

## **2026 PLAYER COMMITMENT LETTER**

### ONTARIO PLAYER DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE (OPDL)



Player Roster Status (please check one):
Full-time Player Developmental Player U13 OPDL Player Pool
Dear Parent/Guardian,
Congratulations! Your child,, has been selected by OPDL Licence Holder <b>Rush Canada Soccer Academy</b> as a member of its roster of players, as indicated above, for its OPDL program for 2026.
This Player Commitment Letter serves as formal acceptance of your offer of a place in the Licence Holder's OPDL program, and the securing of a roster place for the forthcoming year, in accordance with all the OPDL policies, inclusive of what is outlined below. A Player Commitment Letter may not be altered, amended or added to in any way by any of the signing parties

Acceptance of this offer from the Licence Holder commits you and your child to the Licence Holder's OPDL program for the forthcoming year. It also binds you and your Licence Holder to all OPDL Rules, which are put in place to ensure an optimal training and development environment for all OPDL players, coaches and officials.

Please carefully read below and sign to indicate your understanding and acceptance.

# A player/parent is entitled to a minimum of 72 hours to review the OPDL Player Commitment Letter before signing it.

No OPDL Licence Holder has exclusive 'residency rights' and/or exclusive access rights to players residing in any geographical zones, districts, regions or municipalities. Players are free to join whichever Licence Holder they choose at their discretion.

- 1. The imposition of player-specific fee loading, extra levies or other such financial penalties by Licence Holders on OPDL players for any reason including, but not limited to, their geographical place of residency is not permitted.
- Aside from cases under the OPDL's Athlete Assistance Program, Licence Holders are not permitted
  to use player-specific fee discounting measures as a means of directly enticing individual players
  to join their Licence Holder programming at any time.

- 3. A player who comes to Canada at or after the age of ten (10) years old, and who was registered in another foreign association, must request and receive an international transfer certificate (ITC) before being eligible to register in the OPDL.
- 4. A player who wishes to register with an OPDL Licence Holder cannot be registered and/or on an active roster in another Country, or Province/Territory, without acquiring an approved International Transfer Certificate (ITC) or Interprovincial Transfer Certificate (IPTC), respectively. This requirement applies in every instance where a player is moving from a club under one National/Provincial/Terrirotiral Association to a club under another, regardless of the player's amateur or professional status. Licence Holders and/or Players found to be in breach of the above will be subject to discipline, as a Misused Player, as defined in the OPDL Operational Rules.
- 5. Provided the player is not in violation of the OPDL's Code of Conduct or any of the Licence Holder's Terms and Conditions and policies, the OPDL Licence Holder commits this roster place to the player for the entirety of the season which concludes on **October 31, 2026**. Details on the specifics to be delivered by the Licence Holder should be sourced from their program outlines directly.
- 6. Upon formal acceptance of an offer of a roster place in an OPDL program, a player is committed to remain with that team for the full program as outlined on item 5.
- 7. Players may not transfer between Licence Holders mid-season without written permission from the OPDL.
- 8. Player transfers will only be considered by the OPDL in exceptional circumstances where either the Licence Holder or the player have failed to fulfil obligations outlined by the OPDL. In such an event:
  - a) a player may be transferred no more than **once** in a given OPDL season under any circumstances
  - b) the transfer must be supported **in writing** by the parent/guardian of the player and the Technical Director/s of the Licence Holders being moved to and from.
  - c) Fees paid by the player to the Licence Holder they are leaving are subject to the refund policy of the Licence Holder
  - d) Fees due to the Licence Holder the player is moving to must be mutually agreed in writing.
  - e) In cases where transfers are requested citing exceptional circumstances, written evidence must be provided to show that action plans were created, with specific and measurable action items, that were not duly delivered upon within a reasonable timeframe by either player or Licence Holder in order to be considered by the OPDL
- 9. Solicitation of players by other OPDL Licence Holders (or Licence Holder personnel) during the term of this commitment is not permitted and should be reported to the OPDL.

