

# *MEMBERS GUIDE*



*Everything you need to know about membership, player registration, transfers, and permits etc...*

***Welcome to the British Columbia Soccer Association!***

The start of a new season is generally a hectic time for district and club administrators and registrars. All too often many questions go unanswered, leading to unnecessary confusion on the part of new players, parents and district and club staff. This handbook will give a general introduction to the goals and objectives of the British Columbia Soccer Association as well as outline specific policies and procedures.

The Members Guide to the British Columbia Soccer Association is an \*informative guide that communicates the BCSA philosophy and provides an overview of our organization. As our organization grows forward, this manual will be updated and revised to meet these new developments to ensure we can stay up to date. If you have any additional questions or comments, as always, please feel free to contact our office.

\*This document is meant only as an informative tool to assist registrars and administrative staff for soccer clubs/districts/leagues. For a detailed list of all rules and regulations, please see the BCSA Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations.

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## *INTRODUCTION*

The British Columbia Soccer Association is recognized by the Canadian Soccer Association and the Provincial Government of British Columbia as the governing body of all soccer in the Province. Our membership consists of over 90 Senior Leagues and Youth Districts. We are a non-profit organization, registered with the Government of British Columbia through the B.C. Society Act. Our players, teams, clubs, leagues and districts are all affiliated through our association and the Canadian Soccer Association with CONCACAF and FIFA.

Our stated purpose in the constitution:

- To foster, develop and promote the game of soccer in British Columbia.
- To govern the rules of play
- To generally provide whatsoever other assistance is available to support and encourage the game of soccer in British Columbia

We are by definition a governing body that helps ensure the integrity of the sport. This is partially achieved by applying the rules, regulations, policies and bylaws developed by the member organizations – these “rules” help create a “level playing field” for all players, teams, clubs and leagues.

The Association:

- Provides insurance for the stakeholders of the game: players, coaches, volunteers, teams, clubs, game officials and member leagues.
- Helps develop future players for senior leagues at the youth level
- Provides coaching development opportunities to coaches that wish to continue to develop their skills.
- We organize and host provincial championships in the Youth, U21, Open, and over 35 age categories.
- Provides ongoing training and assessment of referees to help ensure that the best possible referee’s are available for matches
- Provide “affiliation” to the international soccer community and consequentially enable teams to attend and host sanctioned tournaments.
- Oversee the discipline process and hold hearings for serious infractions.
- Provide individuals, teams, clubs and leagues with an appeal process that ensures the soccer community has a dispute resolution process to resolve “differences of opinion”
- Manage the collective assets of the association (investments, building, equipment)
- Represent the interest of players at National Competitions
- Represent the views of British Columbia at CSA meetings
- Provide scholarships
- Select award recipients from nominated players, teams, and coaches

Some of the other functions performed by the association:

- Manage the business affairs of the association
- Manage all the association's human resources (staff, volunteers, contractors, instructors, referees, coaches)
- Develops alternate sources of funding (sponsorship, government grants, gaming)
- Select and operate provincial teams for participation in National Championships
- Represent British Columbia's soccer community at local, provincial, and federal government levels
- Encourage media coverage of soccer
- Operate the National Training Centre
- Organize and host the Annual General Meeting and Semi Annual General Meeting
- Oversee the risk management program (Harassment and Volunteer Screening)
- Oversee the rules and regulations of soccer in British Columbia and ensure match officials are familiar with the annual changes to the FIFA Rules of the Game.
- Administrate the sport of soccer player transfers, player registrations, player status changes, reinstatements, etc.
- Inter provincial relations
- Lobby government and government agencies
- Facilitate participation in National, Regional and Provincial "Games" (e.g. Canada Games)

## ***SOCCKER CALENDAR OF IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS***

January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer Deadline – coastal (Jan 15th)</li> <li>• Provincial Futsal Championships</li> </ul>
February	
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scholarship Deadline (March 31st)</li> <li>• Provincial Team Selections</li> </ul>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal Cup</li> <li>• Island Cup</li> <li>• Boys and Girls Coastal Provincial Cup qualifying play-downs</li> </ul>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women's Classic (over 35)</li> <li>• Women's Under 21 Cup</li> <li>• Darryl Hughes Cup</li> <li>• Doug Day Cup (Men's u21)</li> <li>• Men's Open Provincial Cup</li> <li>• Women's Open Provincial Cup</li> <li>• Provincial Cup Entry forms- Interior (May 1st)</li> <li>• Interior referee annual registration due</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AGM</li> <li>• Scholarship Luncheon</li> <li>• Interior play-downs</li> <li>• Keith Miller Cup</li> <li>• Leeta Sokalski Cup</li> <li>• Registration Deadline-Interior (June 1st)</li> <li>• Transfer Deadline- Interior (June 30th)</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Provincial Championships</li> </ul>
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canada Games/Western Canada Summer Games</li> </ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coastal Season Begins</li> </ul>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration Deadline-Coastal (October 15th)</li> <li>• Provincial cup entry forms-Coastal (October 15th)</li> <li>• Coastal referee annual registration due</li> <li>• Deadline for award nominations</li> </ul>
November	
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-Annual General Meeting and Soccer Conference</li> </ul>

