



100 FUN Soccer!
Pleins feux sur le plaisir!

GLOUCESTER DRAGONS RECREATIONAL SOCCER

COMMUNITY NEWS RELEASE

Gloucester Dragons Recreational Soccer

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Gloucester Dragons Commit to a Future of 100% FUN Youth Soccer in East Ottawa

Gloucester Dragons Recreational Soccer provides fun and accessible soccer programs for local youth in East Ottawa, and will continue to do so as an independent club going forward.

GLOUCESTER, ON | December 15, 2020 - Gloucester Dragons Recreational Soccer is pleased to announce that the Eastern Ontario District Soccer Association (EODSA) has accepted its proposal to officially register as an independent club. The Dragons will continue operations as usual, but with a renewed focus on providing the local community in East Ottawa with 100% FUN and accessible recreational youth soccer programs.

The EODSA's decision is a welcomed stamp of approval, as the Dragons prepare to celebrate 50 years of soccer in the local community. The decision will see the club officially recognized as one of Ontario's only standalone soccer clubs focusing entirely on recreational youth programs.

The Dragons will remain non-profit, volunteer-driven, and community-focused, using this opportunity to reaffirm the organization's longstanding commitment to growing the beautiful game in East Ottawa with fun and affordable recreational youth leagues for all to enjoy.

Plans for the 2021 season are well underway, with registration for Dragons Soccer just around the corner. More information on the new season will be made available on the club's website in due time.

Quote from the Chair:

“Despite the difficulties of the past year, the Dragons are determined to continue serving the East Ottawa community with 100% FUN youth soccer. This decision from the EODSA is great news for the local community. It will see the Dragons officially recognized as an independent club, and allows us to stay focused on providing local youth in the community with fun and inviting recreational soccer programs for years to come.”

Bill Coleman - Chairperson, Gloucester Dragons Recreational Soccer

Club Highlights:

- Gloucester Dragons Recreational Soccer (Gloucester Dragons) is a not-for-profit recreational soccer organization that has provided outdoor youth summer soccer programs in the East Ottawa community since the 1970's. The organization is volunteer-run, and offers a fun environment for youth between the ages of 4 and 18 to participate in recreational league play, with a membership of approximately 1,500 players, 150 coaches, and 150 referees.
- Despite the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Gloucester Dragons were able to deliver a safe, and 100% FUN, recreational youth soccer program in 2020. Following public health guidelines and Ontario Soccer's Return to Play Guide, the Dragons were one of the only clubs in Ottawa to provide recreational youth soccer leagues during the summer of 2020. Offering modified game plans and discounted fees, the Dragons had more than 750 players sign up for the 2020 season. The club's efforts were met with positive results from its end of year survey, with over 90% of the membership reporting an enjoyable experience.
- In 2021, the Dragons will continue to focus on 100% FUN soccer. As an independent club, the Dragons will explore strategies for an expanded recreational soccer league in East Ottawa.

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