



***BC SOCCER***

# **2021-2022 YOUTH PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS**

**BOYS AND GIRLS PROVINCIAL PREMIER CUP, A CUP & B CUP**

October 2, 2021

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1)	INTRODUCTION .....	4
a.	Application .....	4
b.	Management of Competitions .....	4
c.	BC Soccer Constitution/Rules and Regulations Precedence .....	4
d.	BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee .....	4
e.	BC Soccer Representative .....	4
f.	Risk Management.....	4
g.	Categories/Levels .....	5
h.	Notification of Qualification .....	5
2)	TEAM ELIGIBILITY.....	5
a.	Qualification .....	5
b.	Declarations/Entry Deadlines .....	5
c.	Dispensation.....	6
d.	Performance Bonds/Responsibility.....	7
e.	Team Promotion.....	7
f.	Team Replacement .....	7
g.	Coaching Qualifications .....	8
3)	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY .....	8
a.	Registration .....	8
b.	ID Cards .....	8
4)	TEAM RULES .....	8
a.	Provincial Premier Cup Rosters.....	8
b.	Provincial A & B Cup Rosters .....	9
c.	Team Officials.....	9
d.	Player Pick Ups .....	9
f.	Permits .....	10
g.	Uniforms.....	10
h.	Meetings .....	10
i.	Events and Ceremonies .....	10
5)	GAME RULES .....	10
a.	Laws of the Game .....	10
b.	Provincial Premier Cup Substitutions.....	11
c.	Provincial A & B Cup Substitutions .....	11
d.	Duration of Play.....	11
6)	COMPETITION FORMATS .....	11
a.	Provincial Premier Cup Format .....	11
b.	Provincial A Cup Format .....	11
c.	Girls Provincial B Cup and Les Sinnott Memorial Cup Format .....	12
d.	Round Robin Tie-Breaking .....	12
e.	Game Officials .....	13
f.	Official Match Reports.....	13

g.	Results Reporting .....	14
h.	Retreat Line .....	14
7)	DISCIPLINE .....	14
8)	ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMPETITION .....	15
a.	Travel Assistance grants .....	15
b.	Accommodations/Host Hotel obligations .....	15
c.	Protests .....	15
d.	BC Soccer Representative .....	16
e.	Code of Conduct .....	16
f.	Fair Play .....	16
g.	Trophies .....	17
	APPENDIX 1: SCHEDULE OF FINES .....	18

## 1) Introduction

### a. Application

- i. These rules shall apply to all Youth Provincial Championships managed by the British Columbia Soccer Association (BC Soccer). Any variances for specific competition shall be as noted in these Rules.

### b. Management of Competitions

- i. BC Soccer shall control the format and operation of these competitions. The draws and the scheduling of games up to the time District and Regional winners are declared may be delegated to the association(s) having jurisdiction.
- ii. The BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee shall have the authority to order any game replayed, played to a finish, or may award a forfeit.

### c. BC Soccer Constitution/Rules and Regulations Precedence

- i. In the event of any discrepancy between this document and the Bylaws and/or Rules and Regulations of the British Columbia Soccer Association, the latter shall have precedence.
- ii. BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee shall be responsible for developing the rules governing Regional Play Downs and Provincial Championships.
- iii. The Youth Competitions Committee may designate responsibility for the Regional Play Downs rules to a sub-committee.
- iv. All games shall be played under the BC Soccer's Competition Rules and Regulations – Boys and Girls Provincial Premier Cup, A Cup & B Cup, as adopted by the Board each year.

### d. BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee

- i. Within the constraints of 1) c) BC Soccer, through its Youth Competitions Committee, may make such temporary rules governing specific situations not otherwise provided for, as are necessary to achieve the objectives of the competition. *Such changes shall be communicated to all effected teams, and their Districts prior to the commencement of the competition so altered.*

### e. BC Soccer Representative

- i. BC Soccer, through its Youth Competition Committee, shall appoint one (1) lead BC Soccer Representative to each competition whose decision at the competition, on any matter not covered in these Rules and Regulations, shall be final and binding on all parties.

