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INFORMATION BULLETIN

Bulletin #: I2023 - 08
Date: January 27, 2023
To: Ontario Soccer, District Membership
CC: Ontario Soccer Board of Directors, Staff
From: Matt Ferreira, Manager, Coach Education, Player Development & Club Licensing
Subject: Update on Canada Soccer's National Club Licensing Program Awareness Campaign ahead of 2023 Outdoor Season

Yesterday, [Canada Soccer announced](#) the launch of their awareness campaign for the National Club Licensing Program. This campaign further supports the requirement for all registered youth soccer Clubs in Canada to be in the process to achieve a minimum Quality Soccer Provider (QSP) designation ahead of the start of the 2023 outdoor season. Canada Soccer's Club Licensing Program is designed to guide Clubs towards best principles for organizational development both on and off the field and QSP is the entry-level category.

A critical component of the requirements to achieve a minimum QSP designation ensures elements of **Canada Soccer's Safe Sport Roster** are applied. Canada Soccer's Safe Sport Roster, unanimously adopted by all Provincial and Territorial Member Associations in 2019, was created with the goal to ensure youth develop in environments that are safe, fun, accessible, inclusive, welcoming, and developmentally appropriate.

In harmony with the Club licensing update with respect to Safe Sport, Canada Soccer also introduced the "**Modified**" **Safe Sport Roster**, which identifies changes to coach education requirements, taking into account the fact that not all coaching environments are equal. The requirement provides modified expectations based on these coaching environments, while still ensuring coaches receive the minimum standard of training and education, thereby ensuring all players have a safe environment in which to participate, regardless of age, stage or level.

As part of the campaign, Canada Soccer is introducing a limited-time discount on all online Grassroots Coaching Courses, which will be reduced from \$20 (Active Start, Fundamentals) and \$30 (Learn to Train, Soccer for Life) respectively to \$15 per course. The discount is available now and is in effect until July 1, 2023 for all who access these courses online. The courses can be accessed [HERE](#). More information on each Age Stage specific course can be found online [HERE](#).



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For the specific requirements and 2023 minimum coach education standards guided by the Safe Sport Roster and Modified Safe Sport Roster, please click [HERE](#). Please note the different requirements for each of the two types of coaching environments. 'Competitive Club' coaches are required to obtain eight (8) training courses in alignment with Ontario Soccer's [Operational Procedures – Section 11 - Coaches](#) and [Grassroots Standards](#). In comparison, the more achievable target for the group of predominantly volunteer Community Club coaches, must complete three (3) components, and are recommended to complete another three (3).

For coaches in Ontario, the stream classification presented by Canada Soccer of 'Grassroots/Competitive Streams' is defined as the 'Development & Competitive stream,' whereas the 'Grassroots – Community/Community Streams*' refers to the Recreational level of our game (also known as 'House League'). See the table below for the comparison of terms.

Definitions	
Canada Soccer	Ontario Soccer
Grassroots/Competitive Streams	Development or Competitive stream
Grassroots – Community/Community Streams	Recreational (a.k.a. House League)

The Modified Safe Sport Roster, a key Club Licensing criterion, provides achievable, yet, invaluable progress towards ensuring all participants have a safe environment to play soccer in, as our Clubs work towards holding a minimum Quality Soccer Provider designation.

If you have questions about your Club's designation, please contact, Alex Di Noia, Senior Coordinator, OPDL and Club Licensing at ADiNoia@OntarioSoccer.net.

For general information on Canada Soccer's Club Licensing Program, including the Standards for Quality Soccer, visit: www.canadasoccer.com/play. For more specific information on how the Club Licensing program is being deployed in Ontario, visit: <https://www.ontariosoccer.net/club-licensing>.

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