### ***2007 BCSA FEES***

Youth Transfer	\$10.00
Senior Transfer	\$10.00
Player Registration –U6-U10	\$15.00
Player Registration –U11	\$26.00
Player Registration –U12-U18	\$26.00
Senior Registration- Primary Season	\$26.00
Senior Registration- Secondary Season/Associate (C Forms)	\$12.00
Youth Tournament	\$20.00
Senior Tournament	\$50.00
Protest	\$250.00
Appeal	\$500.00
International Travel Permit (CSA)	\$125.00
Senior to Youth Reinstatement	\$25.00
FIFA Laws of the Game Books	\$7.00
Ace Coaching Cards	\$10.00
Referee Registration Class 4	\$25.00
Referee Registration Class 3 & up	\$50.00
Community Coach Children's	\$70.00
Community Coach Senior/Youth	\$125.00
Goalkeeping Diploma-team coach	\$70.00
Class 2 & 3 Referees Course	\$100.00
Class 4 Referees Course	\$50.00

## **REGISTRATION**

### **Youth**

All youth (U6-U18) residing in the Province of British Columbia shall be eligible for registration as a youth player. All players who wish to register with the Association must do so in a form approved by the BCSA. The youth age player shall be required when first applying to be a registered affiliated player, to provide proof of age as evidence acceptable to the district.

Following registration, youth districts are also required to submit as soon as possible of their intent to enter upcoming provincial competitions.

Districts choosing to run a separate secondary season must re-register every player. An additional affiliation form must also be submitted.

### **Senior**

Senior players shall register on a form "A", "B", "C", or "M". Players having previously registered for a primary season and choosing to register for a secondary season will not be required to pay a player fee.

### **Submitting the Data**

**All player registration** must now be submitted in electronic format to the British Columbia Soccer Association. An excel template is available on our Website.

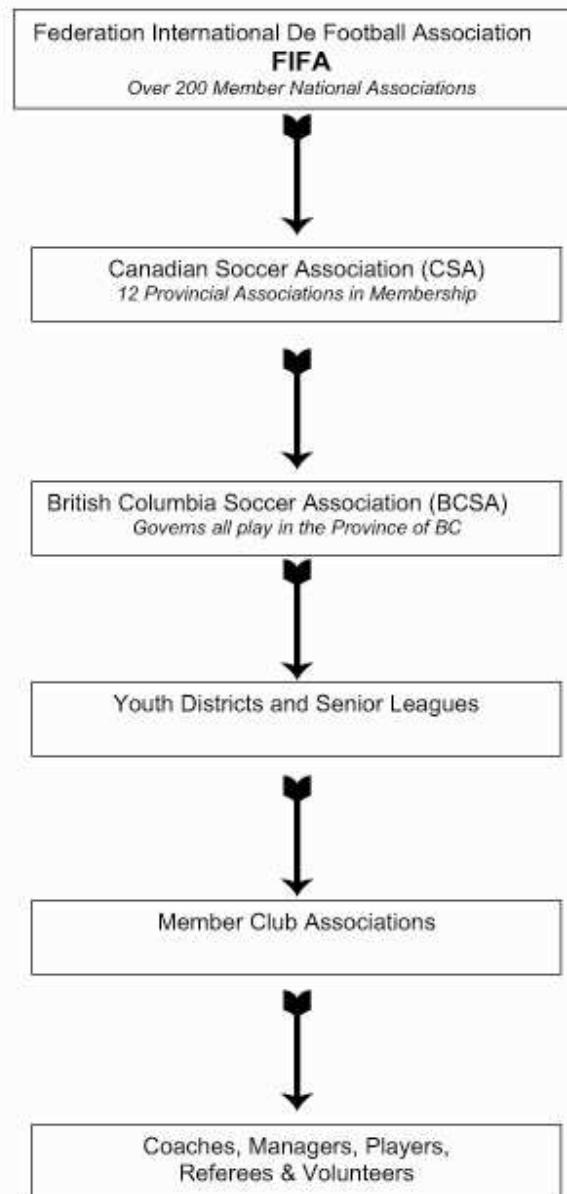
### **Registration Deadlines:**

Coastal: October 15th  
Interior: June 1st

### **Forms/Player ID Cards**

Registration forms, player ID cards, and ID card stickers are all available at the BCSA Office. Photo ID cards for both players and team officials are required at the U12-U18 age levels and for team officials for the U6-U11 age levels, and most recently, they are also required for Senior teams. Team officials are required to present the photo ID cards of the players and team officials to the referee prior to any league or cup games.