### f. Risk Management

- i. Participants in any Youth Provincial Championship must adhere to BC Soccer's Criminal Record Check Policy, Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer, and Code of Conduct.
- ii. One (1) Team Official must be the same gender as the team. This team official must be present on the bench and in the changing rooms.
- iii. All interactions between adults and youth shall follow the standards set by the ["Coaching Association of Canada's Rule of Two"](#)

**g. Categories/Levels**

- i. The British Columbia Soccer Association operates three youth provincial championships for boys and girls each year from all areas of the province.
  1. Provincial Premier Cup Championships for U13 to U18, Boys and Girls.
  2. Provincial A Cup Championships for U13 to U18 Boys and Girls
  3. Provincial B Cup Championships for U13 to U18 Boys and Girls.
- ii. For the purposes of the document, the playing levels shall be referred to as:
  1. BCSPL
  2. Tier 1 – Top level of play in inter-District leagues or as determined by the District.
  3. Tier 2 – Second level of play in inter-District leagues or as determined by the District.

**h. Notification of Qualification**

- i. A team is not considered to be qualified for any level of Provincial Cup until they have received an official invitation/notice of declaration from BC Soccer.

**2) Team Eligibility**

**a. Qualification**

- i. Teams qualify for and must enter the Provincial Cup Competition at the age group/level play in which they participate.
- ii. Teams must have played in properly constituted league matches.
- iii. Teams may not be under suspension from districts or authorized leagues.

**b. Declarations/Entry Deadlines**

- i. **Provincial Premier Cup:** The Provincial Premier Cup shall be open to all BCSPL eligible teams under the jurisdiction of the Association, declared on entry forms provided by BC Soccer submitted by December 1st in the current coastal playing season and by May 1<sup>st</sup> in the current interior playing season.
- ii. **Provincial A Cup:** The Provincial A Level Championships shall be open to all youth teams not including BCSPL under the jurisdiction of the Association.
  1. The Provincial A Cup will be a six-team tournament in each age/gender consisting of the following berth allocations:
    - a. Coastal Cup Winner
    - b. Coastal Cup Runner Up
    - c. Coastal Cup Third Place
    - d. Northern BC
    - e. Thompson Okanagan/Kootenay Rockies
    - f. Vancouver Island
  2. The Island Districts shall put forth the qualification process for the Island berth. If no agreement can be made, BC Soccer's Youth Competitions Committee will make the decision.
  3. For A Cup at U13 (At which there is no Vancouver Island Tier 1), the Lower Mainland shall receive that berth.
  4. Interior must declare A Cup teams by May 1<sup>st</sup>.
  5. Undeclared Interior berths shall be given to the Lower Mainland.

6. BC Soccer's Youth Competitions Committee shall have final approval on all qualifying processes.
- iii. **Provincial B Level Championships:** shall be open to any affiliated Tier 2 or lower level youth team as declared to their district.
    1. The 8 qualifying teams for U13 through U18 are:
      - a. Kootenay Rockies Cup Winner
      - b. Lower Mainland 1
      - c. Lower Mainland 2
      - d. Lower Mainland 3
      - e. Northern Cup Winner
      - f. Thompson Okanagan 1
      - g. Thompson Okanagan 2
      - h. Vancouver Island
    2. Regions playing the coastal season shall communicate their qualifying processes to BC Soccer by August 15<sup>th</sup>.
    3. The Thompson Okanagan shall communicate their qualifying processes by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
    4. The Lower Mainland 3 berth will be converted to a host berth for competitions hosted in the Lower Mainland.
    5. The Thompson Okanagan 2 berth will be converted to a host berth for competitions held in the Thompson Okanagan.
    6. If the host district does not have a team in an age group, the berth is converted back to the Lower Mainland 3 or Thompson Okanagan 2 berth, whichever is applicable.
    7. The host district will receive one berth for each age group they host. The district must declare whether they will fill each berth by December 1st for the Lower Mainland, and May 1st for the Thompson Okanagan. The teams that will fill the host berths must be declared by April 1<sup>st</sup> for the Lower Mainland and by May 15<sup>th</sup> for the Thompson Okanagan.
    8. If the host district team qualifies through the regional competition, they will earn the regional berth and the host berth will be reassigned to the next highest placed team in the same regional qualifying competition.
    9. BC Soccer's Youth Competitions Committee shall have final approval on all qualifying processes.
  - iv. **Declaring Up:** Entry forms are to be completed by each district and submitted to BC Soccer by December 1<sup>st</sup> in the current coastal playing season and by May 15<sup>th</sup> in the current interior playing season.
  - v. **Obligation:** Once a team commits to competing in a regional qualifier, such as the Coastal Cup or Interior Play Downs (i.e. Northern Cup, Thompson/Okanagan Cup, Kootenay Cup), they are committed to Provincial Cup for that season.
    1. Exceptions to this rule are interior teams that withdraw from Provincial Cup participation as per the Regional Play Downs Rules and Regulations for interior teams that withdraw past that point may forfeit their entire performance bond and a hearing may be held to determine their Provincial Cup eligibility for the following season. See Appendix 1 – Schedule of Fines.

