTARIO SOCCER ASSOCIATION

DATE: MAY 4th







After launching in 2014 with its Men's division, League1 Ontario followed up that success in 2015 by launching a women's division and continuing to grow its overall membership. The League now boasts a 16-team Men's division and a nine team Women's division and is attracting interest from clubs across the province. It's also attracting interest from professional and university scouts. Twenty six players (21 male, 5 female) from the League1 Ontario clubs have now graduated to professional contracts and over 40 players have found their way into university scholarships.

League1 Ontario continued their successes outside of the province as well, as the Oakville Blue Devils, the 2015 League1 Ontario league champions, also captured the 2015 Inter-Provincial Cup by downing CS Mont-Royal Outremont, the PLSQ league champion.

Durham United FA would capture the inaugural Women's League1 Ontario championship with a convincing season long performance. The Woodbridge Strikers won the Men's L1 Cup and North Mississauga took the Women's L1 Cup.



In 2015, OSA Coaching Development continued to deliver clinics and training across the province. Nearly 300 Coaches attended 3 Pre B, 3 Provincial B and 3 Provincial C License courses from Ottawa to Waterloo, with 41 Coaches successful at the Pre B and 50 Coaches successful on the B License levels.

Over the course of the year, 2,489 Community Coaches were certified in NCCP Community Courses run in 18 different districts around the province.

- Active Start: 30 courses, 320 Coaches certified
- Fundamentals: 30 courses, 346 Coaches certified
- Learn to Train: 55 courses, 1,007 Coaches certified
- Soccer for Life: 47 courses. 816 Coaches certified

Let's Get Coaching! – TO2015 Pan Am/Para Pan Am Games Coaching Initiative

The City of Toronto, in partnership with Coaches Association of Ontario and MLSE Foundation, offered free National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) training throughout 2015. The OSA Coaching Department was able to work hand in hand with these organisations. Fifteen NCCP Community Coaching Courses saw over 450 Coaches were certified in The City of Toronto.

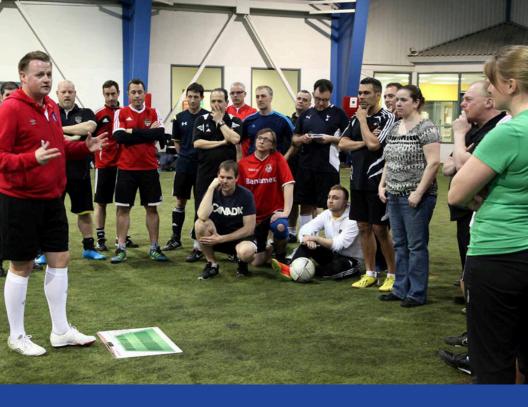


# **EODSA Coaching Conference**

On April 11th, 2015, the EODSA, in partnership with The OSA put together a one-day coaching conference in Ottawa, ON. In front of nearly 200 Coaches from the District, three Canadian National Team presented their expertise, including Beverly Priestman (CSA Director, Women's EXCEL Program U-14/U-17 Head Coach, U-17 Women's National Team), Rob Gale (CSA Coach, Canada U-16, U-18, U20 Men's National Team) and Michael Findlay (CSA Staff Coach / Assistant Coach Men's National Team).

### **OSA LEARNING FACILITATOR TRAINING**

Held annually, the OSA Coaching sport-specific Learning Facilitator (LF) training was conducted over two days and trained 35 LF's, preparing them for delivering NCCP Community Coach courses throughout the Province.



### **FEMALE MENTORSHIP WORKSHOPS**

The Female Mentorship Program is designed to train senior female Coaches, who in turn will act as educators and mentors to other female Coaches who wish to further develop and progress their coaching careers. The mentorship program is part of a holistic support system approach to enabling promising Coaches across the province to reach their full coaching potential in the sport. Three workshops were held which over 100 female Coaches attended, helping to progress 10 of them into the Provincial B Licence

### **OTHER COURSES DELIVERED INCLUDE:**

- OSA Goalkeeper Diploma Clinic for 30 Coaches
- National B Licence prep course to help prepare the 30 Ontario Coaches that have been selected to take the CSA National B Licence course
- District Technical Information Days



### FIFA LIVE YOUR GOALS EVENT

The Ontario Soccer Association's Female Mentorship Program, in association with OSA Player Development and the EODSA, put on a FIFA Live Your Goals event in Ottawa at the Louis Riel Dome, amidst the many celebrations centred around the FIFA Women's World Cup 2015.

