



**BC SOCCER**

# **2016-2017 YOUTH COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS**

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

  
**PROVINCIAL**  
*championships*

Updated, October 25, 2016

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.....	5
g.	Harassment/Complaints .....	5
2)	TEAM ELIGIBILITY.....	5
a.	Declarations/Entry Deadlines .....	5
b.	Dispensation.....	5
c.	Performance Bonds/Responsibility.....	6
d.	Team Promotion.....	7
e.	Team Replacement .....	7
f.	Coaching Qualifications .....	7
g.	Team Officials Gender .....	7
3)	PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.....	8
a.	Registration .....	8
b.	Age Eligibility Chart.....	8
c.	ID Cards .....	8
4)	QUALIFICATION.....	8
a.	Categories/Levels .....	8
b.	Provincial Premier Cup .....	8
c.	Provincial A Cup.....	9
d.	Girls Provincial B Cup & Les Sinnott Memorial Boys Provincial Cup .....	9
e.	Notification of Qualification .....	10
5)	TEAM RULES .....	10
a.	Provincial Premier Cup Rosters.....	10
b.	Provincial A & B Cup Rosters .....	10
c.	Team Officials.....	11
d.	Player Pick Ups .....	11
e.	Cup Tied .....	12
f.	Permits .....	12
g.	Uniforms.....	12
h.	Meetings .....	12
i.	Events and Ceremonies .....	13
6)	GAME RULES.....	13
a.	Laws of the Game .....	13
b.	Provincial Premier Cup Substitutions.....	13
c.	Provincial A & B Cup Substitutions .....	13
d.	Duration of Play.....	13

7)	COMPETITION FORMATS .....	14
a.	Provincial Premier Cup Format .....	14
b.	Provincial A Cup Format .....	14
c.	Girls Provincial B Cup and Les Sinnott Memorial Cup Format .....	14
d.	Round Robin Tie-Breaking .....	14
e.	Game Officials .....	15
f.	Official Match Reports.....	16
g.	Results Reporting .....	16
h.	Retreat Line .....	16
8)	DISCIPLINE .....	16
9)	ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMPETITION .....	17
a.	Travel Assistance grants .....	17
b.	Accommodations/Host Hotel obligations .....	18
c.	Protests .....	18
d.	BC Soccer Representative .....	18
e.	Code of Conduct .....	19
f.	Fair Play.....	19
g.	Trophies .....	20
10)	COMPETITION LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULES .....	20
	APPENDIX 1: SCHEDULE OF FINES.....	21

## 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 operation of these competitions. The draws and the scheduling of games up to the time Regional and District winners are declared may be delegated to the associations having jurisdiction.
- ii. BC Soccer staff shall be responsible for managing and implementing the operational functions of the competition under the direction of BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee.
- iii. The Youth Competitions Committee shall have the authority to order any game replayed, or played to a finish.
- iv. BC Soccer staff shall be accountable to the Executive Director for the operational functions of these competitions.

### 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 latter shall have precedence.
- ii. BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee shall be responsible for developing the rules and policies governing Provincial Regional Play Downs (Coastal Cup and Interior 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 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, shall be final and binding on all parties.

**f. Risk Management**

- i. Participants in any Youth Provincial Championship must adhere to BC Soccer's Risk Management Rules and Conduct, Ethics and Discipline Standards and Policy.

**g. Harassment/Complaints**

- i. BC Soccer has formal harassment and complaint guidelines which shall apply to all Provincial Competition of the Association. These guidelines can be found in the BC Soccer [Conduct, Ethics and Discipline Standards and Policy Guidelines](#). Any formal complaints allegation of harassment shall be referred to BC Soccer Judicial Committee.