### c. Dispensation

- i. Districts whose boundaries are limited by geography, may apply to form selected teams for Provincial Premier, A or B Championships.
- ii. Consideration will only be given to properly registered players selected from affiliated teams.
- iii. A club applying for dispensation will apply to their District Association. If approved, the district will then forward the application with the association approval to BC Soccer for dispensation on the club's behalf.
- iv. Applications from districts for dispensation must provide information regarding district registration numbers, number of rep teams to be formed, age groups, gender, league and distance from other clubs and or districts.
- v. Written requests must be made by October 15th in the case of coastal districts and by May 1st in the case of interior districts.
- vi. The BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee may grant extraordinary dispensation requests for situations not covered above if deemed necessary.

**d. Performance Bonds/Responsibility**

- i. All youth Districts and BC SPL clubs shall post one Performance Bond of \$1,500, or \$500 per team, whichever is less, to BC Soccer prior to any team entering or participating in any Provincial Premier, A or B Cup Play Down games for the current playing season.
- ii. Performance Bonds must be on file with BC Soccer by January 1<sup>st</sup> for Coastal/Vancouver Island Districts, and by May 1<sup>st</sup> for Interior Districts.
- iii. If the bond is depleted during cup play, the member district must forthwith replenish the bond.
- iv. Interest will not be paid on bond deposits.
- v. It is the responsibility of all District associations to ensure that its affiliated teams fulfill their commitments once they have entered either Regional or Provincial Championships up to the time a Provincial Champion is declared and the Canadian National Club Championship is held.
- vi. It is the responsibility of the BC Soccer Premier League to ensure that its member teams fulfill their commitments once they have entered the Provincial Premier Cup up to the time a Provincial Premier Cup Champion is declared and the Canadian National Club Championship is held.
- vii. BC Soccer's Youth Competitions Committee may place any additional bonds on teams as specified within these rules for just cause as they see fit.

**e. Team Promotion**

- i. Teams who place 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Provincial B Cup Finals for 2 consecutive years may be promoted to the Provincial A Cup at the discretion of the BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee.
- ii. Teams who are promoted to the Provincial A Cup may apply to the Youth Competitions Committee to remain in the Provincial B Cup.

**f. Team Replacement**

- i. If a region/district/league is unable to field a team in a given age group, all efforts will be made to fill any slots in the competition. These slots will be awarded on a case by case basis as determined by the BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee. If the position is left unfilled, the competition format will be modified

appropriately. Preference for replacement teams will be awarded (but not limited to) with the following considerations,

1. A Coastal/Lower Mainland team will be replaced with the next highest finishing Coastal/Lower Mainland team in the Coastal Cup.
2. A Vancouver Island team will be replaced with the next highest finisher from Vancouver Island.
3. A team from an Interior region will be replaced with the next highest finishing team from that region, or failing that, from a neighboring region. Preference will be given to the region with the most teams competing at that level/age group.
4. The BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee may determine the replacement team on a case by case basis for situations not covered above if deemed necessary.

**g. Coaching Qualifications**

- i. Teams must be compliant with BC Soccer's Rules & Regulations' coach certification requirements.

**3) Player Eligibility**

**a. Registration**

- i. Players are registered to the age category and calibre of competition that they have competed in/declared for during the current season.
- ii. No team entering a Youth Provincial Cup competition may register a new player after March 31st of the current coastal playing season, June 1st of the Calendar/BCSPL season or after June 1st of the current interior playing season.
- iii. A player is eligible to participate in a Youth Provincial Cup competition once his/her registration has been validated by the District Association's registrar or his/her designate and has been received by BC Soccer. Players must meet eligibility requirements as outlined in BC Soccer's Rules & Regulations.