The event is FIFA's dedicated development campaign aimed at inspiring girls and young women to get involved in soccer and stay in the game. In attendance were 40 Female Coaches and over 200 players, who were sure to walk away from an inspiring experience.

### OSA SOCCER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The 2015 OSA Soccer Development Conference reached new heights with a new venue, bigger audiences and broader offerings. Coaches, Match Officials and Administrators descended onto Waterloo's RIM Park for two days of elite learning sessions.

The annual OSA Soccer Development Conference saw nearly 500 participants attend various educational classroom sessions as well as practical field sessions. Coaching sessions were led by internationally recognised Coaches from The United Kingdom, The United States, Brazil and Canada.

Other programming included sessions for Female Mentorship Group members and certified Learning Facilitators, as well as a large-scale Futsal Festival.



The OSA Match Officials program continued to provide guidance and development to over 9,700 Match Officials in Ontario, with a 10%+ increase in retention rate over the last 5 years.

This past year saw a 100% success rate with Provincial Upgrading of Match Officials and an 82% success rate with Regional Upgrading of those Match Officials that entered the 2015 Upgrading season.

The province's Match Officials continue to improve, with the average mark on Registration Exam rising from 65% in 2013 to 83% in 2015. Overall Fitness levels also improved in higher grades.

Two Ontario Match Officials received National Nominations in 2015. Both nominated officials were invited to the CSA U18 Club Nationals and earned their National Badges – Sean Hornsby (National Asst. Referee) and Pierre Acouri (National Referee), both of the EODSA.

The Department also saw some important initiatives come to fruition, including a partnership with the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) for the next 3 years, an OUA/OCAA Elite Camp, and a TFC – Advanced Referee Training Program & Entry Level Clinics for Academy players.

The Department itself visited 17 of 21 districts in 2015, conducting over 100 events and meetings. Among the topics discussed were the protocols that were either created or improved, including:



- Referee Assault Reporting
- · Game Fee and Assigning
- Fitness Test
- · Change room
- Concussion
- Grading

Overall, 133 Entry Level Courses and 93 Small Sided Courses were executed.

In 2020, OSA Match Officials Development aims to have the required number of fit, educated, supported and qualified match officials for all levels of play in Ontario.





Events including competitions are a major part of the backbone of The OSA, providing pivotal touch points with our stakeholders all across the LTPD spectrum, from the "Soccer for Life" to the "Talented Pathway" streams.

### **ONTARIO CUP**

Our provincial club competition lived up to its hype with another year of exciting finals across a number of divisions. This year also marked the 100th year of competition for the tournament and all of the finals were once again broadcasted on The OSA's Livestream channel.

### **ONTARIO CUP FINALS**

- The 2015 Ontario Cup started with 457 teams plus 4 teams in Special Olympics, completing close to 750 games over three and a half months
- Participation reached a figure of over 8,000 players, nearly 2,000 team officials, and over 2,200 match officials
- The Cup Finals, witnessed by over 2,000 spectators, took place at the brand new stadium field at The Ontario Soccer Centre; and produced 19 Provincial Champions (including Special Olympics), 8 of which advanced to National Club Championships



### **ONTARIO INDOOR CUP**

An annual event, the Ontario Indoor Cup is the first competition of the year for most clubs and offers the opportunity to get your year off on the right foot. The Ontario Indoor Cup 2015 featured 73 teams in the Boys and Girls U-13, U-14, U-16, and U-18 Divisions.

### ONTARIO FUTSAL CUP

The exciting sport of Futsal was once again prominently featured at the Ontario Futsal Cup, which featured the U-13/14 Boys and U-15/16 Boys divisions, with 16 teams in total showing off their skill.

The Men's Ontario Futsal League Champions Cup, Ontario's top futsal competition for the Senior Men's division, involved six teams in its inaugural year.





