



Via E-mail

June 15, 2018

Attention: BC Soccer Membership (and affiliated soccer clubs)

From: BC Soccer

Re: 2018 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Summary

The BC Soccer Annual General Meeting was held on June 9, 2018. The AGM featured special guest speaker, Charlie Cuzzetto, Board Member from Canada Soccer; and, Canada Soccer's Director of Development, Jason de Vos who also was the Master of Ceremonies at the Awards & Scholarships Luncheon. During the AGM, amendments were made to BC Soccer's Bylaws and Rules & Regulations and the elections process added three new members to BC Soccer's board of directors.

Strategic Plan & Year in Review

During the Executive Officer's Report, BC Soccer President, Kjeld Brodsgaard highlighted that BC Soccer is now two-thirds of the way through the 2016-2019 Strategic Plan and has delivered 20 of its objectives; is progressing as planned on 15; and working through challenges on 5 objectives. While noting that it only 'scratches the surface', Brodsgaard also acknowledged some achievements from within the membership, including:

- North Okanagan Youth Soccer Association, Central City Breakers FC, Coastal FC and Coquitlam Metro Ford Soccer Club hosted 2017 provincial championships
- The amalgamation of the Inter-District Youth Leagues in the Lower Mainland forming one BC Coastal Soccer League
- Vancouver Metro Soccer League moved fully to online registration
- Kamloops Youth Soccer Association worked with Sport for Life to host Gender Gap Training, which provided training to coaches on the differences of coaching boys and girls
- The amalgamation of Prince George Women's Soccer Association and North Cariboo Senior Soccer League to Prince George Soccer Association which now offers men's women's and co-ed divisions.
- Central City Breakers FC hosted the 2017 Toyota Men's Challenge Trophy and Women's Jubilee Trophy
- Burnaby Men's Soccer League took on more teams with the addition of North Shore teams
- Upper Island Soccer Association continued to have success exploring small-sided programming at the U13 age group
- Nelson Youth Soccer Association became Nelson Soccer Association which formally joined its Youth District and Associate Adult League under one umbrella

Executive Director, Jason Elligott, prepared a video that detailed BC Soccer's operational activity over the past fiscal year, which is also available in [BC Soccer's 2017-2018 Year in Review](#) on BC Soccer's website.

Life Membership

This year, BC Soccer was pleased to grant Jackie Larson Life Membership in recognition of her 20+ years of dedicated and distinguished service to soccer in British Columbia. Jackie has been a valued member of the soccer community in Vancouver since 1976 but has also made incredible contributions to BC Soccer over the years in the areas of Governance, Membership and Judicial. A most deserving individual, Jackie received standing ovations during the AGM and the Awards & Scholarships Luncheon where she was presented with the honours.

Proposed Bylaw & Rule Amendments

BC Soccer proposed various bylaw and rule amendments to the membership as means to become compliant with Canada Soccer, follow good practice, provide clarification, grow the game and remove restrictions at the provincial level. While not all rule amendments were passed, they did bring about good discussion that can serve as a starting point for future conversations with the membership. The [Post AGM Amendment Package](#) details which bylaw and rule amendments were carried, defeated or referred; however, BC Soccer would like highlight a few items that include the newly amended:

Highlighted Amendment 1

PART 2 - MEMBERSHIP

2) Associate Members – Non-Voting

- (c) Associate Members must make an application for membership renewal with the Society annually, in line with the Society's fiscal year, on a form provided by the Society.*

PART 5 - MEETINGS OF MEMBERS

- 5.1 Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the members shall be held within 120 days of the Society's fiscal year end, and at such time as the Board may by resolution determine at any place within Canada or, if all of the voting members so agree before the meeting, outside Canada.*

PART 6 - DIRECTORS

- 6.9 General Duties. The Ceasing to be a Director. A person will automatically cease to be a director:*

- (a) upon the date which is the later of the date of delivering his resignation in writing to the President or to the registered office of the Society and the effective date of the resignation stated therein;*
- (b) upon the expiry of his term; or, if his term does not expire on the date of an annual general meeting, at the close of the next annual general meeting after the expiry of his term.*

BC Soccer has recently changed its fiscal year end to be July 31st so these changes mean that in 2019 BC Soccer will have a two Meeting of Members, likely in June and in the Fall (late October/early November).