**b. ID Cards**

- i. In Provincial Cup Competitions, each team will supply to the referee a set of BC Soccer approved Photo Identification Cards, for all players and team officials. Properly validated Electronic ID Cards may be accepted.

**4) Team Rules**

**a. Provincial Premier Cup Rosters**

- i. Teams must consist of a minimum of 15 registered players upon submission of their Provincial Cup roster form.
- ii. Complete official team rosters must be submitted to the BC Soccer offices no later than June 1st
- iii. Teams shall not be permitted to register more than the maximum allowed players for their age division at any given time as per BC Soccer Rule 4 - Affiliation.
- iv. No new registrations or transfers are permitted after June 1<sup>st</sup>. Only players competing on a permit may be added to a roster past this point.



**b. Provincial A & B Cup Rosters**

- i. Teams must consist of a minimum of 14 registered players.
- ii. Complete team rosters must be submitted to the BC Soccer offices no later than June 1st for any teams already qualified or still participating in qualifying rounds for Provincial Cup.
- iii. Youth teams shall not be permitted to register more than the maximum allowed players for their age division at any given time.
- iv. The maximum roster size shall be twenty (20) players.

**c. Team Officials**

- i. For all Provincial Cups, a maximum of five (5) team officials shall be listed on the team roster.
- ii. Only team officials listed on the Official Team Roster are eligible to be on the team bench and in the team technical area during the game.
- iii. All team officials must have a current BC Soccer Photo Identification Card.
- iv. For 2022, the Head Coach must have, at a minimum, a valid "Soccer for Life" Coaching License.
- v. For 2023, the Head Coach must be, at a minimum, "National C License - Certified".

**d. Player Pick Ups**

- i. Player pick-ups may only be applied for in A Cup and B Cup competitions.
- ii. Player pick-ups may only be used to allow teams to have enough players to compete. It is not designed to allow teams to strengthen their roster by dropping players to pick up stronger players. Any team proven to be abusing this privilege will be subject to discipline.
- iii. A team may pick up BC Soccer registered players to bring their roster up to the number of players on the team's affiliation form for the current season, or up to a maximum of 16, whichever is lower.
- iv. No player shall be permitted to play for more than one team in the same Provincial Cup Competition in the same season.
- v. Players may be picked up from teams playing at a lower calibre of play at the same or lower age, OR the same or lower calibre of play at a lower age level.
- vi. Any player who is requested for pick up can only be chosen from within a team's club system. If a club does not operate a team in a lower calibre at the age/gender, the club, with district approval, can apply for permission for its B Cup team to be allowed to permit from teams of another club in its district.
- vii. Team officials who wish to pick up players must complete a Provincial Championship Player Pick-Up request form, and have it approved by their District and BC Soccer.
  1. Team officials are responsible for obtaining ID cards for all players under this clause
- viii. Players being replaced must be released through either:
  1. Medical certificate stating reason, or
  2. Letter from parent/guardian and player indicating reason for unavailability and supporting documentation.
- ix. If no medical certificate or letter is available, the Youth Competitions Committee may approve player pick-ups on a case by case basis.

- x. The deadline to submit Player Pick Up requests to BC Soccer is no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the competition.
- xi. In the case of sudden injury, illness or bereavement, Player Pick Up requests may be submitted up to seven (7) days prior to the start of the competition.
- xii. In cases where a team has lost a goalkeeper, Player Pick Ups may be approved after the deadline(s).

**e. Permits**

- i. Player permits may only be applied for in the BC Soccer Provincial Premier Cup
- ii. Teams that compete in the BC Soccer Premier League may only permit players that have participated in a minimum of three (3) matches on permit for that same team, during the current playing season.
- iii. Players may be permitted from a lower calibre of play OR the same caliber of play at a lower age level.
- iv. A player participating in the Provincial Premier Cup on a permit shall not forfeit their eligibility to compete in the Provincial A or B Cup in the same playing season.
- v. Teams cannot increase their roster above the maximum roster limits for their age group.
- vi. District approved Permit forms must be submitted to the BC Soccer office no later than 72 hours prior to the start of the match.
- vii. Team officials are responsible for obtaining ID cards for all players under this clause.
- viii. Teams may not release a player from their roster to make room for a permitted player.

