



BC SOCCER

GLOBAL GAME. UNIVERSAL PASSION.

2014-2015 BC Soccer
Adult Provincial Championships
Competition Rules and
Regulations

A Cup, B Cup, U21, Masters and Classics

Updated October 28, 2014


PROVINCIAL
championships

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1) Introduction

a. Application

- i. These rules shall apply to the 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. The Association shall control the operation of these competitions. The draws and the scheduling of games up to the time League winners are declared may be delegated to the associations having jurisdiction.
- ii. The BC Soccer staff shall be responsible for managing and implementing the operational functions of the competition under the direction of the BC Soccer Adult Competitions Committee.
- iii. The BC Soccer staff shall be accountable to the Executive Director for these operational functions.
- iv. The Adult Competitions Committee shall have the authority to order any game replayed, or played to a finish.
- v. Within the constraints of 1) c. i., BC Soccer, through its Adult Competitions Committee, may make such temporary rules governing specific situations not otherwise provided for, as are necessary to achieve the objectives of BC Soccer. *Such changes shall be communicated to all effected teams and their Leagues, and whenever possible prior to the commencement of the competition so altered.*

c. BC Soccer Constitution/Rules and Regulations Precedence

- i. In the event of any discrepancy between this document and the rules and regulations of the British Columbia Soccer Association, the later shall have precedence.
- ii. All games shall be played under the Association's Adult Provincial Championships Competition Rules and Regulations as adopted by the Board each year.

d. BC Soccer Representatives

- i. BC Soccer, through its Adult Competitions Committee, shall appoint a BC Soccer Representative to the competition whose decision at the competition, on any matter not covered in these, shall be final and binding on all parties. Unless otherwise stated, this person shall be the Chair of Adult Competitions for BC Soccer.

f) Risk Management and Harassment

- i. Participants in the Adult Provincial Championships must adhere to BC Soccer's Risk Management and Harassment Rules and Policies.

2) Team Eligibility

a. Category/Level of Play

- i. Provincial Men's A and Women's A competitions are for affiliated teams of players registered under the A Category, and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.

- ii. Masters Provincial Men's competition is for affiliated teams of players registered under the Masters Category, and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- iii. Classics Provincial Women's competition is for affiliated teams of players registered under the Classics Category, and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- iv. Under 21 Provincial Men's and Women's competitions are for affiliated teams of players registered under the U21 Category, and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- v. Provincial B Cup competitions are for affiliated teams of players registered as Category B amateur and currently competing in Open age divisions with an affiliated BC Soccer Adult League.

b. Performance Bonds

- i. Each League in Membership is to guarantee teams' appearance as scheduled. A performance bond may be required. A league will lose a berth in a provincial competition if a team from that league withdrew from that competition without a replacement team in place.

c. Team Allocation

- i. For yearly team allocation, please check online at <http://www.bcsoccer.net/provincial-cup>

d. Coaching Qualifications

- i. At least one member of the coaching staff must have the following CSA / BC Soccer Coaching Certification for teams entered in the Provincial A Championship.
 - 1. Soccer for Life

3) Player Eligibility

a. Registration/Declaration

- i. Any player whose application for registration has been accepted, and validated by the Registrar of the Association, for the current playing season, is eligible to play.
- ii. No player shall be allowed to play for more than one team in any one Adult *Provincial Cup* competition under the jurisdiction of this Association in one competition season.
- iii. Any team proven to have played an ineligible player shall be disqualified from further participation in the competition and subject to fines and discipline.
- iv. As per BC Soccer Rule 25 g), players must be registered at least seven (7) days prior to taking part in any Provincial Championship game, with the exception of youth player participation as covered in BC Soccer Rule 9 – Permits.
 - 1.
- v. Provincial Cup entry will require that an entry form from each team be submitted to BC Soccer by the league in membership including a completed BC Soccer Provincial Championship Roster Form.

