



The Kickoff

WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD OF EMSA



It's Official! Meet our 2026 Referee League Assignors

Big news from EMSA! We are thrilled to announce our Referee League Assignors for the next two years. These leaders play a vital role in the scheduling of match officials and ensuring our leagues run smoothly. Without a referee, the game cannot go on - so here's a huge shoutout and warm welcome to those who help make it happen:

- Traci Cummings & Neil Kendrick - EMDSL
- Matthew Hartman - WOSL & IModel
- Traci Cummings - LAWSL
- Art Pieterman - MMSL



Protect the Player, Protect the Game.

Rowan's Law Reminder

With the outdoor season kicking off, it's the perfect time to revisit the importance of Rowan's Law. Whether you're an administrator, coach, player, or parent, understanding your responsibilities isn't optional — it's essential. Rowan's Law isn't just a good practice or a helpful reminder. It's the law, and it's designed to protect every athlete on the field.

[Learn more](#)



Welcome to our new referees!

Over the last several weeks, our referees-in-training have been hard at work completing their development pathway. They've taken part in both Small-Sided and Entry-Level referee courses, along with focused education sessions on the Laws of the Game, handball, and advantage — all essential tools for stepping confidently onto the pitch.

A big thank-you goes out to our DRCs for their dedication and leadership in making these programs possible, to the Ontario Soccer facilitators for delivering the courses, and to Matt McCready and Gabe Pizutti for guiding our new officials through key aspects of the game.

We're excited to welcome this new group of referees to the EMSA community and can't wait to see them out on the field this season.



Guiding the Next Generation

In March, these coaches took an important step by beginning their journey with Coaching Boys Into Men (CBIM). This program equips coaches of teenage boys with the tools to talk about topics that matter not only in sport, but in life. For many young athletes, the field is where they spend much of their time and build some of their closest relationships — and coaches play a powerful role in shaping that environment.

At this stage of a young person's life, guidance matters. Coaches influence confidence, character, and decision-making, especially when players are at their most impressionable. CBIM supports coaches in fostering positive, respectful behaviour and helps both coaches and players grow into the men — and people — they aspire to be.

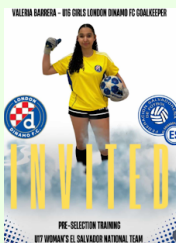
[Learn more](#)

Player Spotlights



Michal Sadowski

Congratulations to Michal Sadowski on signing with AKS SMS Łódź! After spending 5 years in the London TFC Academy, Michal has earned this opportunity to take the next step in his football journey. Best of luck on this next chapter!



Valeria Barrera

Shout out to Valeria Barrera from London Dinamo who has been selected to take part in pre-selection training with the El Salvador U17 Women's National team! Wishing her the best of luck on this exciting opportunity!



Charlotte Cromack

Charlotte Cromack is on the move! From London TFC to FC London to ETO FC in Hungary, Cromack is a perfect reflection of our community player pathway. Best of luck and continued success abroad!



Samantha St. Croix

Look out for Samantha St. Croix on the field of the Northern Super League! St. Croix has signed with the Halifax Tides for the upcoming season and we couldn't be more excited. Wishing her continued success at the next level!

Beyond the Pitch

Where we celebrate our clubs, teams and leagues for making a difference in the community.



Kicking in for the Community

The Middlesex Masters Soccer League is stepping up in a big way. MMSL has donated \$2,500 to St. Pius X Catholic School to support its lunch and snack program, helping ensure students in need have access to nutritious meals. With support from the LCDSB, this initiative is expanding to reach even more schools. A win for the community, on and off the pitch.

Sebastians Superheros

After lifting the 2025 Charity Shield, the London TFC 2009 OPDL Girls chose to turn their victory into something even bigger — donating their winnings to Sebastian's Superheros at The Hospital for Sick Children. Created in honour of Sebastian, this initiative supports children and families facing cancer with care, comfort, and critical support. A powerful reminder that the lessons learned in this game reach far beyond the pitch.



Soccer in Schools

Whitecaps London is helping soccer reach even more young players through Canada Soccer's "Soccer In Schools" program — bringing fun, meaningful soccer experiences straight into classrooms. With lesson plans, teacher training, free student playbooks, and connections to local clubs, the program is already making an impact. Recent visits include Lord Elgin PS and Wortley Road PS... who's next? Let's keep kids active, confident, and connected to the game.

How are you making a difference in your community? Email your story to sharewithus@emsadistrict.com

Upcoming Events

Roster Deadlines

EMDSL - Monday April 27
 MMSL - Wednesday April 29
 WOSL - Wednesday April 29
 LAWSL - Monday May 11

League Start Dates

EMDSL - Monday May 11
 MMSL - Wednesday May 13
 WOSL - Wednesday May 13
 LAWSL - Sunday May 24



Ontario Cup 2026 Draw

Heads up! The Ontario Cup 2026 draw drops next week.

Find out your matchup on April 23rd:

[Ontario Cup Outdoor Schedule & Draw Charts](#)

2026 Masters Provincial Championships

Applications NOW OPEN for the 2026 Masters Provincial Championships! Be sure to review all entry guidelines and get your submission in before May 6th.

[Learn More](#)



Shine The Light

Shine the Light is back for another season! Register by June 1st to secure your spot:

[Register NOW](#) [Learn More](#)



AFC World Cup Warm-Up Festival

Alliance FC is excited to host their very own World cup Warm-Up Festival on May 9th for U8s and U9s! Be part of the excitement:

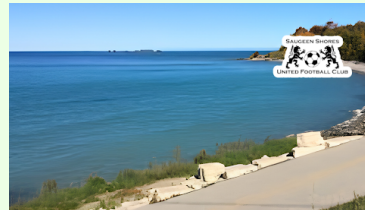
Email nils@alliancefcldn.com to register.



Joyce Rose Memorial Festival

Mark your calendars — the Joyce Rose Memorial Festival hits the field on May 30, hosted by St. Thomas Soccer Club.

[Register NOW](#)



SSUFC Battle at the Beach Soccer Festival

Check this out! Saugeen Shores is hosting Battle at the Beach on August 29th. Don't miss out!

[Find out more](#)



OPL Team Schedules

Show your support for our Ontario Provincial Teams! Check out the schedule here: [OPL Schedule & Standings](#)



Elgin Middlesex Soccer Association
emsadistrict.com
295 Rectory Street, London, Ontario
N5Z 0A3
(519) 688-2391
sharewithus@emsadistrict.com
admin@emsadistrict.com

5 attachments



image
455K



image
1921K



image
759K



image
2710K



image
1596K