**f. Uniforms**

- i. Teams participating in Provincial Championships are required to have two complete sets of uniforms of different colours for all cup games to avoid colour conflict and this must be clearly stated on the roster submission form. Teams must carry a third distinct goalkeeper uniform. The team listed as the home team will be required to change uniforms in the case of a colour conflict.

**g. Meetings**

- i. All teams must have at least one member of the team staff attend a pre-competition meeting (if arranged). Failure to attend will result in a fine, see Appendix 1.

**h. Events and Ceremonies**

- i. Teams must attend all social, civic and official functions associated with the competition that are made mandatory by BC Soccer. Local host organizations are unable to make an event mandatory; this may only be done by BC Soccer.
- ii. Each team must also have in attendance one (1) team official from those listed on the Team Roster. Failure to attend an official function will result in a fine.

**5) Game Rules**

**a. Laws of the Game**

- i. All games are to be played in accordance with International Football Association Board (IFAB) Laws of the Game.
- ii. Provincial Championships will follow the Laws of the Game that were in place at the beginning of the Coastal Season.

**b. Provincial Premier Cup Substitutions**

- i. For all age groups except U13, the Provincial Premier Cup will use the current CSA Rules and Regulations for number of substitutions at the National Club Championships (In 2020 this is max of 5 per game, with unlimited at half time or at full time before any extra time).
- ii. Unlimited substitutions will be allowed for U13.
- iii. A player who has been substituted is eligible to re-enter.
- iv. If the CSA substitution rules change, BC Soccer will immediately update the BC Soccer Competition rules to reflect these changes.

**c. Provincial A & B Cup Substitutions**

- i. In all Provincial Cup games, unlimited substitutions shall be allowed.
- ii. A player who has been substituted is eligible to re-enter.

**d. Duration of Play**

- i. The following chart details current BC Soccer regulations for the duration of games and extra time periods for Provincial Championship Finals where applicable:

Division	Regulation Time
Under-18 Division	2 halves of 45 minutes
Under-17 Division	2 halves of 45 minutes
Under-16 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes
Under-15 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes
Under-14 Division	2 halves of 35 minutes
Under-13 Division	2 halves of 35 minutes

- ii. All matches requiring a decision will immediately go to kicks from the penalty mark.
- iii. Draws in any matches not requiring a decision will stand.

**6) Competition Formats**

**a. Provincial Premier Cup Format**

- i. The BC Soccer Provincial Premier Cup is a single elimination tournament involving eight (8) BC SPL teams as determined by BC SPL.
- ii. Seeding will remain in place from the start of the Quarter-Finals to the Finals with the highest place seeds designated as ‘home’ teams.
- iii. The winner of the BC Soccer Provincial Premier Cup in the U15 & U17 Divisions will represent B.C. at the Canadian Club National Championships.

**b. Provincial A Cup Format**

- i. The format for these finals will be a six-team, Round Robin tournament.
- ii. The six-team round robin format will be two (2) groups of three (3) teams in round robin play with one (1) game each day.

- iii. Each team will participate in one (1) crossover match with a team from the other group.
- iv. The results of the crossover match will count towards the standings in the teams' respective group.
- v. The groupings will be determined by the final standings from the previous year. Berths will be seeded based on the final placing of the teams from that region the previous year. For example, the final standings at U13 in 2019 will be used to seed the U13 division in 2020. Final groups will be determined and communicated to participants a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the start of the finals.
- vi. Crossover matches will be selected by random draw
- vii. The winner from each group will compete in the Gold Medal game, the second-place team in each group will compete for the Bronze. Third place teams will play for 5th and 6<sup>th</sup>.

**c. Girls Provincial B Cup and Les Sinnott Memorial Cup Format**

- i. The format for these finals will be an 8-team, Round Robin tournament.
- ii. The 8-team Round Robin format will be two (2) groups of four (4) teams each in Round Robin play with one (1) game each day.
- iii. The groupings will be determined by the final standings from the previous year. Berths will be seeded based on the final placing of the teams from that region the previous year. For example, the final standings at U13 in 2019 will be used to seed the U13 division in 2020. Final groups will be determined and communicated to participants a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the start of the finals.
- iv. The winner from each group will compete in the Gold Medal game, the second place team in each group will compete for the Bronze. Third place teams will play for 5th and 6th and fourth place teams in each group will compete for 7th and 8<sup>th</sup> place.

