



BC SOCCER

2025 YOUTH PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS REGULATIONS

Provincial A-Cup, B-Cup and Regional Qualifiers

September 2024

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1) Introduction

a. Application

- i. These Regulations shall apply to the Youth Provincial Championship managed by the British Columbia Soccer Association (BC Soccer). Any variances for specific competition shall be as noted in these Regulations.
- ii. BC Soccer Youth Provincial Championships shall include BC Soccer Youth A-Cup, B-Cup and Regional Qualifying Competitions.

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 Competitions Committee shall have the authority to order any game replayed, played to a finish, or may award a forfeit.

c. BC Soccer Constitution/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 Competitions Committee shall be responsible for developing the Regulations governing Regional Play Downs and Provincial Championships.
- iii. The BC Soccer Competitions Committee may designate responsibility for the Regional Qualifying Regulations to a sub-committee.
- iv. All games shall be played under the BC Soccer's Youth Provincial Championships Regulations – Boys and Girls Provincial A-Cup & B-Cup, as adopted by the Board each year.

d. BC Soccer Competitions Committee

- i. Within the constraints of 1) c) BC Soccer, through its 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 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 Regulations, shall be final and binding on all parties.

f. Risk Management

- i. Participants in the 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 Cups for boys and girls each year from all areas of the province.
 - 1. Premier Cup for U14 to U18 Boys and Girls
 - 2. Provincial A Cup for U14 to U18 Boys and Girls
 - 3. Provincial B Cup for U14 to U18 Boys and Girls
- ii. For the purposes of the document, the playing levels shall be referred to as:
 - 1. British Columbia Soccer Premier League (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. Where properly constituted leagues are not formed, team declarations will be reviewed by the BC Soccer Competitions Committee after the deadline within these Regulations.
- iii. Teams may not be under suspension from districts or authorized leagues

b. Declarations/Entry Deadlines

- i. **Provincial A-Cup:** The Provincial A Cup shall be open to all youth teams not including BCSPL under the jurisdiction of the Association.
 - 1. The Provincial A-Cup will be a four-team tournament in each age/gender consisting of the following berth allocations:
 - a. Lower Mainland 1: Coastal Divisional League Winner
 - b. Lower Mainland 2: Coastal Cup Winner
 - c. Thompson Okanagan/Kootenay Rockies/Northern BC 1
 - d. Vancouver Island 1
 - 2. The Island Districts shall put forth the qualification process for the Island berth. If no agreement can be made, BC Soccer’s Competitions Committee will make the determine the qualification process.
 - 3. Interior Regions (Northern BC, Thompson Okanagan, Kootenay Rockies) must declare A-Cup teams by May 1st.
 - 4. BC Soccer’s Competitions Committee shall have final approval on all qualifying processes.
- ii. **Provincial B-Cup:** shall be open to any affiliated Tier 2 or lower-level youth team as declared to their district.
 - 1. The 8 qualifying teams for U14 through U18 are:
 - a. Kootenay Rockies 1: Cup Winner

- b. Lower Mainland 1: Coastal Divisional League Winner
 - c. Lower Mainland 2: Coastal Cup Winner
 - d. Lower Mainland 3: Coastal Cup Runner-Up
 - e. Northern Cup 1: Cup Winner
 - f. Thompson Okanagan 1: Cup Winner
 - g. Thompson Okanagan 2: Cup Runner-Up
 - h. Vancouver Island 1: Cup Winner
- 2. Regions playing the Coastal season (Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island) shall communicate their qualifying processes to BC Soccer by August 15th.
- 3. The Interior Districts (Thompson Okanagan, Kootenay Rockies, Northern Cup) shall communicate their qualifying processes by April 1st.
- 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 organization 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 organization 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 Coastal Regions (Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island), and April 1st for the Interior Regions (Thompson Okanagan, Kootenay Rockies, Northern Cup). The teams that will fill the host berths must be declared by April 1st for the Coastal Regions and by May 1st for the Interior Regions.
- 8. If the host organization 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 Competitions Committee shall have final approval on all qualifying processes.
- iii. **Declaring Up:** Entry forms are to be completed by each district and submitted to BC Soccer by December 1st in the current coastal region (Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island) playing season and by May 1st in the current interior playing season (Thompson Okanagan, Kootenay Rockies, Northern Cup).
- iv. **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 teams from the Interior and Vancouver Island regions who specify in their declarations that their intent is to only participate in the regional competition. Teams that withdraw from Provincial Cup after qualifying 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. Performance Bonds/Responsibility