Further, this will change the timing of Associate Member renewals, and the current director terms will be extended through to the Fall meeting where elections will take place.

Highlighted Amendment 2

PART 6 - DIRECTORS

6.4 *Election and Term. The members will elect the directors at each annual general meeting at which an election of directors is required.*

(d) *The following positions shall be elected in the time frames and order indicated:*

(i) 2019

- A. *The Vice President Adult and 3 directors shall be elected for a three-year term*
- B. *The First Vice President and 2 directors shall be elected for a two-year term*

(ii) 2020

- A. *The President, Vice President Finance and 3 directors shall be elected for a three-year term*
- B. *The Vice President Youth and 1 director shall be elected for a one-year term*

(iii) *Beginning in 2021, on a three-year cycle:*

- A. *In the first year (2021), the First Vice President, Vice President Youth and 3 directors shall be elected for a three-year term*
- B. *In the second year, the Vice President Adult and 3 directors shall be elected for a three-year term*
- C. *In the third year, the President, Vice President Finance and 3 directors shall be elected for a three-year term.*

If at any time necessary, an officer may be elected for a one-year or two-year term so that such officer's term will expire in the necessary year to allow for the election of officers in the manner set out in this subsection (d). Any one-year or two-year term positions will be elected after all three-year positions have been elected.

This means that the board will move to three-year terms beginning in the Fall of 2019. The transition to 3-year terms enables directors contribute more in their second and third year as the first year is often a period of learning. The amendment aligns BC with Canada Soccer, which has three and four-year terms for directors for similar reasons.

Highlighted Amendment 3

PART 6 - DIRECTORS

- 6.19 *Judicial. The board shall appoint an individual who does not serve on the Society's board or Committees, it's members or affiliated clubs in a staff or volunteer capacity, to oversee the judicial policies and procedures of the Society and its members, including constituting panels as needed to conduct:*
- (a) Ethics;*
 - (b) Appeals;*
 - (c) Protests; and*
 - (d) Discipline.*

The amendment brings BC Soccer into alignment with Canada Soccer's Disciplinary Code, which requires provincial/territorial soccer organizations to have an independent Judicial Chair, and an Ethics Committee/Panel. With this amendment, BC Soccer will be revising its relative discipline policies to ensure they too reflect the updated bylaw.

Highlighted Amendment 4

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

Adult

Active Full Members

y)

- iv) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with Masters and Classics Divisions wishing to participate in the provincial championships which lead to the Western Canadian championships may register Masters or Classics Players/Divisions with BC Soccer on either an A form, B form or M form.*

RULE 25 - ADULT CUP COMPETITION RULES

- a) An Adult Category "A" amateur team affiliated with BC Soccer shall be eligible to enter any open Adult Category A Cup competition or Masters A /Classics Cup competition provided the players meet the age requirement as defined in Rule 2 – Player Age Limits.*
- b) An Adult Category "B" amateur team affiliated with BC Soccer shall be eligible to enter the open age, or age defined Category B Cup competition or Masters A /Classics Cup competition provided the players meet the age requirement as defined in Rule 2 – Player Age Limits.*
- c) An Adult Category "M" amateur team affiliated with BC Soccer shall be eligible to enter a Masters / Classics Cup competition.*

This amendment allows masters teams (as "classics" was amended to "masters" for women as well) to compete through the season at the level of play they are capable of, then compete in Masters Provincial Cup and potentially represent BC at Canada Soccer's Western/Regional Championships.

