



League1 Ontario Welcomes Burlington Soccer Club for the 2022 Season

Toronto, ON (February 28, 2022) - <u>League1 Ontario</u> today welcomes Burlington Soccer Club to the Men's and Women's Premier Division for the 2022 season. Burlington joins League1 Ontario by virtue of acquiring the licenses previously held by 1812 FC Barrie.

This year, Burlington Soccer Club celebrates their 60th Anniversary. The Club started as a small, police affiliated minor soccer club with four teams and one field that has grown and adapted significantly to ensure they are continuing to provide the City of Burlington and beyond with a soccer club and programs they can be proud of. Their motto is 'soccer for life' and strongly believe that soccer provides a solid foundation for their players to continue to develop as both athletes and people. This commitment is further strengthened by the addition of League1 teams for both men and women.

"There is no better way to start the year than to announce the inauguration of our League1 Ontario Men's and Women's teams," said Amal Chauhan, Executive Director, Burlington Soccer Club. "Our Leadership, Staff, Coaches and Players are very eager to do the work necessary for a successful kickoff this spring. The Burlington Soccer Club's top priority is to develop players. We can now continue player development into a professional environment and offer an elevated player experience at the highest level of competition. Our entire organization and community are looking forward to the upcoming season."

"Burlington Soccer Club is one of Ontario's more successful community clubs are we are very pleased to welcome them into the fold," said League 1 Ontario Chairman, Dino Rossi. "Our 2022 season is shaping up to be very exciting and highly competitive, especially with the addition of new teams and the development and growth of many others. We are looking forward to our first full season since 2019 and continue to focus on developing a pathway that creates opportunities for men and women and the future of professional soccer in Canada."

"It has always been a goal for BSC to bring the highest level of soccer to the city of Burlington, both men and women. Adding both teams in the Premier Division allows us to offer a complete pathway for the aspiring soccer players of the Burlington Soccer Club," said Steven McDougall, Technical Director, Burlington Soccer Club.

Burlington becomes the third L1O program in Halton Region, joining Blue Devils FC (based in Oakville) and Scrosoppi FC (based in Milton). The club will announce its home field for the 2022 season in the coming days.

In addition to fielding teams in both the Men's and Women's Premier Divisions, Burlington SC will also operate a team in the U21 Men's Reserve League in 2022 and will look to add a Women's Reserve League team for the 2023 season.

About League1 Ontario

League 1 Ontario is the province of Ontario's pro-am, standards-based, senior league. Founded in 2014, the league began with a ten team men's division, which has now grown to 22 teams in the men's division and includes a separate 19 team women's division. League 1 Ontario serves as a stepping stone between the high-performance youth level and elite amateur and professional levels of the game.

Owned and managed by Canadian Soccer Business (CSB) and sanctioned by FIFA through the domestic bodies of Canada Soccer and Ontario Soccer, League1 Ontario's primary focus is the showcase and development of Canada's future stars.