## SOCCKER'S ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



**Youth Districts:** Govern youth soccer geographically under the BCSA

**Senior Leagues:** All players over 18 register with a senior league

**Clubs:** Groups of teams form the body of a club

## ***REGISTRATION FEE BREAKDOWN***

Each year the association collects a player affiliation levy that varies dependent upon the age of the player. This levy accounts for approximately 48% of the gross revenues of the association. Other sources of funding include sponsorship revenues, government funding and program registration fees.

**Amount paid to Canadian Soccer Association** - Each year the Canadian Soccer Association requires the British Columbia Soccer Association to pay a levy of \$7 per player.

The balance of the annual affiliation levy forms the amount player revenues retained by the association is used for a wide variety of purposes including but not limited to:

- Hosting the Annual General Meeting
- Hosting the Semi Annual General Meeting
- Office Operating Costs
- Municipal Taxes
- Printing Costs
- Development of Match Officials (Referees, Assistant Referees)
- Staffing Costs

**Provincial Cup and BCSA Cup Fund** - This fund is used to host the various levels of Provincial Cup Finals and BCSA Cup Finals for boys and girls. This amount is presently \$3 per player registered on teams in the U12 to U18 age group.

**Player Development Fund** - Each year the British Columbia Soccer Association visits communities throughout the province. These visits are made by qualified coaches and are designed to assist member entities with coaching and player development initiatives.

**Provincial Association Amount** - The British Columbia Soccer Association is responsible for the development of soccer throughout the province. This includes the development of referees, coaches, and players.

**Insurance** - Each year the British Columbia Soccer Association provides insurance to affiliated soccer associations and registered players

**Mini Grants** - Each year the British Columbia Soccer Association provides financial support to districts outside the lower mainland to host mini festivals. The gross amount of these grants is \$30,000 per year.

**Club and or District Levy** - This levy covers the expenses to operate soccer at the local level. This levy may include field costs, office costs, and honorariums to volunteers.

**Amount paid to Canadian Soccer Association** - Each year the Canadian Soccer Association requires the British Columbia Soccer Association to pay a levy of \$7 per player.

## ***PLAYER MOVEMENT***

### **Player Transfers**

Any registered player is entitled to transfer providing the player has complied with all provincial, district or league rules and is not indebted to the current team, district, or league.

Any player wishing to transfer must complete a BCSA Transfer form (available on our website). The form must be fully completed and copied on to the British Columbia Soccer Association.

All transfers are subject to a \$10 application fee

### **Transfer Deadlines**

Coastal: January 15th

Interior: June 30th

What if a coach refuses to release a player from their current team?

A player refused a transfer by the district shall be allowed to apply, without further fees, to the BCSA for review. If the releasing team official refuses to sign the application form without just cause, the district has the authority to approve an application to transfer without the releasing team official's signature.

Discrepancies involving player transfers should be dealt with at district level.

### **Notes to Keep in Mind**

- Transfers from one youth district to another will also require an OOD, - Out of District form.
- Transfer from one province to another will first require written clearance from the provincial association the player was last registered with.
- Players must be transferred seven days prior to participating in any cup competition.

## ***UNDERSTANDING INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS***

Players requesting a transfer to a team outside Canada or from a team outside Canada must first receive international clearance.

The country in which the player chooses to play for must request from the current National Association international clearance.

Eg. A Canadian player wishing to play for a team in England would request International Clearance through the English Football Association. The English FA would then make request for clearance from the Canadian Soccer Association.

Similarly, a player choosing to transfer to a team in Canada must do so through the Canadian Soccer Association.

## ***REINSTATEMENTS***

### **Reinstatements to Youth**

Any registered senior player of youth age wishing reinstatement to youth status must apply to the British Columbia Soccer Association.

Applications for reinstatement to youth status must be received prior to January 15th of the current coastal season, and prior to June 30th of the current interior playing season.

Reinstatement forms are available on the BCSA Website. The reinstatement fees are \$25 and non-refundable. No more than three reinstated players are permitted on one youth team on one season

### **Reinstatement to Amateur Status**

Any player registered as a professional with the Canadian Soccer Association wishing reinstatement by the Canadian Soccer Association as an amateur, shall make application for such reinstatement to the BCSA using a Reinstatement to Amateur form.

A fee, as determined by the Canadian Soccer Association, must accompany all applications for reinstatement.

A professional player requesting reinstatement as an amateur shall be granted a permit to play as an amateur by the BCSA pending reinstatement by the CSA.

A player must be first released by the professional club he/she was last registered with and must also provide documentary proof of the release to accompany the application for reinstatement.

As per CSA regulations, a professional player requesting reinstatement as an amateur shall not be eligible to play as an amateur until a period of 31 days has elapsed from the date of the player's last game as a professional player.

