




ONTARIO SOCCER
7601 Martin Grove Road, Vaughan ON L4L 9E4
905.264.9390 • ontariosoccer.net

Proud Member of 

Play.
Inspire.
Unite.

Information Bulletin

Bulletin #: I2022 - 68
Date: November 22, 2022
To: Ontario Soccer, District Membership and Associate Members
CC: Ontario Soccer Board of Directors, Staff
From: Peter Augurso, President and Chair, Board of Directors
Subject: Update on Ontario Soccer's COVID-19 Recovery as the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ Kicks-off

It has been said time-and-time-again for good reason, the COVID-19 pandemic has caused unprecedented disruption to every aspect of life, including the sport of soccer.

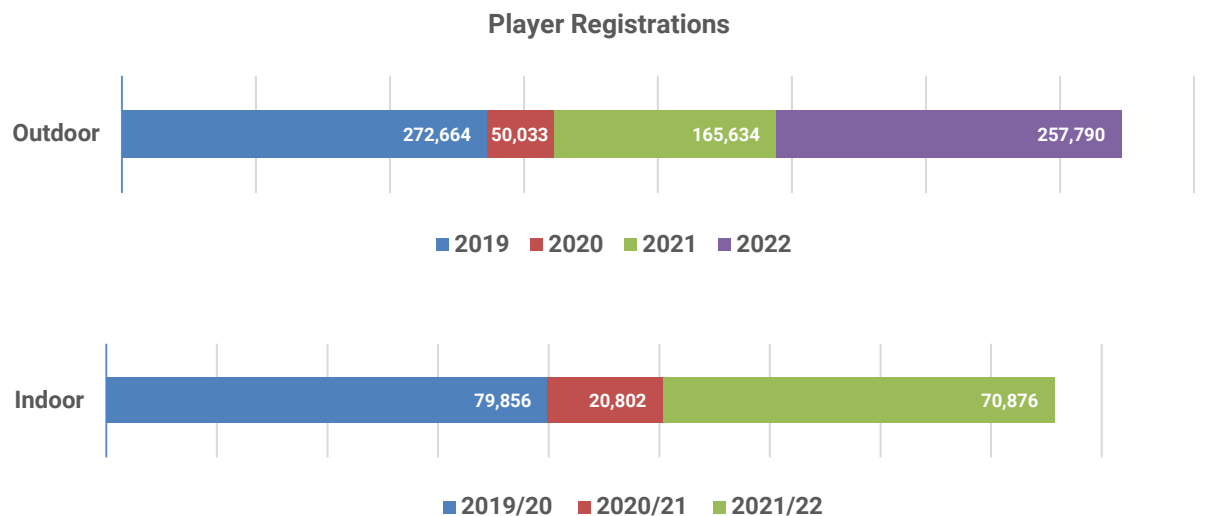
The impact of this global pandemic was strongly felt throughout the entire province of Ontario and across the country. Numerous soccer events and operations of all kinds were cancelled causing competition organisers, clubs, coaches, administrators, players and officials' considerable challenges heightening the question, when will soccer return as we know it? Soccer in Ontario was not immune to these challenges and Ontario Soccer found itself deeply concerned about the organization's continued existence and its membership welfare.

It was the support from key funding partners and the leadership of Ontario Soccer's senior staff that was critical in maintaining soccer in Ontario. And of course, the feedback, moral support, togetherness and love for the game shown by the Ontario soccer community motivated and inspired Ontario Soccer to keep pushing forward during those dark times.

Now that soccer has returned to a state of new normalcy as shown by the recent Outdoor 2022 season, Ontario Soccer would like to provide its members an update on the current state of soccer in Ontario following the past few years of uncertainty. Please see the message below from Ontario Soccer who would like to personally thank all our stakeholders for supporting us through the pandemic.



Since the complete shutdown of soccer in 2020 - a year that will be looked upon as our darkest period for the game since the last pandemic of the early nineteen hundreds - soccer has returned, and it was evident that the game was missed based on positive 2021-2022 indoor and 2022 outdoor season registrations, which are now resembling pre-pandemic numbers.



As further testament to the current healthy and vibrant state of soccer in Ontario, visit [Ontario Soccer's Annual Reports](#) for more information on the work we performed over the last few years.

As we celebrate these accomplishments and enjoy the return of soccer, it is, however, important to note that some things have changed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to consumer behaviour, and at this time, it is impossible to know whether these changes will be short-term, long-term or permanent. Ontario Soccer will continue to monitor these trends with the goal of understanding how they may impact the organization and game of soccer in Ontario.

Made in Ontario – 2022 World Cup Edition

With Canada set to return to the global stage at the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ for the first time in 36 years, Ontario Soccer is launching a marketing campaign that will look to highlight soccer as the world's greatest sport to participate in, while highlighting the amateur soccer system in Ontario, as one that is world-class, underscored by the fact that 19 of 26 or 73 per cent of players on the Canadian Men's National Soccer Team Roster are hailing from this province. Stay tuned for further info on the 2022 World Cup Made in Ontario campaign in the coming days.



**ONTARIO
SOCCER**

EST. 1901

ONTARIO SOCCER
7601 Martin Grove Road, Vaughan ON L4L 9E4
905.264.9390 • ontariosoccer.net

Proud Member of



Play.
Inspire.
Unite.

We are also excited to support the Canadian Women's National Soccer Team who will be competing at the FIFA Women's World Cup 2023™ in Australia and New Zealand next summer. Stay tuned for future promotions around the 2023 Women's World Cup as well.

2023 Ontario Soccer Summit

The Ontario Soccer Summit is back following a two-year pandemic-related hiatus! The Summit is Ontario Soccer's pinnacle annual personal and professional development and networking event, where learners become leaders, much like the World Cup marketing campaign that will highlight Ontarians, who went from grassroots players to professionals.

The 2023 Ontario Soccer Summit will be held in Ottawa from February 24-26, 2023, and group ticketing is now available! [Click here](#) to learn more and to access the Group Ticketing Portal. More information, including regular speaker announcements, will be released in the coming days and weeks.

How do I stay connected to Ontario Soccer?

If you have not subscribed to our weekly e-Newsletter, [Subscribe to INSIDE THE 18](#). Follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