- i. All youth Districts 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 A or B Cup Regional Qualifier matches for the current playing season.
- ii. Performance Bonds must be on file with BC Soccer by January 1st for Coastal/Vancouver Island Districts, and by May 1st for Interior Districts (Thompson Okanagan, Northern Cup, Kootenay Rockies).
- 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 clubs to ensure that its member teams fulfill their commitments once they have entered the Provincial Championships up to the time a Provincial A-Cup Champion is declared, and the National Club Championship is held.
- vii. BC Soccer's Competitions Committee may place any additional bonds on teams as specified within these rules for just cause as they see fit.

d. Team Promotion

- i. Teams who place first (1st) in the Provincial B-Cup Finals for two (2) consecutive years may be promoted to the Provincial A-Cup at the discretion of the BC Soccer Competitions Committee.
- ii. Teams who are promoted to the Provincial A-Cup may apply to the BC Soccer Competitions Committee to remain in the Provincial B-Cup.

e. 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 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 and Northern region will be replaced with the next highest finishing team from that region, or failing that, from a neighboring region.
 - 4. The BC Soccer Competitions Committee may determine the replacement team on a case-by-case basis for situations not covered above if deemed necessary.

f. Coaching Certification

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

- ii. For A and B Cup, the Head Coach must, at a minimum, hold a valid “Soccer for Life” Coaching License.

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 February 1st of the current coastal/island playing 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. All players and team officials will be required to upload player/official photos into the BC Soccer competition management system which will be checked by the referee before each match. Electronic forms of ID cards must be officially validated by the district or club the team participates within.

4) Team Rules

a. Provincial A & B Cup Rosters

- i. Teams must consist of a minimum of fourteen (14) registered players.
- ii. Complete team rosters must be submitted to the BC Soccer no later than June 1st for any teams already qualified or still participating in qualifying rounds for Provincial Cup. Failure to submit a complete team roster by the deadline will result in a fine in accordance with *Appendix 1: Schedule of Fines*.
- iii. No player transfers are permitted after January 15th of the current Coastal/Island playing season, or after June 1st of the current Interior playing season.
 - 1. A player transferred to a youth club, to be considered eligible for youth district cup, inter-district cup, regional cup or provincial cup must first play at least one league match in a properly constituted youth league for the club to which they transferred. Where properly constituted youth leagues do not operate, each transfer will be reviewed by the BC Soccer Competitions Committee.
 - 2. Players must be transferred seven (7) days before taking part in any provincial cup competition
- iv. No team entering a Youth Provincial Cup competition may register a new player after February 1st of the current coastal/island playing season, or after June 1st of the current interior playing season.
- v. Youth teams shall not be permitted to register more than the maximum allowed players for their age division at any given time.
- vi. The maximum roster size shall be twenty (20) players.

b. 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 in COMET 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 Photo Identification and photo uploaded into competitions management system.

c. Player Pick Ups

- i. Player pick-ups may only be applied for in A-Cup and B-Cup competitions.
- ii. Teams may pick up a maximum of three (3) players to replace players registered with the Team Roster who are unable to take part in the Provincial Championships.
- iii. 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.
- iv. No player shall be permitted to play for more than one team in the same Provincial Cup Competition in the same season.
- v. No player shall be permitted to play down under any circumstances.
- vi. 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.
- vii. 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.
 - 1. A-Cup teams may not permit from teams of another club in its district.
- viii. 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.
- ix. 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.
- x. If no medical certificate or letter is available, the Competitions Committee may approve player pick-ups on a case-by-case basis.
- xi. The deadline to submit Player Pick-Up requests to BC Soccer is no later than seven (7) days prior to the start of the competition.
- xii. No player pick-up applications may be submitted upon the commencement of the competition.
- xiii. In cases where a team has lost a goalkeeper, Player Pick Ups may be approved after the deadline(s).

d. Uniforms

- i. Teams participating in Provincial Championships are required to have two (2) sets of uniforms (including socks and shorts) of different colours.
- ii. Uniforms will be allocated on competition management system by BC Soccer.

- iii. A team wearing a uniform that was not allocated on COMET by BC Soccer will be fined in accordance with *Appendix 1: Scheduled of Fines*, and must change to the allocated uniform.
- iv. Where the uniform colours of competing teams are similar, the home team must change.
- v. Goalkeepers must wear colours that distinguish them from the other players and the officials.
- vi. In case of conflicts, the Match official shall determine required changes.

e. 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.

f. 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.
- iii. Players or Team official dismissed in the final game of the Cup may not participate in the awards ceremony.