### **Permits**

Any player wishing to play on permit with a senior team must apply for permission by completing a BCSA permit form.

Permit applications must be authorized by the youth team and approved by the Youth District and Senior League prior to the game for which the permit is to be issued. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. A copy of the authorized permit must be presented with the team list at game time.

A permit is valid ONLY for the day and game stated on the permit application.

No more than three youth players may play on permit in any one senior league or Category "A" cup qualifying game.

### **Zoning Regulations and Out of District (OOD) Requirements (Youth)**

Youth aged players are encouraged to register within the district they reside in.

A player wishing to play Out-of-District may be granted a release from the district they reside in upon request and receipt of a completed Out of District form.

\*No team shall register and/or play more than three out of district players

## ***TOURNAMENTS***

Any team, club, district or league affiliated with the British Columbia Soccer Association is eligible to host a tournament. Tournaments sanctioned by the BCSA are open ONLY to properly registered teams affiliated with the BCSA.

Tournament applications are available on our website. There is an application fee for both youth and senior tournaments.

Sponsoring teams, clubs, district, leagues, or affiliated associations MUST prepare for submission to the BCSA, a report on the tournament, including discipline within 15 days of the conclusion of the tournament.

An application to host a tournament must be received in the BCSA office a minimum of 30 days prior to the tournament accompanied with appropriate fee

### **In-House Mini Festivals and Tournaments**

Districts applying to the CSA for grant funding for an in-house mini festival must also complete a BCSA tournament application form.

## **COMPETITIONS**

### **Youth**

The BC Soccer Association runs two major youth competitions - the Provincial Cup (A Cup) and the BCSA Cup (B Cup). These two prestigious events offer teams from across British Columbia with the opportunity to compete against other teams in their age group and ability.

Month	Competition	Age Groups
April	Coastal Cup Lower Mainland Regional	U12-U18 Boys and Girls Provincial and BCSA
April	Island Cup Vancouver Island Region	U12 & U13 Boys and Girls Provincial only
June	Interior Regional Finals	U12-U18 Boys and Girls Provincial and BCSA
July	Provincial Cup	U12-U18 Boys and Girls
July	BCSA Cup	U12-U18 Boys and Girls

The Coastal Cup, Island Cup and the Interior Regional Finals are to qualify for the Provincial and BCSA Cup. Winning boys and girls U14 & U16 teams further advance to Club National Competitions

### **What is dispensation for a team?**

Smaller youth districts whose boundaries are limited by geography may apply to the board for special permission to enter selected teams in provincial "A" or "B" Cup competitions. Written request must be made before October 15th in the case of coastal districts and by May 1st in the case of interior districts. Consideration will only be given to teams formed from properly registered players, selected from affiliated teams.

**Senior**

The association also hosts a range of competitions for adult teams ranging from the U21 category through to the over 35 category.

Month	Competition	Age Groups
April	Men's Provincial Cup	Open
April	Women's Provincial Cup	Open
April	Masters	Men Over 35
April	Classics	Women Over 35
April	Women's U21	Women Under 21
May	Men's U21	Men Under 21
June	Recreation B Men's	Open
June	Recreation B Women's	Open

## ***TRAVEL POLICY AND PROCEDURES***

The BCSA Travel policy applies to any affiliated team wishing to play in an out-of-province tournament or to play against a team (or teams) outside of British Columbia. Permission to travel outside of British Columbia can only be granted to teams that are members in good standing with the BCSA.

No application for BCSA sanctioning of a soccer instructional venture will be considered unless such application has first received the endorsement of the BCSA member District or Senior League.

BCSA affiliated teams shall not consider entering invitational tournaments that are not approved by the provincial, State or regional association under whose jurisdiction the tournament organizing group falls.

BCSA member teams shall not play against teams who are not properly affiliated directly or indirectly with their respective National governing body.

Teams traveling to a sanctioned tournament have a reasonable expectation that the tournament will be run properly. If not, complaints and concerns can be addressed through the British Columbia Soccer Association to the tournament's sanctioning body.

Only players that are "registered or under permit" may play for your team at a sanctioned tournament. No players who are under suspension may play in tournaments and disciplinary action will be taken should a player participate in games while under suspension.

Any team applying to play outside of British Columbia must first submit the travel form to their youth district or senior league board for permission to travel, and secondly to the BCSA for approval. CSA sanction is also required when traveling outside Canada / United States. In this instance, a fee is charged by the CSA for this service. Teams should include the fee (cheque made payable to the BCSA) along with the completed travel form, when forwarding to BCSA. The BCSA will then forward the form and fee to the CSA once provincial approval has been granted.