**d. Round Robin Tie-Breaking**

- i. 3 points shall be awarded for a win, 1 for a tie, and none for a loss.
- ii. At the end of the round robin the teams shall be ranked based on the number of points awarded that round robin. (Highest points being first, lowest being last.)
- iii. If at the end of the round robin phase two teams are tied on points, ties shall be broken according to subsection vi) below in the order specified.
- iv. If at the end of the round robin phase three teams are tied on points, ties shall be broken according to subsection vi) below in the order specified until one team remains.
- v. If at the end of the round robin phase four teams are tied on points, ties shall be broken according to subsection vi) below in the order specified until one team remains to decide the final stands as in subsection vii) 3. below.
- vi. Ties shall be broken in the following sequence:
  1. Previous Match Results – The winner of the match between the two teams tied on points shall be awarded the higher position. (Not applicable if 3 or more teams are tied.)
  2. Goal Difference – Goal Difference shall be calculated by subtracting the goals conceded from goals scored. A maximum difference of five (5)

goals shall be awarded in each game. For example, a 10-2 win would be recorded as a 7-2 win. These new totals will be used to calculate Goals For, Goals Against and Goal Difference. The total goal difference calculated for all games played in the initial round robin or complete round robin shall be used.

3. Goals Against. Total number of goals conceded in the round robin shall be calculated and the team with the lowest number conceded shall be awarded the higher standing.
- vii. In the event a tie cannot be broken using the rules above in subsection vi), kicks from the penalty mark mini games shall be played as follows:
1. Two (2) teams tied - As per IFAB Laws of the Game, each team names its five (5) initial shooters and the team scoring the most goals is declared the winner. If, after the initial five (5) shooters, the teams remain tied, then kicks from the penalty mark continue, using different players from the players who are on the field at the end of regulation time with no player shooting a second time until all eleven players have shot once) until one team has scored one (1) more goal and an equal number of shots have been taken.
  2. Three (3) teams tied - Each team is designated A, B, or C. Three (3) mini games shall be played (A vs. B, C vs. B, C vs. A) consisting of five (5) penalty kicks from each team. The standings after these three (3) mini games shall be determined by the criteria as follows:
  3. Four (4) teams tied – Each team is designated A, B, C, or D. Six (6) mini games shall be played (A vs. B, C vs. D, A vs. C, B vs. D, A vs. D, and C vs. B)
  4. The standings after mini games shall be determined by the following criteria:
    - a. Most points win; three (3) points awarded for a win; one (1) point for tie.
      - i. Previous match results as per 7) d. iv) but for the mini games just played.
      - ii. Goal difference as calculated from the total mini games involving each team.
    - b. Repeat mini game process until standings are determined.

**e. Game Officials**

- i. A BC Soccer Supervisor of Officials will be appointed to each Provincial Cup event. This person is responsible for overseeing the assignment of all game officials.
- ii. A BC Soccer Scheduler of Officials will be appointed to each Provincial Cup event. This person will assist the Supervisor of Officials and the Local Organizing Committee in the assignment of all game officials.
- iii. BC Soccer will assign all game officials.

**f. Official Match Reports**

- i. BC Soccer will provide Official Match Reports for the Provincial Championships. Each team must confirm their team roster one (1) hour prior to game time at Competition Headquarters.

**g. Results Reporting**

- i. The referee is responsible for ensuring that the completed match reports, misconduct reports and ID cards are submitted to the competition headquarters following the game. Teams may pick up the reports and ID cards 30 minutes after the game unless kept by BC Soccer for judicial purposes.

**h. Retreat Line**

- i. For the Under 13 division of all Provincial Championships, the “Retreat Line” rule is in effect.