# **Provincial** and **National Champions**



### **ONTARIO CUP 2015**

Under 18 Girls

Under 13 Bovs Brampton East Blades Under 13 Girls North London Galaxy Under 14 Boys EPIC FC 2001 Toronto Under 14 Girls Woolwich Wolfpack Black Under 15 Boys Tier 1 Ottawa South Utd Force 2000 Black Under 15 Boys Tier 2 Toronto Cherry Beach Dragons Under 15 Girls North London Galaxy Under 16 Boys Tier 1 Woodbridge Strikers 99 A Under 16 Boys Tier 2 Caledon Bulldogs Under 16 Girls Kitchener 99A Under 17 Boys Tier 1 Oakville SC BU17A Bradford Eagles 98 Girls Under 17 Girls Under 18 Boys Woodbridge SC

North Mississauga Panthers 97

Under 21 Men Vaughan Azzurri A Under 21 Women **Burlington Bavhawks** Men London Marconi Women Scarborough GS United

Special Olympics Quinte West



Classics London Marconi Azzurri Masters Scarborough Wexford Hi Profile

## **2015 Ontario Indoor Cup Winners**

Under 13 Boys AG London 02 Under 13 Girls AG London 02G Under 14 Bovs Toronto Epic FC

Under 14 Girls Brampton Brams Rebels01A Under 16 Boys North London Elite 99

Under 16 Girls Whitby 1999A

Under 18 Boys North Mississauga Panthers 97A Under 18 Girls Pickering Power Green 1998





# **2015 Ontario Futsal Cup Winners**

Under 13/14 Boys Toronto Yellow U-14
Under 15/16 Boys West Toronto United FC

## **2015 Ontario Futsal League Champions Winner**

Men's Futsal Club Toronto

# 2015 Futsal Canadian Championship

Men Futsal Club Toronto Gold Medal

# 2015 National Club Championships — Ontario Team Results







OSA Club Development celebrated many highlights in 2015, including the expansion of the pioneering Club Excellence Award which brings great recognition to Clubs going the extra mile to support their players, Coaches, Match Officials and volunteers.

### FIFA 11+

Ahead of a national roll-out in 2016, The OSA, in partnership with Bone and Joint Canada and generous funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, were able to promote the world renowned, proven injury prevention program to over 40 Clubs and an estimated 800 players.

### **CLUB EXCELLENCE AWARD**

2015 saw the inclusion of technical criteria for the first time as part of the Club Excellence Award. The Award now encompasses all of the clubs' operations, from technical to governance and finance to administration. The 36 successful 2015 Club Excellence Awardees were presented with their plaque (at the Gold, Silver or Bronze level) as part of the 2016 OSA Soccer Summit in Guelph.

Club Development continues to grow, with the Department delivering more resources such as webinars, and the program already seeing an increase in the amount of clubs participating in 2016.



### **PARA SOCCER**

OSA Club Development partnered with the Ontario Blind Sport Association to deliver 8 'Come and Try' events in communities across Ontario meeting an estimated 255 participants. Following the Para Pan Am Games success, interest has grown to include development of coaching specific course and planning toward the 2017 ParaSport Ontario Games.

The OSA continues to recognise and support the 19 Club programs for athletes with special needs, and worked with the Abilities Centre in Whitby to deliver a Football Association Coaching Disabled Footballers course to 74 Coaches.

### **SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

A growing relationship with Special Olympics Ontario has provided more opportunities for players to compete and OSA Match Officials to participate in Provincial, Regional and Schools competitions. Collaboration will now focus on more coaching and competition opportunities





- Aurora Youth SC
- Burlington Youth SC
- Cumberland United SC
- Glen Shields FC
- LaSalle Stompers FC
- Milton Soccer Academy
- Newmarket SC
- North Toronto SC
- Peterborough City SA
- Pickering SC
- Richmond Hill SC
- SC Toronto
- South Simcoe United FC
- Vaughan SC
- Whitby Iroquois SC
- Woodbridge SC

### Silver

- Ancaster SC
- Caledon SC
- German Canadian FC London
- Giovanni Caboto SC
- Guelph SC
- Kitchener SC
- Kleinburg Nobleton SC
- Lakehead Express SC
- Milton Youth SC
- Nepean Hotspurs SC
- Oak Ridges SC
- Thornhill SC
- Windsor FC Nationals

### **Bronze**

- Brampton Youth SC
- Kemptville District SC
- One SC
- Oshawa Turul SC
- Saltfleet Stoney Creek SC
- Uxbridge SC
- West Rouge SC



### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS**

At the 28th Annual Centre Circle Awards, The OSA recognized the lasting contribution individuals and organizations have made to the "Beautiful Game" in the province.