- 10. Players are eligible to approach other OPDL Licence Holders or renew commitment with their current Licence Holder at their discretion, <u>from the conclusion of the OPDL 'Gary Miller' Charity</u> <u>Shield of the current year until such time as a new Player Commitment Letter is signed for the forthcoming season.</u>
  - a) As long as the current commitment is valid, existing OPDL players are **only** permitted to attend OPDL open trials with written consent from their current Licence Holder's Technical Director through the Trial Permission Process.
- 11. A Player's Parent / Guardian must register to attend an OPDL Licence Holder trial beforehand through the Trial Permission Process and provide the necessary personal details to the Licence Holder. 'Walk up' registration on the day of the trial is not permitted.
- 12. If a player is invited to an invitation-only trial by an OPDL Licence Holder, the player must complete this trial before attending another trial at a different OPDL Licence Holder.
- 13. OPDL Players' parents/ guardians must read and comply with the OPDL Parent Handbook (<u>found here</u>).
- 14. An OPDL player must commit fully to the training and match program as set by their Licence Holder. Players and their parents are entitled to receive an outline of this proposed program from the Licence Holder before accepting a roster place.
- 15. An OPDL player's parent/guardian must commit to making the player available in a timely manner to the Licence Holder's training sessions, weekly matches and other team meetings or events as outlined and as required by the Licence Holder.
- 16. OPDL players shall not participate in any other soccer programming (e.g. High School soccer) with the exception of participation in Ontario Soccer Talent Development Centres, Provincial Xcel Programs, National Team programs or official trial or development opportunities, as deemed appropriate and pre-approved by the OPDL.
- 17. OPDL full-time players may not participate in the Ontario Outdoor or Indoor Cup at any time throughout the year and should only engage in soccer activities as designated or approved by the their OPDL Licence Holder's Technical Director and the OPDL.
- 18. Players planning on attending any soccer activities outside of their OPDL training and playing commitments must notify their Licence Holder and receive permission in writing prior to attending the activity. Examples may include, but are not limited to: private/individual training, showcase events, strength & conditioning training, etc.

19. At all OPDL matches, training sessions and other events, players and parents/guardians are required to comply with the Codes of Conduct outlined by <u>Canada Soccer</u>, <u>Ontario Soccer</u> and the OPDL at all times. The OPDL-specific code is as follows:

#### **Player Conduct:**

- a) Be respectful of the Match Officials and your opponents
- b) Refrain from using foul or abusive language
- c) Remember that you are here to provide a strong performance and that the result of the match is secondary to its benefit as a development tool.
- d) All players must demonstrate responsible behaviour within all training environments.

#### Parents/Guardians

- e) Be respectful of the Match Officials and the teams on the field.
- f) Refrain from using foul or abusive language.
- g) Keep comments positive.
- h) Refrain from 'coaching' from the sidelines.
- i) Remember that you are here to support your child, not to win a game, where achieving a result is not the primary objective.
- j) Keep in mind that your attendance at OPDL events is a privilege not a right, and that all OPDL Licence Holders will be held responsible for the behaviour of their player parents and spectators.
- k) Refrain from entering the field of play prior to, during, or after any match.
- 20. On site at OPDL match venues, the following are not permitted:
  - a) pets of any kind
  - b) Alcohol, tobacco, any other controlled and/or prohibited substance(s)
    - c) glass bottles or containers
    - d) food (inside the field area)
- 21. All litter, garbage and belongings that have been brought to an OPDL match venue by a spectator parent must be disposed of or brought with them when leaving the venue.
- 22. Signage that exhibits offensive remarks of any kind are not permitted at OPDL match venues.
- 23. Ontario Soccer technical personnel or any of the Match Officials (including mentors) may not be approached at OPDL match venues.

#### IMAGE AND PERSONAL INFORMATION CONSENT FORM AND RELEASE

- I authorize Ontario Soccer to collect and use personal information about me/my child/ward, including name, address, email, telephone number, cell phone number, sex, age, date of birth and any other additional information required by The Association for its own needs for the following purposes:
  - a. Receiving communications from the Ontario Soccer;
  - b. Ensuring appropriate age group and category;
  - c. Determining eligibility;
  - d. In case of medical emergencies;
  - Posting rosters, statistics, images and results on Ontario Soccer channels and through the Ontario Soccer MySoccer app powered by BMO;
  - f. Receiving communications regarding recruitment activity from including, without limitation, the Toronto FC Academy, Canadian Premier League (CPL), Northern Super League (NSL), Canadian and/or American universities and/or colleges, and/or other recruitment
- 2. I understand that I may withdraw consent to the collection, use or disclosure of my personal information for receiving communications from Ontario Soccer and regarding recruitment activity at any time by contacting Ontario Soccer's Privacy Officer at (905) 264-9390 or email at privacy@ontariosoccer.net.
- 3. I hereby grant to Ontario Soccer the permission to take, use and copyright in their own name photographs, videotapes, digital and video images, films, voice recordings or any other likeness of me/my child/ward (collectively the "Images"), to use, transmit, publish and sell such Images, in any format, style, form or media. This consent will remain in effect in perpetuity
- 4. I further agree that all Images, plates, negatives and masters relating to the foregoing will be owned by Ontario Soccer.
- 5. I hereby fully release, discharge, and agree to save harmless Ontario Soccer, for any and all claims, demands, actions, damages, losses or costs that might arise out of the collection, use or disclosure of the Images or taking, publication, sale, distortion of the Images, plates, negatives, and masters or any other likeness or representation of me/my child/ward that may occur or be produced in the taking of said Images or in any subsequent processing thereof, including without limitation any claims for libel, passing off, misappropriate of personality or invasion of privacy.
- 6. I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE, that I have read and understood the terms and conditions of this document. On behalf of me, my heirs and assigns, I agree that I am signing this document voluntarily and to abide by such terms and conditions.