- vi. The entry deadline and entry fee is due to BC Soccer no later than seven (7) days prior to the Adult Provincial Cup draw. This date is to be determined annually.
- vii. Youth players may be allowed to play on a permit as per BC Soccer Rule 9, partially copied below:
 - 1. The Association shall grant a registered youth player permission to play up any number of times with an Adult team in any one season providing the player has the consent of the affiliated youth team and the approval of the Adult league of designate.
 - 2. A permit shall allow a registered youth player to play for an Adult team in a league or Adult Cup game without affecting the player's youth registration status.
 - 3. Any player wishing to play on a permit with a Adult team must apply for permission to do so by completing a permit form supplied by the the Association.
 - 4. The Association shall have the authority to approve or deny any permit application.
 - 5. Permit applications must be authorized by the youth team and approved by the Youth District & Adult League prior to the game for which the permit is to be issued. Approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. A copy of the authorized permit must be presented with the team list at game time.
 - 6. A permit is valid only for the day and game stated on the permit application form.
 - 7. A player may only play on permit for one team, in any one Adult Provincial Cup competition in any one season.

b. Age

- i. Provincial Men's A & B and Women's A & B competitions are for Open Age players who are currently competing in BC Soccer full member Adult Leagues.
- ii. Masters Provincial Men's competition is for male players who have reached 35 years of age before January 1 of the current playing season, and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- iii. Classics Provincial Women's competition is for female players who have reached 30 years of age before January 1 of the current playing season, and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- iv. Under 21 Provincial Men's and Women's competitions are for male and female players under the age of 21 currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.

c. ID Cards

- i. All players and team officials will be required to have a BC Soccer Photo Identification Card, or individual leagues' equivalent, which will be checked by the referee before each game.

4) Qualification

- a. All entries to a BC Soccer Provincial Cup Competition must have been received by the Association on or before the date approved by the Adult Competitions Committee as the entry deadline for the competition.
- b. Each Adult League shall submit to the Association, which competition(s) are designated as that association's qualifying playdowns for a corresponding category of Provincial Cup competition. These must be submitted by October 15 of each season.

5) Team Rules

a. Roster

- i. A complete team roster form must be submitted with uniform colours specified and players clearly identified by uniform number. These forms are due to the Association no later than 12:00pm on the date of the Adult Provincial Cup draw.
- ii. For all BC Soccer Adult Provincial Cup competitions, teams may dress a maximum of twenty (20) players at each game.

b. Team Officials

- i. A team roster can include up to a maximum of four (4) team officials.
- ii. Only team officials listed on the team roster are eligible to be seated on the team bench and technical area during the game.
- iii. All coaching staff, managers and trainers must have a current BC Soccer ID Card, or League equivalent.
- iv. One (1) member of the team officials must be the same gender as the team. This team official must be present on the bench and in the changing rooms.

c. Transfer Deadlines

- i. As per BC Soccer Rules 7 – Transfers, players must be transferred seven (7) days before taking part in any cup competition.
- ii. The coastal/winter playing season transfer deadline is January 15th of the current year.
- iii. The interior/summer playing season transfer deadline is June 30th of the current year.
- iv. The transfer application shall be authorized by the Association prior to the player taking part in any competition with the new team
- v. A transferred player shall be not eligible to play for the new team in any cup competition in which the player has already competed during the current playing season.

d. Adult Player Pick Ups

- i. Adult player pick ups are not permitted for any BC Soccer Adult Provincial Cup competition.

e. Uniforms

- i. Teams participating in Provincial Championships are required to have two sets of uniforms (including socks and shorts) of different colours to avoid colour conflict. Only the **home** team must bring a second set.

- ii. Where the uniform colours of competing teams are similar, the home team must change. Goalkeepers must wear colours that distinguish them from the other players and the officials.

f. Meetings

- i. All teams must have at least one team official attend a pre-competition meeting, if applicable. Failure to attend will result in a fine

g. Events and Ceremonies

- i. If there are any social, civic and official functions associated with the competition all teams must attend. 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 and the team being subject to discipline.

