



## PRESS RELEASE

### Three Soccer Clubs Join Forces to Create a Super Club, Maximizing Development Opportunities for Players and Coaches

**Kelowna, BC, Canada – December 28, 2023** – In an exciting move to revolutionize soccer development in the Okanagan, three prominent and long-established soccer clubs have announced their merger into one super club. This strategic alliance aims to maximize development opportunities for players and coaches, while also enhancing the overall soccer experience for everyone involved.

The merger brings together Kelowna United, Okanagan Mission Youth Soccer Association (OMYSA), and Thompson Okanagan Football Club (TOFC), well known for their commitment to excellence in soccer training and player development. The new Club will be the Okanagan's only cradle-to-grave club, encompassing all levels from grassroots community programming through to select-level programming through to the top youth level of play in the [BC Soccer Premier League \(BCSPL\)](#), and beyond into adult play. By combining their resources, expertise, and technical know-how, the newly formed super club will create an unparalleled platform for aspiring soccer talents to thrive.

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One of the primary goals of this merger is to maximize the use of best-in-class facilities. By pooling their resources, the club will have access to club owned training facilities. This will provide players and coaches with an optimal environment to hone their skills, pushing the boundaries of their potential.

Furthermore, the merger will allow the club to expand its programming, offering a wider range of opportunities for player development. With an increased pool of talent and technical resources, the club will be able to provide more specialized training programs, tailored to individual needs and aspirations. This will accelerate player development and foster a sense of enjoyment and fulfillment in the game.

The club's commitment to excellence extends beyond the field. Recognizing the importance of coaching development, the merger will create a platform for coaches to learn from each other, share best practices, and collaborate on innovative training methods. This collaborative approach will not only benefit the coaches but will also have a positive impact on the players' overall experience and development.

"We are thrilled to announce the merger of Kelowna United, OMYSA, and TOFC into one super club," said Jonathan Basaraba, Chair of the newly formed super club. "By combining our strengths, we are confident that we can provide an improved soccer experience for our players and coaches. Our focus will be on maximizing development opportunities, utilizing our facilities, and creating a supportive and enjoyable environment for everyone involved."

The new club will officially launch on January 1, 2024, More information about the club's future plans and programs will be made available soon.