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## INFORMATION BULLETIN

**Bulletin #:** I2017-028  
**Date:** June 8, 2017  
**To:** District Administrators, Presidents, Technical Directors, OPDL License Holders,  
ORA Academies  
**CC:** Ontario Soccer Board of Directors, Staff  
**From:** Gary Miller, Technical Director  
**Subject:** Talented Player Pathway for Ontario Soccer Membership Club/Academy  
Male & Female Players

The Ontario Provincial Development League (OPDL) is the primary program in which potential Provincial Team Players are identified. There are however, alternative player identification options for those Ontario Soccer registered players who do not compete within the OPDL.

Provincial Team Player Eligibility:

- Primary method: Player identification within OPDL or League1 Ontario
- Alternative method: Player recommendation process into a Talent on Location Day (TOLD)

Provincial Team Player Identification Process:

As outlined above, a player identified via the OPDL or TOLD process can then be invited to continue their progress in the Provincial Team Player Identification Process via the following three steps:

1. Provincial Screening Competition (PSC)
2. Provincial Projects (PP)
3. Provincial Team (PT)

Provincial Screening Competition (PSC)

PSC events are conducted annually in November. They consist of players who are scouted and identified within the OPDL, League1 Ontario and players who are identified in TOLD. Players identified within the PSC



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are invited to attend the Provincial Projects. PSC events are for players who are within the U-13, U-14 and U-15 male and female age groups.

#### Provincial Projects (PP)

PP events are conducted annually starting in January, following the November PSC events. They consist of the players identified within the November PSC and they are scheduled on weekends. The PP weekends operate once per month in January, February and March. It is during the PP weekends that the Provincial Staff identify the 22 players for U-14, U-15 and U-16 males and females into the Provincial Team.

#### Provincial Team (PT)

PT events will involve the 22 players per age and gender that are conducted in the month of April. These events will consist of up to two pre-competition weekends and an inter-Provincial Competition conducted in the final weekend of April. At these events, Canada Soccer's National Team Staff will be in attendance to identify players for their National Excel Programs.

#### **Player recommendation process into Talent on Location Day (TOLD)**

TOLD events operate at the U-13, U-14 and U-15 age groups which are in alignment with the PT Programs at U-14, U-15 or U-16. All Ontario Soccer membership players are eligible to request an invite to attend a TOLD event. The ages are U-13, U-14 or U-15, via a recommendation process from an Ontario Soccer Membership Club or Academy. Players that are identified via the TOLD are then invited to attend the upcoming PSC.

Specific details regarding the player recommendation process are located on the [Ontario Soccer website](#).

If a player is identified through the 2017 TOLD and attends their 2017 PSC event, and are ultimately selected to the 2018 PT, they will receive an invite to attend the 2018 PSC event.

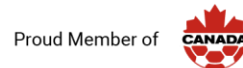
If they are detected at the 2018 PSC, to be invited into the 2019 PP programs, the PT player has until the first scheduled 2019 PP January session to provide evidence that they have registered with an OPDL Club Team (roster player) or League1 Ontario Team (first team roster player).

It is recommended that players, who fall within this scenario, commit to an OPDL club team as early as possible to avoid not being able to obtain the necessary evidence prior to the PP January sessions.

Players who live outside of the 100 kms. of an OPDL Club Team within their age group and or a League1 Ontario Team, that are not selected to attend either the PSC or PP level, are eligible to request and invite for the following seasons TOLD via a recommendation.



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If an Ontario Soccer membership player attends a TOLD and is not identified, they are eligible to request and invite into the TOLD the following season via a recommendation. They are not required to provide evidence that they have indeed registered with an OPDL Club Team or League1 Ontario Team in order to be eligible to be invited into the upcoming seasons TOLD.

Specific date and location details for the season TOLD, PSC, PP and PT will appear on the OPDL website once established.

### **Player Identification within OPDL or League1 Ontario:**

Players competing within the OPDL or on a League 1 Ontario first team roster, are eligible for identification into Provincial Screening Competition (PSC) programs at U-13, U-14 or U-15. A player who leaves the OPDL or League1 Ontario, will not be eligible to be included in future PSC, Provincial Projects (PP) or Provincial Team (PT) events. An exception only applies if the player leaves the OPDL Club or League1 Ontario Team due to an address move in which they now live in excess of 100 kms. of an OPDL or a League1 Ontario Team within their playing age group.