6) Game Rules

a. Laws of the Game

- i. All games are to be played in accordance with Federation International de Football (FIFA) Laws of the Game.

b. Substitutions

- i. In Provincial Men's A and Women's A Cup competition a maximum of five (5) substitutions shall be allowed during game play (including any extra time). Players that are substituted off may be substituted back on later in the game.
- ii. Unlimited substitutions may also be made at half time or at full time before any extra time.
- iii. In Masters, Classics, Adult B, or Under 21 competitions unlimited substitution shall be allowed.

c. Duration of Play

- i. The duration of each game shall be two halves of forty-five (45) minutes each. In the event of a draw at the end of the regulation time of ninety (90) minutes, extra time shall be played consisting of two halves of fifteen (15) minutes each, for a total of thirty (30) minutes. If the game is still tied after extra time, the match will be decided by Penalty Kicks, as per the FIFA rules.

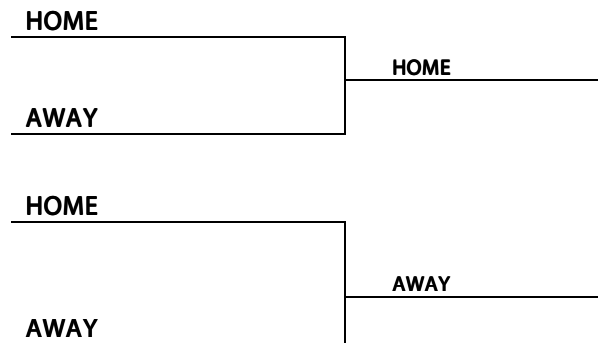
7) Competition Rules

a. Scheduling

- i. After the Adult Provincial Cup Draw, the top team listed on the official cup bracket is deemed the Home Team.

- ii. Teams are required to schedule their own fields for all rounds leading up to the Finals of Provincial Cup play. Teams must schedule and communicate the time, date and location of the game to BC Soccer by Tuesday at noon of that week. If the game details are not submitted to BC Soccer by Tuesday at noon, the Away team will become the Home team and is given the option of scheduling the game.
- iii. The Home team for any round of Provincial Cup except the finals must schedule the game for a date/time on Friday, Saturday or Sunday if it involves two lower mainland teams or two island teams. Alternatively, you must schedule a date/time on Saturday or Sunday between 12:00pm and 4:00pm if the game involves one Lower Mainland team and one Vancouver Island team. Once confirmed with BC Soccer, the schedule will not be changed unless otherwise agreed to by both teams.
- iv. Fields must be scheduled for a minimum of three hours per game.
- v. Where games are played on open parks, the first named (i.e. home) team shall be responsible for marking out the grounds.
- vi. For Men's and Women's A Cup Competitions, every effort must be made by the schedulers to provide a field with adequate change rooms available for both teams.
- vii. All teams should be able to provide one net for the goalposts if necessary.

b. Format



- i. All Adult Provincial Cup Competition is Single Elimination format.

c. Ball

- i. In all games prior to the finals, the Home team shall supply the ball for the game, additionally; each team must have an extra ball on hand for use in case of an emergency.

d. Official Match Reports

- i. Each team shall be required to complete a BC Soccer Official Match Report and submit the form to the referee 30 minutes prior to the start of each game.

