

## ALBERTA SOCCER TECHNICAL UPDATE - Feb 2021

Alberta Soccer Technical Team is currently supporting three Provincial Club License pilot applications. The Provincial Club License program is part of a broader National standards-based program from Canada Soccer that seeks to align professional standards for soccer providers to ensure a safe and fun environment for all those who participate within soccer programming.

There are three levels to the Provincial License program and a further National Club License. The initial standard, Standards for Quality Soccer was due to be launched in Alberta but has been delayed amidst the current environmental concerns due to COVID 19. However, once the three pilot applications have been completed and the application process reviewed, all member Districts, Clubs and Associations will be invited to commence the process. **There are no defined timelines at present, associated to the application process, until further guidance and recommendation regarding a safe return to play is confirmed.**

### WHAT WILL THE STANDARD FOR QUALITY SOCCER REQUIRE?

- Member Districts, Club and Associations will be required to adopt and adhere to the minimum standards as set forth in Canada Soccer's Standards for Quality Soccer licensing agreement.
- There are 37 Standards and applicants may start working towards these at any time, to ensure organizational compliance and alignment.

### CONSIDERATIONS TO PLANNING AND PREPARING FOR THE STANDARDS OF QUALITY SOCCER

- Each member association will be required to adopt policies and codes of conduct to ensure safe and fun sport, standards that should be prominently displayed to their membership.
- Coaching staff must hold a current [coaching certification](#) that reflects the age and stage within which they are operating.
- All coaching staff must complete the Respect in Sport ([Activity Leaders Program](#)).
- All practical staff must possess a current Police clearance check.

### ACTIONS TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION FOR THE STANDARDS OF QUALITY SOCCER

- Submission of a Declaration of Interest form  
This will enable the applicant to access the support package with resources and guidance.
- Encourage all current and potential coaches to pursue their coach certification.
- Seek to maintain and update all personnel Police clearance checks.
- Consideration for all coaching personnel to undertake the Respect in Sport program.

## BENEFITS OF STANDARDS OF QUALITY SOCCER

- REVIEW -Permits potential applicants to perform an organizational audit from a National Standards Based perspective
- REWARD – Club’s completing the Standards of Quality Soccer may access direct support from their District and Alberta Soccer to support their organizations continued development.
- RECOGNITION – Organizations who achieve the Standards for Quality will be recognized by Canada and Alberta Soccer. They will be promoted on the Alberta Soccer Website and permitted to display the official Canada Soccer Club Licensing logo
- DIFFERENTIATE – The Standards for Quality Soccer Licensing allow clubs who meet the standard to celebrate their achievement and promote how their organization supports and promotes safe sport in a fun and positive developmental environment that is recognized by the National and Provincial Associations.

Along with Club Licensing, the Technical Team is excited for the new developments within Coach Education. Both the community stream and licensing stream coaching workshops have moved online. Coaches can now easily access NCCP workshops to start or continue their coaching journey. The Canada Soccer Community workshops are available “on demand” where coaches can work through the material at their own pace. It is important, that coaches continue to work through and complete the online workshop material as it is the pre-requisite for attending the practical on-field component. It is a great time to sign up and complete these Canada Soccer Community Workshops as they are currently available for free (limited time). The C & B1 Licensing courses that we are offering are scheduled events that take place over a few weekends. These workshops combine presentations from the Coach Developer Team, group collaboration activities as well as take home assignments. If you are looking for further information on either coach education stream check out our [online coach calendar](#)

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