Players not selected into either the PSC, PP or PT programs, and who live within the 100 kms. distance of an OPDL Club Team within their age group and or a League1 Ontario Team, must be registered and compete on an OPDL Club Team (roster player) or League1 Ontario Team (first team roster player) in order to be scouted and identified to be eligible for a possible invite into the upcoming PSC events. Players who live outside of the 100 kms. distance criteria and are selected to the PT; provided that they still live outside of the 100km's distance the following season, will be eligible to be invited into the PSC the following season.

### **Additional Player Eligibility Information**

100 kms. is determined as being the shortest driving distance (excluding toll roads) one way from the player's residence to the OPDL Club House location and or field training or game location(s).

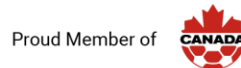
### **Frequently asked Questions:**

**Q: If a player is identified via a TOLD Process and is selected to the final Provincial Team, do they have to join an OPDL or League1 Ontario team that season?**

A: No. Ideally if they players has an OPDL or League1 team within 100 kms. of their home address they should compete with that OPDL or League1 Ontario team for that season in order for the OPDL scouts to monitor their development; however, they don't have to. Provincial Team players will be extended an invite to attend that upcoming seasons PSC event. If they are again identified at the PSC event they will have to produce a commitment letter signed by both the Parent/Player and the OPDL or League1 Ontario Team prior to the first PP session in January. If they do not the player will not be able to participate in the PP sessions.



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**Q: If a player is identified via a TOLD Process and is NOT selected to the final Provincial Team, do they have to join an OPDL or League1 team that season?**

A: If the player lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team, then yes they must compete with that OPDL or League 1 team in order to be scouted to be possibly identified for that season's upcoming PSC event. If the player does not live within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team then they can attempt to be recommended for that seasons' TOLD.

**Q: If a player is identified via a TOLD Process and is NOT selected to the PSC, do they have to join an OPDL or League1 team that season?**

A: If the player lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team, then yes they must compete with that OPDL or League1 team in order to be scouted to be possibly identified for that season's upcoming PSC event. Once a player who lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team, attends a TOLD event they cannot attend any future TOLD events. If the player does not live within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team then they can attempt to be recommended for that seasons TOLD.

**Q: If a player is identified via a TOLD Process and is NOT selected to the PP do they have to join an OPDL or League1 team that season?**

A: If the player lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team, then yes they must compete with that OPDL or League1 team in order to be scouted to be possibly identified for that season's upcoming PSC event. Once a player who lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team, attends a TOLD event they cannot attend any future TOLD events. If the player does not live within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team then they can attempt to be recommended for that seasons TOLD.

**Q: If a player is identified via a TOLD Process and is identified for the PSC but cannot attend the PSC event due to injury what are the player's options?**

A: If the player wishes to pursue an opportunity to compete in the PP they will need to advise Ontario Soccer in writing prior to the scheduled PSC event of their injury with the support of a Medical Professionals note/report. It is the responsibility of the player to advise Ontario Soccer of their status as to when they can return to compete. If the player can return to compete by or before the scheduled March sessions the player can then attend and compete. Their selection will be based upon their performance at the session(s) that they attend. If the player lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team then YES they must compete with that OPDL or League1 team in order to be scouted to be possibly identified for that season's upcoming PSC event. Once a player who lives within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team, attends a TOLD event they cannot attend any future TOLD events. If the player does not live within 100 kms. of an OPDL or League1 team then they can attempt to be recommended for that seasons TOLD.

**Q: If a player is identified via a TOLD Process and is then identified at the PSC but cannot attend the PP event due to injury what are the player's options?**



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**Definitions:**

**OPDL** – Ontario Provincial Development League – operates for ages U-13, U-14, U-15 and U-17 from May to November annually

**TOLD** – Talent on Location Day – operates for ages U-13, U-14 and U-15 in September/October annually, leads to PSC

**PSC** – Provincial Screening Competition – operates for ages U-14, U-15 and U-16 in November annually, leads to PP

**PP** – Provincial Projects – operates for ages U-14, U-15 and U-16 from January to April annually, leads to PT

**PT** – Provincial Team – operates for ages U1-4, U-15 and U-16 in April annually

For more information, please contact [Bryan Rosenfeld](#), Manager of High Performance