- ii. The Match Report is the official record of each play down and final game, and each team shall be entitled to receive a copy of the completed form when it has been duly signed by the referee.
- iii. Match Report forms will be supplied to the leagues prior to the start of Provincial Championships.
- iv. It will be the leagues duty to ensure that their teams receive the blank form to take to each home game.
- v. It is the home team's responsibility to ensure the form is available at each game.
- vi. It is the referee's responsibility to forward a copy of the form to the BC Soccer office within 24 hours of each game.
- vii. BC Soccer will provide the Official Match Reports for the Provincial Championship Finals. Each team must fill out their team roster one (1) hour prior to game time.
- viii. If a team fails to complete the appropriate paper work on time and without just cause, it may result in a fine (See Appendix 'Schedule of Fines')

8) Discipline

a. Tournament Discipline Committee

- i. Any disciplinary offence requiring review will be handled as required by the BC Soccer disciplinary committee. Team officials will be notified if a player is required to appear before the BC Soccer Discipline Committee.

b. Suspended Players

- i. Discipline regulations of BC Soccer will apply to all players in Adult Cup competitions including all suspensions currently being served from their respective league.
- ii. Any suspensions incurred during Provincial Cup play must be served during the players next Provincial Cup Game and will carry over to future seasons Provincial Cup games while not affecting their status for league play. This is subject to change at the discretion of the BC Soccer Discipline Committee.

c. Red Cards

- i. Expulsion or Red Cards during Provincial Cup play shall result in an automatic one (1) game suspension and additional games if warranted based on the BC Soccer Discipline Policy and procedures Regulations punishment guidelines. If BC Soccer or the accused requests, a disciplinary hearing will be conducted.

d. Cautions

- i. Cautions (Yellow Cards) received during all rounds of the Adult Cup Competition will accumulate and apply during that competition only and are as follows:
 - 1. Two cautions (Yellow Cards) in one game = ejection plus an automatic one game suspension

2. Accumulation of two (2) cautions (Yellow Cards) in Provincial A, U21, Masters, Classics and Women's B Cup competition play = an automatic one game suspension
3. Accumulation of further cautions (Yellow Cards) = performance review and additional disciplinary action as determined by the Discipline Committee
4. Upon the conclusion of the quarter finals of all categories of Provincial Cup, and prior to the commencement of the semifinals, all Cautions (yellow cards) shall be removed from the record of all participating players. Note that any suspensions earned must still be served, but any/all accumulated cautions to that point are removed from the player's record.

9) Administration of the Competition

a. Travel Assistance

- i. All teams travelling between the Greater Vancouver Region and Vancouver Island for Provincial Cup games and Finals are eligible for a travel grant of \$500.00 per team for every eligible game you participate in.
- ii. Travel grants will be paid to the team's league upon completion of the Provincial Championship.

b. Protests

- i. The protest fee for any game is \$250.00. Protests must be filed in accordance with the BC Soccer Rules and Regulations - Rule #11 (Protests). In the event the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. If the protest is denied, the fee will be forfeited.
- ii. The grounds upon which the protest is based must be included in a written submission, which must be forwarded to the Provincial Representative in attendance within 48 hours of the completion of the match being protested. 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. (Rule 11.a.)

c. BC Soccer Representative

- i. BC Soccer will appoint one (1) BC Soccer Representative to act on BC Soccer's behalf at the Provincial Cup finals. The BC Soccer Representative shall:
 1. Arrange a meeting with the referee coordinator/scheduler, if necessary
 2. Convene and chair any hearings necessary to handle any discipline or protest arising at the competition
 3. Attend all official functions

4. Submit a completed competition report to be submitted no later than twenty-one (21) days after the competition. No expenses will be reimbursed until the report is received.

d. Code of Conduct

- i. All participants at BC Soccer Provincial Championships are expected to:
 1. Act as ambassadors for their local clubs and leagues
 2. Participate in the Provincial Championships in the spirit of fair play, co-operation and respect for others at all times
 3. Comply with rulings by officials, coaches, managers, or any other person in a position of authority or responsibility
 4. Respect the rules of the sport, the British Columbia Soccer Association Competitions Rules and the BC Soccer Code of Conduct
 5. Perform to their best ability in every competition and accept with pride the result their effort brings
 6. Respect the rights of the residents of the Host Association and members from other club, districts, and leagues
 7. Regard participation in the Provincial Championships as a privilege
 8. Reside in the designated Host Accommodation for the duration of the Championship
 9. Respect the Clean Air policy and ban on smoking at Championship venues and facilities
 10. Obey all federal laws, provincial laws and municipal by-laws, on alcohol consumption and illegal substance (drug) and tobacco use;
 11. Not abuse, damage or destroy facilities or equipment
 12. Not breach the requirements of the British Columbia Soccer Association Harassment Policy