If the team is traveling within Canada or the United States, the form must reach the BCSA offices at least 30 days prior to the teams scheduled departure. Applications received less than 30 days prior to departure may or may not be approved. Should the association approve the application to travel the following fee schedule will apply:

Received 30 days or more before departure:	\$75
Received between 2 days before departure:	\$100
Received between less than 48 hours before departure:	\$150

(Provided the BCSA office can complete travel application)

In instances where the team is traveling to a destination outside of Canada or the United States, the CSA required that the completed form must reach the BCSA

offices at least 6 months prior to the team's departure date accompanied with a fee of \$175.

A member of the team staff should take a copy of the approved form when traveling outside the province in case the affiliation status of the team is questioned.

Any team traveling outside British Columbia shall be:

- Under the primary jurisdiction of BCSA and under the secondary jurisdiction of the Association in whose territory the game, or games, are to be played.
- Subject to disciplinary measures taken by the BCSA in the event that your team is reported for misconduct.

Travel applications are available from the BCSA Website and must be approved by the district before being forwarded to the BCSA.

## ***INSURANCE***

All registered players under the jurisdiction of the British Columbia Soccer Association are covered under our Insurance Policy

### **Who's covered?**

All members of your organization, including executives, managers, coaches, trainers, officials, employees and volunteers while acting within the scope of their duties on your behalf.

Coastal districts are covered from August 1st- July 31st

Interior districts are covered from April 1st- March 31st

### **What's covered?**

Sanctioned or authorized events within your sport discipline, including related training authorized by you. Insurance outside of Canada is covered providing a correct Team Travel application has been submitted to the BCSA.

### **How do I submit a claim?**

All insurance claims are to be submitted directly to Allsport Insurance. The accident claim form is available on our website. The insurer must receive notice of an accident within 30 days of the accident date and receive claim documentation within 90 days.

## ***VOLUNTEER SCREENING***

### **What is the risk management procedure for a volunteer, coach or official?**

Every volunteer or employee who may at any time be expected in the performance of their duties to be alone with any registered youth player must have on file a completed personal disclosure form (A).

Every volunteer or employee of the Association who at any time could be expected in the performance of their duties as a director or officer be entrusted with performing financial duties and/or responsible for bookkeeping or bank account must have on file a completed personal disclosure statement form (B) .

Personal disclosure forms and procedures for the employee/volunteer background checks are contained in the Risk Management Policy Guide available on the BCSA Website.

## ***DISCIPLINE***

All players and team officials registered under the jurisdiction of the BCSA are protected by a Disciplinary system. Routine discipline is generally handled at the league / district level; however, some cases identified as more severe are the jurisdiction of the BCSA.

The BCSA discipline committee reviews cases of major severity, such as, but not limited to, assaults, abuse, and accumulated red cards. It also handles written complaints surrounding officials.

"Officials" includes registered individuals who perform as, but not limited to, referees, referee administrators, referee assignors, referee instructors, and referee assessors during sanctioned activities.

For more information, please review the **Discipline Policy Manual** which, is divided into easily understood sections.

## ***PROTESTS AND APPEALS***

### **Protests**

A protest will only be considered on the grounds of a misinterpretation of FIFA laws of the game, on the eligibility of players, or on breaches of Competition Rules & Regulations.

Protest should be submitted in writing to the British Columbia Soccer Association within 48 hours of the date of the match which it relates to and accompanied by the determined fee. Such protest must state specifically the grounds to which a protest is lodged.

### **Appeals**

As a member of the British Columbia Soccer Association, you are entitled to appeal and decision on League or District level.

Written applications to appeal shall be made within 10 working days after issuance of the Districts, Leagues, or Committees decision. Please ensure you have included the decision sought to be appealed as well as a concise statement of facts and the specific By-Law, Rule or Regulation that has been contravened.

A fee of \$500 must accompany all appeals.

## ***GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE BRITISH COLUMBIA SOCCER ASSOCIATION***

Each year the British Columbia Soccer Association holds two general meetings. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in June each year with the three primary functions of electing new directors; review the past year's financial statements, the upcoming year's budget and approving changes to the association's constitution. The Semi Annual General Meeting (SAGM) is held in January each year and provides the association with the opportunity to consult with the membership prior to the fiscal year end.

A representative from every youth district or senior league is encouraged to attend all General Meetings; Full members will be entitled to vote.

The Semi Annual General Meeting (SAGM) is held in conjunction with Soccer Fest and the BCSA Awards Banquet. Soccer Fest incorporates concurrent sessions that focus on different aspects of soccer (Technical, competitions, administration, and discipline, etc) with a soccer tradeshow that appeal to the general public and soccer administrators.

## ***COACHING AND COACHING STANDARDS***

The British Columbia Soccer Association holds a variety of coaching clinics across the province on a regular basis. Listed below are all of the courses available to coaches and information about each course as well as information about the coaching certification program in British Columbia and Canada.

### **Mini Soccer**

While there are not yet any minimum requirements to coach mini soccer, it is strongly recommended that mini coaches attain the Community Coach Mini certification.