Three clubs were recognized with Meritorious Service Awards for significant contributions to the development of the game of soccer and enhancing the quality of life in their communities for a decade or more: Mount Hamilton Youth Soccer Club (Hamilton & District Soccer Association), Hamilton Sparta SC (Hamilton & District Soccer Association) and Oshawa N.A.S.C Soccer (Durham Region Soccer Association).

Four individuals received Meritorious Service Awards for special service to the game of soccer for 20 years or more: Greg Sampson (Elgin Middlesex Soccer Association), Nadia Tornifoglia (Hamilton & District Soccer Association), Geoff Painter (Elgin Middlesex Soccer Association), and George Babiolakis (Ontario Youth Soccer League).

The Ontario Soccer Association selected long-time volunteer John Knox for Life Membership, and Soccer historian Colin Jose received the prestigious President's Award.



The Soccer Hall of Fame and Museum welcomed the 2015 Induction class in November which included: three players (Jim Brennan, Kara Lang and Pat Onstad), two builders (Jim Hubay and John Kerr), a pioneer (George Anderson), an Organization of Distinction (Montreal Carsteel) and a Team of Distinction (1998 Canadian Women's CONCACAF Champions).





In the year 2015, The Ontario Soccer Centre was focused on capital infrastructure improvements, accessibility upgrades and sustainable growth of our core activities.

In its 18th year of operation, The Ontario Soccer Centre completed the outdoor turf field replacement project, creating one of the highest standard artificial turf fields in Ontario. The project deliverables included a FIFA Recommended 2-Star playing surface, state of the art base assembly including an upgraded drainage network, and a 2000-seat grandstand structure including accessible access and seating. In July, The OSA was joined by League 1 Ontario, Toronto FC II and the City of Vaughan as part of the Grand Opening of The Ontario Soccer Centre Stadium that marked a new era for all three partners.

Other user groups of the new field included League 1 Ontario, Ontario Player Development League, Ontario Soccer League and local clubs and academies. After 6 years of intensive use, the indoor turf field was also replaced. The Ontario Soccer Centre is now one of only a few facilities in Canada that boasts two FIFA Recommended 2-Star artificial turf fields at the same site.



The Communications Department put a renewed effort into creating multimedia content in 2015 with high-quality videos, photos and livestreams becoming the norm for every major event. Nearly 40,000 people tuned into the Ontario Cup broadcasts and thousands more liked and downloaded event photos from The OSA Facebook page. Curated content also became a major driving force behind the communications strategy in 2015 as 70 highly stylized and well-edited videos complimented event coverage throughout the year.

The weekly OSA newsletter, which recaps all the events going on under the Ontario Soccer Association umbrella, continued to be a huge success reaching nearly 1.5 million people in 2015. And the introduction of district bulletins has better connected our membership to the information they need to know

Social Media continues to be an improved way of reaching our community with 2,800 followers on Facebook and another 6,600 on Twitter receiving regular updates on all things OSA. As well, the introduction of the live streaming app Periscope is helping to create immersive experiences for our community and bring The OSA into more homes.



The newly-formed Business Operations Department made way for a unit focused solely on business development for The OSA. One of the missions of Business Development is to improve the overall marketing and branding of The OSA, in order to cement the organization's reputation as a valuable, innovative and effective partner.

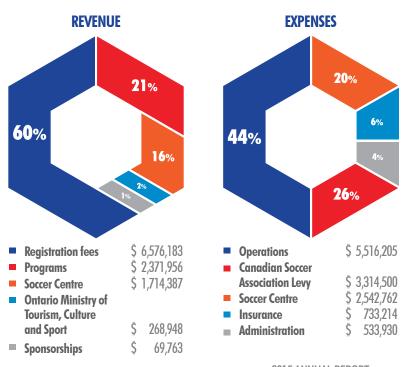
The OSA continues to be grateful for the support from program-specific partners such as Gatorade, who ensure our OPDL athletes are hydrated to perform their best.

This past year also saw the beginnings of hopefully many relationships with both sport, community and corporate partners. Of note is a newfound partnership with the Official Technology Partner of The OSA, Sport Ngin.

### THANK YOU

The OSA thanks all of its members and participants for the continued support and embracing of the sport of soccer. Together we strive to constantly Build Our Game, and Unite Ontario.









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