e. Trophies

- i. Annual trophies presented to teams at the Provincial Championship 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 15th of the following year.
- iv. Upon return of the trophy, each team will be awarded a "Keeper" version of that trophy.

10) National Championships

a. Club Nationals

- i. Men's and Women's A Cup Provincial Champions qualify for the CSA Club Nationals held each year during October.
- ii. Masters and Classics Provincial Champions qualify for the CSA Club Westerns held each year on the last weekend in September.

- iii. Teams must notify BC Soccer within 14 days of winning Provincials if the team cannot meet its commitment in October.
- iv. It is the responsibility of all Adult leagues to ensure that its member teams fulfill all Championship commitments once they have entered Provincial Championships up to the time a Provincial Champion is declared and the Canadian Club Championship is held. It is also a league's duty to monitor the progress of any member team(s) which qualifies as a result of their victory in the Provincial Championship for the Canadian Club Championships (Adult A Men's and Women's and Masters and Classics).
- v. Teams failing to attend a national competition will be fined.

11) Competition Location and Schedule Information

- a. The location of the Provincial Championship Finals weekend is currently rotated amongst the Greater Vancouver area, the Fraser Valley and Vancouver Island.
- b. In 2014 the location will be in the Fraser Valley, in 2015 the location will be on Vancouver Island, in 2016 the location will be in the Greater Vancouver area, etc.
- c. Schedule is to be determined each year by the Adult Competitions Committee.
- d. The finals will take place over one full weekend, all men's finals on one day and all women's finals on the other.
- e. For more detailed information please visit <http://www.bcsoccer.net/provincial-cup>.

Appendix: Schedule of Fines

This section provides an outline of some general infractions that may be dealt with by the BC Soccer Adult 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. BC Soccer reserves the right to independently review each situation and use their discretion regarding all fines listed below.

- 1) **Team fails to appear for a scheduled game without just cause**
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$750.00 fine, plus field and game official costs
- 2) **A Team fails to comply with all pre-game requirements without just cause.**
Penalty: \$100.00
- 3) **Failure to return a trophy by the deadline**
Penalty: \$500.00
- 4) **Failure to return a trophy**
Penalty: \$500.00 plus the cost of replacing the trophy.
- 5) **Team fails to commence a game or withdraws from the game after it has started unless so directed by the Referee**
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$500.00 fine plus field and game official costs
- 6) **Team or teams held to be at fault for abandonment of a game**
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$500.00 fine plus field and game official costs
- 7) **If requested by referee – lack of spectator control by team official(s) including failure to address the referee.**
Penalty: \$100.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition
- 8) **Harassment of referee, persistent criticism of the referee or disputing calls of the referee by team officials and/or players**
Penalty: Minimum \$250.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition
- 9) **If requested by referee – failure to identify spectator(s) responsible for misconduct towards a referee or linesperson**
Penalty: \$100.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition
- 10) **Player/team official, while under suspension and attending a game as a spectator, behaves in a manner that brings the game into disrepute**
Penalty: \$300.00 fine and suspended from attendance at the game sites
- 11) **Team fails to send a representative to pre-competition meeting**
Penalty: \$200.00 fine
- 12) **Team fails to have a team official with sufficient coaching qualifications**
Penalty: \$100.00 fine
- 13) **Team fails to fulfill Provincial and/or Club National commitment**

Penalty: \$1000.00, plus the CSA fines that are assessed to BC Soccer