### **Under 6 to Under 13**

To coach at this level, it is recommended to acquire a Community Coach Youth (or equivalent) certificate

### **Under 14 and Older**

To coach at this level it is recommended to acquire a Community Coach Senior certificate (or equivalent)

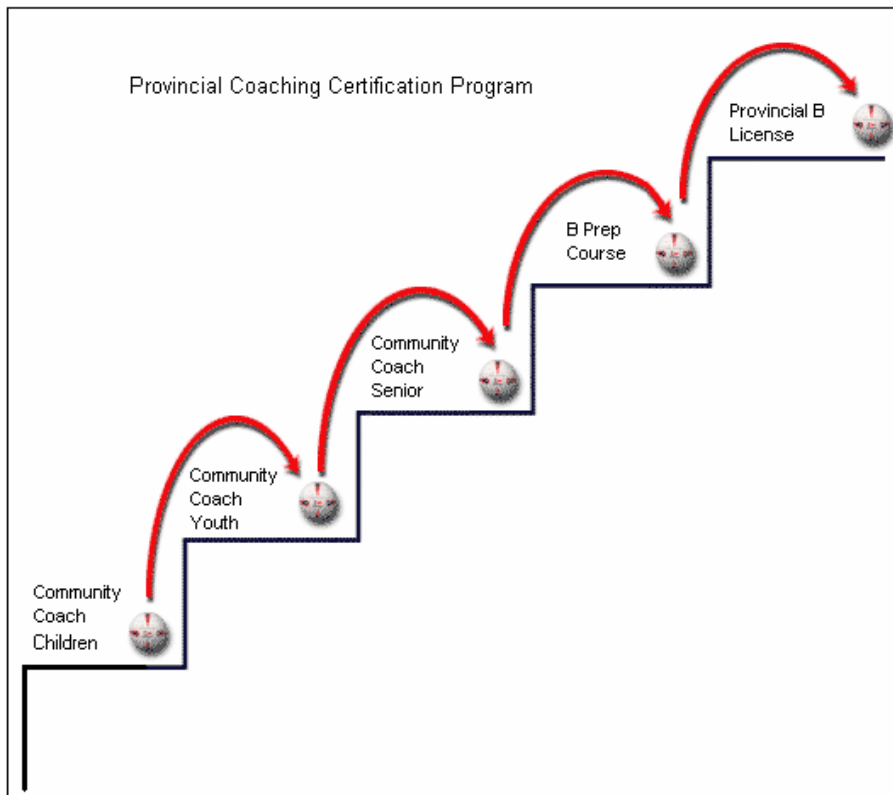
### **BCSA Cup**

To coach a BCSA Cup team requires a minimum Community Coach Youth certificate.

### **Provincial Cup**

To Coach a Provincial Cup team requires a Full Community Coach Certification (Youth and Senior). In 2007 a B Pre Test will be required.

## COACHING CERTIFICATION PATHWAY



U6-U10	CC Children
U11-U13	CC Youth
U14+	CC Senior

As the governing body for soccer in Canada the Canadian Soccer Association is responsible for training coaches from grass roots to national team level. With the increasing number of players registering with clubs across the country this represents a considerable challenge. In order to meet this challenge, a three tiered certification program was developed in conjunction with our provincial/territorial partners that will better meet the needs of both developing coaches and the sport itself.

## ***PLAYER DEVELOPMENT***

It is the goal of the British Columbia Soccer Association and its Technical Department to establish a sustainable and consistent Player Development Program throughout the Province. These programs will be based upon a commitment to a responsible, educational and effective player development philosophy. These programs will focus on the implementation of fundamental skill, tactical, physical and mental development and be supported by the Technical Department and the Player Development Coaching Staff. In addition, the Technical Department will assist in the overall evaluation and advancement of players while contributing to the establishment of minimum standards as they relate to the programs under the guidance of the BCSA and its Technical Department.

### **Objectives**

- To create an awareness of the need for a Province wide Player Development Program focusing on a training and development philosophy benefiting all players.
- To create a Province wide Player Development Program and evaluation process which fulfills the needs of the player within British Columbia
- Strive to support the Player Development Program with current, leading edge and professional training, development and coaching information.
- Create an atmosphere of co operation and a philosophical understanding as it pertains to player development within British Columbia

A new player model is now in place in BC that partners Community (Local); BC Soccer (Provincial); Whitecaps (Professional USL); CSA (National); providing one path for player development.

BC Soccer will govern and monitor all player development through regional DDCs, setting guidelines with ongoing monitoring of the curriculum and standards for player, coaching, and officials development. Each DDC has the responsibility to develop players on an ongoing basis through development programs for ultimate selection to DDC programs; IPL, Super Y, and Provincial. Community Club programs would be encouraged to recommend players for DDC training.