Highlighted Amendment 5

RULE 10 – DISCIPLINE

- l) Associations, leagues, clubs, teams, their officials and/or players may have legal representation.
 - i) If a communication to BC Soccer is received from legal representation requiring a legal response, any and all associated fees will be incurred by the association, league, club, team, team official or player who initiated the legal representative.*
 - ii) If a communication to a BC Soccer member or affiliated club is received from legal representation requiring a legal response, any and all fees will be incurred by the association, league, club, team, team official or player who initiated the legal representative.*
 - iii) If an association, league, club, team, team official, and/or player wish to have a legal representative attend a hearing of BC Soccer, they must advise BC Soccer, of this in writing a minimum of 10 business days prior to the hearing.*
 - iv) If an association, league, club, team, team official, and/or player wish to have a legal representative attend a BC Soccer member, affiliated club or inter-district league hearing, they must advise that BC Soccer member, affiliated club or inter-district league of this in writing a minimum of 10 business days prior to the hearing.*
 - v) Legal representatives of an individual or organization may not attend a discipline hearing without the individual or official(s) of the organization they are representing present.**

RULE 12 – APPEALS

- h) Associations, leagues, clubs, teams, their officials and/or players may have legal representation.
 - i) If a communication to BC Soccer is received from legal representation requiring a legal response, any and all associated fees will be incurred by the association, league, club, team, team official or player who initiated the legal representative.*
 - ii) If a communication to a BC Soccer member or affiliated club is received from legal representation requiring a legal response, any and all fees will be incurred by the association, league, club, team, team official or player who initiated the legal representative.*
 - iii) If an association, league, club, team, team official, and/or player wish to have a legal representative attend a hearing of BC Soccer, they must advise BC Soccer of this in writing a minimum of 10 business days prior to the hearing.*
 - iv) If an association, league, club, team, team official, and/or player wish to have a legal representative attend BC Soccer member, affiliated club or inter-district league hearing, they must advise that BC Soccer member, affiliated club or inter-district league of this in writing a minimum of 10 business days prior to the hearing.*
 - v) Legal representatives of an individual or organization may not attend an appeal hearing without the individual or official(s) of the organization they are representing present**



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The amendment above now bring BC Soccer into compliance with Canada Soccer's Disciplinary Code which requires BC Soccer to allow legal representation as it relates to judicial matters. BC Soccer will be reviewing its relative discipline policies to ensure consistency with the newly amended rule.

Board of Director Elections

The Annual General Meeting saw the re-election of Kjeld Brodsgaard as President, Chris Appleby as Vice President, Finance; and, Rob Lennox as Vice President, Youth all for two-year terms. Additionally, Carlos Grosso was elected to the First Vice President position for a one-year term.

BC Soccer welcomes back Garry Sangha who was also re-elected to the board and is joined by newly elected board members Deb Pudek, Francisco Rubio and Gayle Statton; all for two-year terms. BC Soccer wishes to thank Aiman El-Ramly, Don Dancey and Ed Kennedy for their work and dedication to the association over many years. These individuals supported BC Soccer and the membership in different capacities over the course of their terms; however, their collective contribution worked to advance the game in our province for which BC Soccer is sincerely thankful for.

Sunday Forums

On the Sunday following the AGM, BC Soccer members were invited to attend the Combined Youth and Adult Member Forum, which featured Jason deVos as a guest speaker. DeVos spoke to initiatives that Canada Soccer is working to implement over the next couple of years which include a nation-wide club licensing program and Skills Centres for U8-U12 players. As a part of his presentation, deVos spoke to the importance of keeping the system flexible enough so that players have the best opportunity possible to play the game in the environment they choose, whether that be recreational or competitive; in their district or out of their district; with players of the same age or players of a different age but similar ability; or, in a club or an academy. He stressed the importance of looking at competition as a partnership rather than a war whereby modifications are made so both sides are challenged and everyone enjoys the game.

Following the Combined Forum, members broke out into the separate Youth Forum, Adult Form and Technical Director Forum (which club technical leads were also invited to attend).