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 A & B-Cup Substitutions

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

c. 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-14 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes
Under-15 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes
Under-16 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes
Under-17 Division	2 halves of 45 minutes
Under-18 Division	2 halves of 45 minutes

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

6) Competition Formats

a. Provincial A-Cup Format

- i. The format for A-Cup finals will be a four-team, Round Robin tournament.
- ii. The four-team round robin format will be one (1) group of four (4) teams in round robin play with one (1) match each day.
- iii. Each team will participate in one (1) match each day, playing each team once.
- iv. 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 U14 in 2024 (2010 born) will be used to seed the U15 division in 2025 (2010 born). Final groups will be determined and communicated to participants a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the start of the competitions.
- v. The top two (2) teams will compete in the Gold medal match, the third and fourth place teams from round robin play will compete for the Bronze medal match.
- vi. The winner of the BC Soccer Provincial A-Cup in the U15 & U17 Divisions will represent B.C. at the Canada Soccer Club National Championships.
- vii. Competition details shall be released and communicated annually by both BC Soccer and Canada Soccer annually.

b. Girls Provincial B-Cup and Les Sinnott Memorial B-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 U14 in 2024 (2010 born) will be used to seed the U15 division in 2025 (2010 born). 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 8th place on the final day.

c. Standings and Round Robin Tie-breaking

- i. Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie.
- ii. Standings will be determined by points won at the completion of the round robin.
- iii. The following criteria will be used to determine the final standings:
 1. Greater number of points across all matches
- iv. The following criteria will be used to determine the final standings, in case two teams are tied in points at the conclusion of the round robin:
 1. Head-to-head
 2. Greater goal difference in all group matches
 - a. A maximum difference of five (5) goals will be considered in each match.

3. Fewer number of goals against in all groups matches
 4. Fewer Yellow Cards
 5. Fewer Red Cards
 6. Drawing of Lots
- ii. The following criteria shall be used to determine the final standings, in case three or more teams are tied in points at the conclusion of the round robin:
 1. Greater goal difference between teams concerned
 - a. A maximum difference of five (5) goals will be considered in each match
 2. Greatest number of goals scored in all matches involving the teams concerned
 3. Greater goal difference in all group matches
 - a. A maximum difference of five (5) goals will be considered in each match.
 4. Fewer number of goals against in all groups matches
 5. Fewer Yellow Cards
 6. Fewer Red Cards
 7. Drawing of Lots

d. Match 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 Match officials.
- ii. A BC Soccer Assignor 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 Match officials.
- iii. BC Soccer will assign all Match Officials.

e. Official Match Reports

- i. BC Soccer will provide Official Match Reports on COMET for the Provincial Championships.
- ii. Each team must submit their team lineup on COMET the night prior to a match at 8:00pm (20:00).
 1. Updates to the starting eleven (11) may be made with the match official prior to each match.
- iii. Each team must confirm their team roster with match officials one (1) hour prior to a matches start time.

f. Match Abandonment

- i. Where a match is abandoned because of weather, or any outside influence not resulting from the actions of the involved teams, and more than seventy percent (70%) of the match has been played, the result at the time of abandonment will be recorded as the final score. If the score is tied and the competition requires a result, the winner will be determined by the toss of a coin conducted by BC Soccer.
- ii. Where a match is abandoned because of weather, or any outside influence not resulting from the actions of the involved teams, and less than seventy percent (70%) of the match has been played, the match shall recommence with the same

score at the minute at which play was interrupted. The following principles shall apply to the recommencement of the match:

- iii. The match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was initially abandoned;
- iv. No additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the roster
- v. The teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned;
- vi. Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced;
- vii. Any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
- viii. The kick-off time, date and location shall be decided by the BC Soccer Representative in consultation with the Host;
- ix. Where a match is abandoned because of weather, or any outside influence not resulting from the actions of the involved teams on the final day of the competition, regardless of how much of the match has been played, the result at the time of abandonment will be recorded as the final score. If the score is tied and the competition requires a result, the winner will be determined by the toss of a coin conducted by BC Soccer.
- x. Where match(es) are cancelled or cannot take place because of adverse weather conditions, BC Soccer will determine the subsequent action and outcome of the competition. This decision will be final and binding and not subject to appeal.
- xi. Where a match is abandoned as a result of a discipline issue from one of the competing teams, the matter shall be reported to the Discipline Chair who will convene a disciplinary hearing to decide the appropriate course of action. On the final day such issues will be referred to the appropriate BC Soccer Discipline Body for its action

g. Results Reporting

- i. The referee is responsible for ensuring that the completed match reports, discipline reports and ID cards are submitted and confirmed to the match official headquarters following the match.