### **Intra Provincial League (IPL)**

BC wide program that provides more opportunities for players across BC and helps enriches club programming. Provides a development league to the Super Y League. Ten IPL teams which would operate teams in ages U13 to U14 for Boys and Girls. With expansion in 2006 to U-12 super 8's (8 a side soccer)

### **Super Y League**

Northwest/North American league. Positioned as a top development league to further stream players. Operates as a development league for Provincial Teams. Super Y teams would operate teams in the age groups U13 to U17 for Boys and Girls.

### **Provincial Teams Programs**

U13 to U16 boys and girls Provincial teams. Represents BC at National and tournament play.

U17 University/Professional Teams. Joint initiative of BC Soccer and Whitecaps FC to develop and profile players for transition to scholastic and professional opportunities. Players can play in the both the U17 Super Y-League age group, and be selected as needed to represent BC.

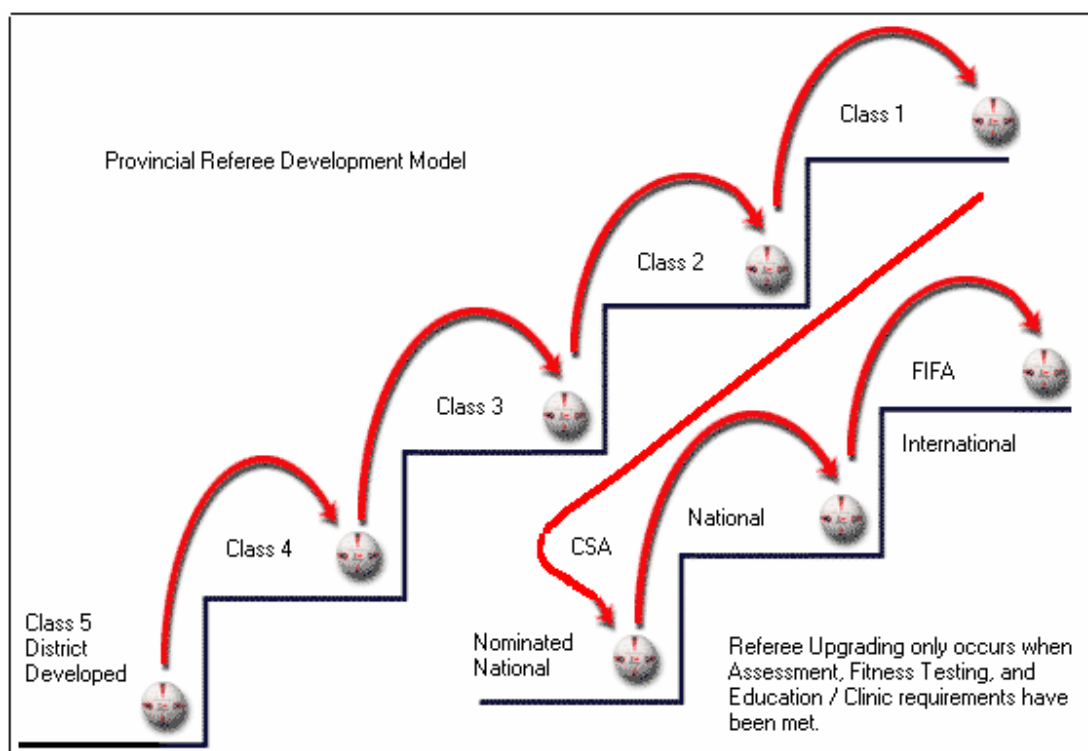
### **District Development Centres (DDC's)**

In the Fall of 2005 the British Columbia Soccer Association launched a network of District Development Centres. These centres are a partnership between local soccer organizations and the provincial association and are designed to empower the development of soccer at the highest level through local resources. There are currently 11 DDC's:

<b>Upper Island:</b>	Campbell River, Courtney / Comox and Nanaimo
<b>Thompson Okanagan:</b>	Kamloops, Kelowna and Vernon
<b>Lower Island:</b>	Victoria
<b>North Shore:</b>	The North Shore Soccer Development Centre
<b>The North:</b>	Prince George and Quesnel
<b>Lower Mainland:</b>	Vancouver / Whitecaps FC

## HOW TO BECOME A REFEREE

The British Columbia Soccer Association is responsible for the development of game officials throughout the province. Referees of all classes must comply with the Canadian Soccer Association and the British Columbia Soccer Association regulations relating to referees and the code of ethics. You must attend a Class 4 Referee Clinic (Register through the BCSA website – under the Technical banner - Refereeing, Referee Clinics, Class 4 Referee Clinics). Once you have passed you must complete your annual registration with the BCSA. (Register through the BCSA website – Refereeing, Referee Annual registration)



### **CLASS 5 OFFICIAL- District Developed (Mini Soccer)**

Must be no less than 12 years of age.

May officiate in Mini-Soccer or act as an Assistant Referee in other Youth competitions.