**7) Discipline**

- a. All Judicial/Discipline matters will be dealt with by the Provincial Championships Discipline Panel as appointed by the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer.
- b. While a complaint/misconduct report is usually registered by a Game Official, a complaint/misconduct report may also originate from a member of BC Soccer, or the local organizing committee managing the event. A written summary of the incident shall be completed and kept on file along with other documents relating to the infraction.
- c. Discipline Hearings will be conducted by the Provincial Championships Discipline Panel as soon as possible at an appropriate location at, or near the competition venue. Appropriate records should be maintained as to the names of the members constituting the committee and persons attending the hearing.
- d. While the Chair of the Provincial Championships Discipline Panel will render a verbal decision, the decision shall be put in writing with copies being distributed to the parties concerned within 24 hours of the hearing.
- e. Within two weeks of completion of the competition a full set of files concerning discipline conducted at the competition shall be turned over to the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer by way of the BC Soccer office.
- f. Within 30 days of completion of the competition, the home district of an individual or team that has been assessed a penalty at the competition shall be advised, in writing, of the circumstances that led to the penalty being assessed. This shall include a complete summary of cards issued or individuals ejected from games in case any carry over penalties should be served within the district.
- g. Appeals of a decision can be directed to the BC Soccer Appeals Panel for that event, as appointed by the Appeals Chair of BC Soccer.
- h. **Red Cards**
  - i. Red cards will carry over to the players next league or cup game with a player having to adhere to the game suspensions levied by the Provincial Championships Discipline Panel.
- i. **Cautions**
  - i. Yellow card accumulations will NOT be carried over from the regular season to Provincial Championship or regional qualifying games. However, any suspensions issued for yellow card accumulation during the season that go beyond the regular season will carry over to the Provincial Championships or Regional Qualifying games if applicable.
  - ii. A player who accumulates two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during Provincial Cup play, shall automatically be suspended without hearing and without appeal from

the player's next Provincial Cup game or league game, whichever comes first. Provincial Cup for youth teams is defined as all "Premier", "A" Cup competition and "B" Cup competition beyond Regional qualification.

- j. Any suspensions still to be served at the end of regional qualifying competitions will carry over to Provincial Championship games.

## 8) Administration of the Competition

### a. Travel Assistance grants

- i. For teams competing in the Provincial Premier, A Cup, Girls Provincial B Cup or the Les Sinnott Memorial Boys Provincial Cup, travel grants will be awarded using the following eligibility requirements:
  - 1. Any team required to travel to or from Vancouver Island to the lower mainland on the ferry will be awarded a grant of \$250 for the team.
  - 2. Any team required to travel more than 600km (one way) to their respective Provincial Cup location will be awarded a grant using the following formula:
    - a.  $\text{Distance Travelled one way(km)} - 500 \times \$1 = \text{Grant}$
  - 3. Teams may be eligible for the ferry grant and the distance traveled (over 600km) grant.
  - 4. **Example:** Team A travels from Victoria to Prince George. BC Soccer calculates this at 876km. This team would receive a \$250 grant for their ferry trip, plus a \$376 grant for their distance traveled. Their total grant would be \$626 for the team.
- ii. One travel grant per eligible team will be issued; no application is required.
- iii. Travel grants will be paid to the team's district upon completion of the Provincial Championship. The district will then distribute the grants to each eligible team.

### b. Accommodations/Host Hotel obligations

- i. Except for instances determined by the Youth Competitions Committee, all teams competing in any category of Youth Provincial Championship (Premier, A or B) are obligated to stay in the host hotel(s).
- ii. Teams that reside within 100km of the host city are exempt for this rule. Determination of which teams are eligible for exemption is under the jurisdiction of the Youth Competitions Committee.
- iii. The host of the competition must block (but not pay for) a minimum of 8 hotel rooms per team (except for teams exempt under Rule 8b)ii)) as close as reasonably possible to the competition venue. Failure to do so may result in a forfeit of the hosting grant provided by BC Soccer.
- iv. Teams that are obligated to stay in the host hotel are responsible for 8 rooms at the host hotel(s). Any team choosing not to stay at the host hotel may be invoiced by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the cost of 8 rooms for 4 nights, or the cancellation cost charged to the LOC for these 8 rooms, whichever is less.

### c. Protests

- i. The protest fee for any game is \$250.00. Protests must be filed in accordance with BC Soccer Rules and Regulations, except subject to the timelines in paragraph ii) following. In the event the protest is upheld; the fee will be returned.
- ii. The grounds upon which the protest is based must be included in a written submission. An individual or team planning to file a protest must inform the Provincial Championship Protest Panel Chair at the BC Soccer headquarters within thirty minutes of the completion of the game. Following this, the full protest submission and the accompanying fee must be submitted within one (1) hour of the completion of the game. The fee must accompany the protest.
- iii. The protest must contain the details of the protest, including the rule that was allegedly breached, and the evidence to support that claim. Protests can only be considered on the grounds of misinterpretation of FIFA Laws of the Game, on the eligibility of players, or on breaches of the Competition Rules and Regulations.
- iv. Protests cannot be made based on the judgement of the match official.

