

Soccer North at Clarkson S.S.

Questions and Answers

What is a soccer prep program?

Prep programs are geared towards elite-level student athletes who train all year in soccer.



What is the vision of Soccer North?

The vision of Soccer North is to change the way young players are developed in North America and to provide our young players with positive learning experiences that fosters a love of the game and facilitates opportunities to develop their talent to each individual's greatest potential. Student-athletes are enrolled in a full-time academic program and train after school. The program provides a rich academic and athletic program.

Are there other soccer prep programs like this in Ontario? Canada?

This is the only soccer prep program offered through a public school board in Canada. However, a small number of soccer prep programs are offered through private schools in Ontario.

Where will student players be coming from?

High school soccer players from around the Golden Horseshoe and GTA, who are selected by Soccer North to be part of the program, will be registered students at Clarkson Secondary School and expected to meet the full academic requirements in their chosen courses of study and adhere to the Clarkson Code of Conduct. In its inaugural year, it is expected that between 20-30 students, in Grades 9 - 12, will be members of the program.

Who will train/coach students in the Soccer North Canada prep program?

Students in the Soccer North Canada program will be coached by employees of Soccer North Canada. They will not compete in ROPSSAA or OFSAA-sanctioned games.

Coaching staff is led by Ian McClurg of 1v1 Soccer (<http://1v1soccerfc.com/>). 1v1 Soccer was launched in 2000 and quickly established itself as one of Canada's leading youth soccer development programs. They provide specialist soccer training for boys and girls. The program is led by Ian McClurg, a UEFA A licensed coach and former Toronto FC Academy and Ontario Provincial team staff coach. In addition to his role with 1v1 Soccer FC, Ian currently works as a coach and scout for the Wolverhampton Wanderers North American academy. The Aim of 1v1 Soccer FC is to provide young Canadian Players with soccer training experiences comparable with leading soccer nations.

Why was Clarkson Secondary School chosen as the site for the prep program?

Clarkson:

- is experienced in supporting elite athlete academic programming (Prep Basketball Program, Student-Olympic Athletes, Student- National Team Athletes)
- has an established and highly successful Football North program
- is conveniently located on the GO bus/train line
- is accessible, or in close proximity to the eastern United States where the soccer north team will play in year 2 of the program
- has access to multiple outdoor fields for after-school practices and training
- will have access to the Clarkson Park artificial turf field, adjacent to the school once constructed
- can accommodate both school and prep teams' practices and game schedules



Who will teach the Ontario curriculum to students in the Soccer North Canada prep program?

Clarkson Secondary School teachers will deliver the Ontario curriculum to students in the Soccer North Canada prep program. Students in the prep program are expected to meet the full academic requirements in their courses and adhere to Clarkson's Code of Conduct.

Will Soccer North Canada players be able to try out for Clarkson Secondary School's athletics teams and compete in ROPSSAA and OFSAA?

No. Students in the Football North Canada prep program will not be eligible to compete in any ROPSSAA or OFSAA sanctioned sports games during their time at Clarkson Secondary School.

Will Soccer North Canada players be able to try out for athletics teams and compete in ROPSSAA and OFSAA competition if they return to their home highschool?

Student who return to their home high school after attending another high school are not permitted to participate in ROPSSAA and OFSAA team sports for 12 months. This is part of the eligibility rules for students who transfer between schools during their high school years.

How will it impact Clarkson Secondary School's soccer program?

Clarkson Secondary School will continue to field a school soccer team, separate from the Soccer North Program.

Will Soccer North Canada players be considered Clarkson Secondary School students?

Yes. They will attend school during the regular school day, and attend classes with Clarkson peers who are not in the Soccer North Canada prep program. Soccer North Canada players will receive the same programming as Clarkson students, and benefit from the same supports related to academic achievement and student well-being.

What special academic services are provided to Soccer North players?

Academic support for Soccer North only players is offered after school during "study hall" sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. Study hall is run by certified Clarkson S.S. teachers. Soccer North has also hired a designated Soccer North academic advisor who provides regular monitoring of student progress and advises students and families about academic pathways. The Soccer North academic advisor assists families with short and long term academic planning, including: eligibility for US Colleges, NCAA schools, CIS schools and SAT prep.

Soccer North is fully responsible for the following:

- recruitment and signing of high school soccer players from across and outside the province;
- a team of fully certified coaches and trainers;
- contractual agreements between Football North Inc. and parents/guardians;
- billeting arrangements and corresponding legal documents for students who are billeted (living outside of Peel);
- soccer practice, training and game schedules for the school year (mid-August until June).