### **CLASS 4 OFFICIAL**

Must be no less than 14 years of age and meet specific Class 4 requirements.

Must re-register every year by paying dues and attend a refresher clinic

May officiate in any category of youth soccer or act as an assistant referee in youth and senior amateur soccer.

**CLASS 3 OFFICIAL**

Must be no less than 16 years of age and meet specific Class 3 requirements  
Must re-register every year by paying dues and attend a refresher clinic

**CLASS 2 OFFICIAL**

Must have completed at least one year as a competent, registered class 3 and meet specific Class 2 requirements  
Must re-register every year by paying dues and attend a refresher clinic

**CLASS 1 OFFICIAL**

Must not be less than 23 years of age or more than 40 years of age in the year of nomination and meet specific Class 1 requirements.  
Must complete no less than one year as a competent, registered Class 2 Referee  
Must re-register every year by paying dues and attend a refresher clinic

The Annual Referee Registration fees are as follows:

- Class 4 - \$25.00
- Class 3 - \$50.00
- Class 2 - \$50.00
- Class 1 - \$50.00
- Nominated National - \$50.00
- National - \$50.00

## ***FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS***

I have an unregistered player wishing to play in an upcoming tournament. Is there such thing as event insurance? He only needs insurance for the one day?

- No, there is no such thing as event insurance. Only registered players are permitted to play in tournaments sanctioned by the BCSA.

I have a youth player that wishes to play down on a younger team to play with their sibling. Can we do this?

- No, we do not permit playing down. The only time an exception is made is when a child is disabled or physically challenged. The BCSA Board of Directors must approve such exceptions. Please see our website for information on playing down.

I need proof of insurance; can you provide this to me?

- You must contact AllSport Insurance for a copy of an insurance certificate. Their contact details are available on our website.

I hear a lot about a website called BC Soccer Central. Is this under the jurisdiction of the British Columbia Soccer Association?

- No. The British Columbia Soccer Association is not affiliated with the BC Soccer Central Website. Our website is [www.bcsoccer.net](http://www.bcsoccer.net)

I can't seem to find what I looking for on your website, how do I locate specific forms?

- We recommend that you use the "Search" option to locate related forms. Please call our office if you are having any trouble navigating our website.

A registered youth player is traveling to Alberta with his family. Can he participate in a local tournament over there?

- Unfortunately the BCSA insurance Policy does not cover an individual to play in another province with another team.

Is there a deadline when a youth player must be registered with a team? I realize there is a deadline for a player transfer, but what if a player hasn't played before and wants to register?

- The final deadline that a player must register is March 31<sup>st</sup> of the coastal season and August 1<sup>st</sup> in the interior season. –Although a player must play in one regularly scheduled game before taking part in a cup game.

## ***GLOSSARY OF TERMS***

**Classics:** A women's age category for those who have attained their thirty-third (33) birthday prior to January 1st of the current calendar year.

**Club:** An organization affiliated under a youth district or Senior League.

**CONCACAF:** The Confederation Norte-Centroamericana y Del Caribe de Futbol — the regional organization of North American and Central American soccer under which World Cup qualifying matches are played; member countries include the U.S., Canada, Mexico, and Central American and Caribbean countries.

**Dispensation:** The granting of special selected teams in districts whose boundaries are limited by geography

**District:** A geographical subdivision in youth play

**Eligibility to Play:** Registered, not under suspension

**FIFA:** Federation of International Football Association World's governing body for international soccer (football).

ID Cards: Identification cards required for all U12-U18 players and coaches

**Life Member:** Persons who have rendered valuable service to the BCSA

**Masters:** A men's age category for those who have attained their thirty-fifth (35) birthday prior to January 1st

**Small sided game:** Youth soccer for participants usually U6-U12

**Out of District:** A region outside a youth player's residence. Eg. A Surrey youth resident would be Out of District playing on a North Shore team

**Permit:** Accepted permission for a player to play on another team for an individual game

**Playing Up:** Referring to a player playing in an age category higher than the age category the fall under

**Primary Season:** The primary season of play. Winter for coastal regions and Summer for interior regions

**Red Card:** a playing card-sized card that a referee holds up to signal a player's expulsion from the game; the player's team must play the rest of the game

shorthanded; presented for certain violations of Law 12, such as violent conduct or serious foul play (two yellow cards in one game = one red card).

**Referee:** the chief official; he makes all final decisions, acts as timekeeper, call all fouls and start and stops play.

**Senior Player:** Any player age 18 and over

**Secondary Season:** A secondary season of play. Winter for interior regions and Summer for coastal regions

**Transfer:** The movement of a player from one team to another

**Yellow Card:** a playing card-sized card that a referee holds up to warn a player for certain violations of Law 12, such as unsporting behaviour; also called a caution (2 yellow cards in one game = a red card), signaling his expulsion from the game.

**Youth Player:** Any player aged 5-17 (U6 to U18)