7) Regional Qualifying Competitions

- a. The regional qualifying competitions are designated as follows
 - i. Kootenay Rockies Cup
 - ii. British Columbia Coastal Soccer League/Coastal Cup
 - iii. Thompson Okanagan Cup
 - iv. Northern Cup
 - v. Vancouver Island Cup
- b. BC Soccer through its Competitions Committee shall control the operation of these competitions but may delegate organization and control of operations of such to a Regional Organizing Committee.
- c. Each Regional Organizing Committee may determine its own format and number of eligible teams.
- d. Medals
 - i. BC Soccer will supply regional medals, to be presented at the final regional qualifying game in both the A and B Regional finals. It is each region's

responsibility to advise BC Soccer of the age groups and number of gold and silver medals they will require.

- ii. Medals will be presented as follows:
 - 1. If only one team has entered from a region no medal will be given out.
 - 2. If two teams are playing off, BC Soccer will supply a 1st place medal only
 - 3. If three or more teams are playing off, BC Soccer will supply 1st and 2nd place medals only
- e. Regional Organizing Committees shall be formed and submitted to BC Soccer for approval by February 1st of the Interior Season and October 1st of the Coastal Season.
- f. Regional Organizing Committees shall submit their qualifying competition rules, dates, and formats to BC Soccer for approval by December 1st of the Coastal Region seasons (Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island) and by April 1st of the Interior seasons (Thompson Okanagan, Kootenay Rockies, Northern Cup).
- g. Regional qualifiers must be completed and reported to BC Soccer at least fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the corresponding Provincial Championship.

8) Discipline

- a. All Discipline matters will be dealt with by the “Provincial Championships Discipline Chair” as appointed by the Discipline Chair of BC Soccer.
- b. While a complaint/misconduct report is usually registered by a Match 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, or virtually. 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.
 - ii. A player dismissed from the match may not continue to be present in the technical area.

- iii. The player shall not interact or interfere with the Match.
- i. **Cautions**
 - i. Yellow card accumulations will NOT be carried over from the regular season to Provincial Championship or Regional Qualifying matches. 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 three (3) 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 "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.

9) **Administration of the Competition**

a. **Financial Assistance grants**

- i. For teams competing in the Provincial A-Cup, Girls Provincial B-Cup or the Les Sinnott Memorial Boys Provincial B-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 \$500 for the team.
 - 2. Any team required to travel more than 500km (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 500km) grant.
 - 4. **Example:** Team A travels from Victoria to Prince George. BC Soccer calculates this at 876km. This team would receive a \$500 grant for their ferry trip, plus a \$376 grant for their distance traveled. Their total grant would be \$876 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 Competitions Committee, all teams competing in any category of Youth Provincial Championship (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 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 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 and failing to communicate such decision to the LOC by the deadline established for cancellation, may be invoiced by BC Soccer 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. For the purpose of these Regulations, protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have a direct effect on matches, including but not limited to the state of and markings on the pitch, accessory match equipment, eligibility of players, facilities, and equipment.
- ii. Any protest arising out of any match must be made in writing to the BC Soccer Representative appointed to the competition within 1-hour of the match report having been finalized online.
 - 1. 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 BC Representative within thirty (30) minutes of the completion of the match.
 - 2. Following this, the full protest submission and the accompanying fee must be submitted within one (1) hour of the match report having been finalized online.
 - 3. The protest fee of \$250.00 (two hundred and fifty dollars) must accompany the full protest submission.
- iii. If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the BC Soccer Representative may impose a sanction.
- iv. The referee's decision regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. There can be no protests against a decision of the referees as outlined in the Laws of The Game.
- v. Protests or challenges in respect to player eligibility not ruled upon, or requiring further investigation, will be dealt with by the appropriate BC Soccer Judicial Committee and may result in the overall standings or results being amended.
- vi. After the completion of the Provincial Championships, any protest in regard to player eligibility already ruled on by the appropriate authority, will not change the results of the Competition.
- vii. If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations is not met, such protests shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match in the respective Provincial Championship has ended, no further protests under this article will be received.
- viii. The protest must contain the details of the protest, including the rule that was allegedly breached, and the evidence to support that claim.
- ix. All protest decisions are final and not subject to appeal.