**d. BC Soccer Representative**

- i. BC Soccer will appoint Provincial Representatives to act on BC Soccer's behalf at the Championships. The Provincial Representatives will be led by a chair and shall:
  - 1. Convene and chair a pre-competition meeting the evening prior to the start of the competition (if necessary).
  - 2. Arrange a meeting with the referee coordinator/scheduler prior to the pre-competition meeting
  - 3. Ensure that the meeting is attended by all teams and a representative from the Local Organizing Committee (if arranged).
  - 4. Attend all official functions
  - 5. Submit a completed Competition Report to be submitted no later than ten (10) days after the competition. No expenses will be reimbursed until the report is received.

**e. Code of Conduct**

- i. Players, Parents and Team Officials must abide by the Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer.

**f. Fair Play Team Award**

- i. The Fair Play Team Award will be given out at the Provincial A and B Cup Championships and is intended to foster the spirit of fair play, including:
  - 1. Respect for the Laws of the Game
  - 2. Respect for the opponent
  - 3. Respect for game officials and acceptance of their decisions
  - 4. Respect for the Local Organizing Committee and BC Soccer representatives.
  - 5. Good Sportsmanship.
  - 6. General behavior on site and at hotels, restaurants, etc.
  - 7. Discipline
  - 8. Maintaining dignity under all circumstances



- ii. The team includes all players, coaches, and other team officials on the team credentials form. The team also includes the spectators. Everything will be included when determining the Fair Play Team Award recipients.
- iii. The BC Soccer Provincial Representatives in charge of a championship shall have the discretionary power to award the judging of the Fair Play Award to the host district or not. If not, the BC Soccer Provincial Representatives will determine the recipients.
- iv. The Provincial Representatives shall have discretionary power to decide not to award the Fair Play Team Award in that competition over which he/she presides.

**g. Trophies**

- i. Trophies presented to teams at the Provincial Championships are the property of BC Soccer and are held by the championship team for a limited time only.
- ii. The championship team shall complete the Trophy Receipt Form before it is permitted to leave with the trophy.
- iii. The championship team is responsible for returning the trophy to BC Soccer by January 15<sup>th</sup> of the following year.

## Appendix 1: Schedule of Fines

This section provides an outline of some competition related infractions that may be dealt with by the BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee, made up of no less than 3 persons or an adjudicating body appointed by the committee. This section does not cover all instances in which a fine may be assessed or a bond imposed upon a player, team, team official or spectator for a violation of the BC Soccer Rules and Regulations. Fines will be deducted from the Performance Bond posted by each team's district. If the amount of the fine is greater than the existing Performance Bond, the district will be invoiced for the remainder.

Any breaches or infractions of these Rules, or to the Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer not listed below will be referred to the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer.

- 1) Once a team commits to competing in a regional qualifier, they are committed to competing in Provincial Cup for that season.**  
Penalty: Teams that withdraw past this point will forfeit their entire performance bond and a hearing will be held to determine their club or team's cup eligibility for the following season.
- 2) Team fails to appear for a scheduled game without just cause**  
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$2,500.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition in that season and future years.
- 3) Failure to return a trophy by the deadline**  
Penalty: \$250.00
- 4) Damaging a trophy**  
Penalty: The team will be responsible for the cost of repairs to the trophy, or the replacement cost of the trophy, whichever is less.
- 5) Failure to return a trophy**  
Penalty: \$500.00 + replacement cost of the trophy
- 6) Team or teams held to be at fault for abandonment of a game**  
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$1000.00 fine plus field and game official costs
- 7) Team fails to send a representative to pre-competition meeting**  
Penalty: \$500.00 fine
- 8) Team fails to attend opening ceremony**  
Penalty \$500.00 fine and team may be excluded from attending further competitions
- 9) Team fails to attend a required closing ceremony**  
Penalty: \$500.00 fine and team may be excluded from attending further competitions
- 10) Team fails to fulfill Provincial and/or Club National commitment**  
Penalty: \$2,500.00, plus the Canadian Soccer Association fines that are assessed to BC Soccer.
- 11) Extremely bad behavior by a team, player, team official, or spectator / Breach of the Code of Conduct**

Penalty: Possible suspension of guilty party for up to remainder of tournament, referral to the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer and a review of that team's eligibility to compete in future years.