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. Ensure that the pre-competition meeting is attended by all teams and a representative from the Local Organizing Committee (if arranged).
 - 3. Arrange a meeting with the referee coordinator/scheduler prior to the pre-competition meeting
 - 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. Trophies

- i. Annual trophies presented to teams at the Provincial Championship are the property of BC Soccer and are not to be kept after the medal ceremony.
- ii. Gold medal winning teams will receive a 'keeper trophy'.

Appendix 1: Schedule of Fines

This section provides an outline of some competition related infractions that may be dealt with by the BC Soccer 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 Regulations, 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) District fails to fulfill berth allocation by deadline without just cause

Penalty: A district that does not fulfill berth allocation(s) by the deadline will forfeit the unfulfilled berth(s) as well as their entire performance bond.

3) 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.

4) Failure to wear the assigned team colours

Penalty: \$500

5) Failure to have a second set of uniforms

Penalty: \$500

6) Failure to return a trophy by the deadline

Penalty: \$250.00 fine

7) Failure to comply with gender requirement for a Participating Team.

Penalty: \$1,000

8) 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.

9) Failure to return a trophy

Penalty: \$500.00 + replacement cost of the trophy

10) Team or teams held to be at fault for abandonment of a game

Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$1,000.00 fine plus field and game official costs

11) Team fails to send a representative to pre-competition meeting

Penalty: \$500

12) Team fails to attend a required opening ceremony

Penalty: \$1,000

13) Team fails to attend a required closing ceremony

Penalty: \$1,000

14) Breach of competition regulations

Penalty: \$150

15) Failure to submit required information to BC Soccer office by the deadlines

Penalty: \$500

16) Failure to submit the duly signed Participation Agreement to BC Soccer Competitions Representative seven (7) days after qualifying

Penalty: \$250

17) Have a youth aged team staff member without an exemption from BC Soccer.

Penalty: \$500

18) Team fails to fulfill Provincial and/or Club National commitment

Penalty: \$3,500, plus the Canada Soccer Association fines that are assessed to BC Soccer.

19) Bad behaviour by a team, player, team official, or spectator / Breach of the Code of Conduct.

Penalty: Up to \$2,000 fine. Suspension of guilty party for up to the remainder of the competition, referral to the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer and a review of the team's eligibility to compete in future years.

Appendix 2: 2025 Key Dates

Date	Item
August 15, 2024	Coastal Districts to submit qualifying process to BC Soccer
October 1, 2024	Coastal Districts Regional Organizing Committees submitted to BC Soccer
December 1, 2024	Coastal District Hosts to declare host berths (if applicable) Coastal District Declaring-Up deadline Coastal Regional Organizing Committee deadline to submit their qualifying competition rules, dates, and formats to BC Soccer
January 1, 2025	Coastal District Performance Bonds due
January 15, 2025	Coastal Region Player Transfer Deadline
February 1, 2025	Coastal Region New Player Registration Deadline Interior Districts Regional Organizing Committee submitted to BC Soccer
April 1, 2025	Interior Districts to submit qualifying process to BC Soccer Interior Districts to declare Host berths (if applicable) Coastal teams that will fill the Host berths must be declared (if applicable) Interior Regional Organizing Committee deadline to submit their qualifying competition rules, dates, and formats to BC Soccer
May 1, 2025	Interior Regions must declare A-Cup teams Interior teams that will fill the Host berths must be declared (if applicable) Interior District Declaring-Up deadline Interior District Performance Bonds due
June 1, 2025	Interior Region New Player Registration Deadline Interior Region Player Transfer Deadline
June 19, 2025	A-Cup Regional Qualifier Deadline
June 26, 2025	B-Cup Regional Qualifier Deadline A-Cup Player Pick-Up Deadline
July 3, 2025	B-Cup Player Pick-Up Deadline
July 3-6, 2025	Girls and Boys A-Cup (Kamloops, BC – Hosted by KYSA)
July 10-13, 2025	Girls B-Cup and Les Sinnott Boys B-Cup (Kamloops, BC – Hosted by KYSA)
August 15, 2025	Financial Assistance grants sent to Districts