**2) Team Eligibility**

**a. Declarations/Entry Deadlines**

- i. **Provincial Premier Cup:** The Provincial Premier Cup shall be open to all youth teams under the jurisdiction of the Association, declared on entry forms provided by BC Soccer and with registration fees submitted by December 1st in the current coastal playing season and by May 1<sup>st</sup> in the current interior playing season, provided the team, or teams, have played in properly constituted league matches and are not under suspension from district or authorized leagues.
  1. Unless otherwise indicated, all BCSPL franchises are automatically declared for the Provincial Premier Cup.
- ii. **Provincial A Cup:** The Provincial A Level Championships shall be open to all youth teams under the jurisdiction of the Association, declared to their district provided teams have played in properly constituted league matches and are not under suspension from district or authorized leagues.
- iii. **Provincial B Level Championships:** shall be open to any affiliated Gold or lower level youth team as declared to their district provided the teams have played in properly constituted league matches and are not under suspension from district or authorized leagues.
- iv. **Declaring Up:** For any teams wishing to play up a competition level, 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 an out of district competition, such as the Coastal Cup or Interior Play Downs, they are committed to Provincial Cup for that season. 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.

**b. Dispensation**

- i. Applies to districts whose boundaries are limited by geography, 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 district 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.

**c. Performance Bonds/Responsibility**

- i. All youth Districts and BC SPL clubs shall post one Performance Bond of \$1,000.00, or \$300 per team, whichever is less, with BC Soccer prior to any team entering Provincial Premier, A or B Cup Play Down games for the current season. Additional bonding may be required for specific teams or individuals as specified within these rules.
- ii. Performance Bonds must be on file with BC Soccer by January 1<sup>st</sup> for Coastal/Vancouver Island Districts, and by April 1<sup>st</sup> for Interior Districts.
- iii. The district-posted Bond shall cover all teams the district has entered in cup play.
- iv. In addition to the general bonding requirement as noted above, the BC Soccer Youth Competitions Committee may, for just cause, place any team, team official, or spectator on a specific Performance Bond before entering or during a competition. In this case the Bond shall outline the amount of the Bond, the purpose(s) to be served, the duration of the Bond and the conditions under which either all or a portion of the bonding amount may be forfeited.
- v. In the case of a Bond placed upon a team, team official or spectator, their district may declare that the individual or group post the Bond prior to participation in a competition.
- vi. If the Bond is depleted during cup play, the member district must forthwith replenish the bond.
- vii. Interest will not be paid on bond deposits.
- viii. Any team official or spectator refusing to sign an undertaking that makes up the bond, or by failing to post the required bond deposit, shall be immediately suspended from further participation in provincial competitions.
- ix. It is the responsibility of all District associations to ensure that its affiliated teams fulfill their commitments once they have entered either Provincial Championships up to the time a Provincial Champion is declared and the Canadian National Club Championship is held.
- x. 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.

**d. Team Promotion**

- i. Teams who place 1<sup>st</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.

**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 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. Replacing a Coastal/Lower Mainland team → with the next highest finishing Coastal/Lower Mainland team in the Coastal Cup.
  2. Replacing a Vancouver Island team → with the next highest finisher from Vancouver Island.
  3. Replacing a team from an Interior region → with the next highest finishing team from that region, or failing that, from the neighbouring regions. 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.

**f. Coaching Qualifications**

- i. Teams may not enter or take part in any Provincial Cup unless the Team Head Coach has completed the Community Stream coaching course called “Soccer for Life” or a higher level course in the Licensing Stream (C License, B Provincial, B National or A License levels).
- ii. Team Head Coaches who hold a B Pretest designation are still eligible for the 2017 Provincial Cup year only. For 2018 Provincial Cup competition and onwards, the B Pretest designation will cease to be recognized and those coaches will be required to complete the Soccer for Life course and/or higher levels as stated above.

**g. Team Officials Gender**

- i. 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.

### 3) Player Eligibility

#### a. Registration

- i. No team entering a Youth Provincial Cup competition may register a new player after March 31st of the current coastal playing season or after June 1st of the current interior playing season.
- ii. 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 be registered or reinstated as a youth from adult player or transferred to a team 7 days prior to taking part in that team’s Regional qualifying or Provincial Cup game, as per the transfer and reinstatement rules outlined in the BC Soccer Rules and Regulations. Players must also have played at least 1 league game before playing in a Provincial or Regional Cup game.

#### b. Age Eligibility Chart

SEASON (Year in which play ends)	U-18	U-17	U-16	U-15	U-14	U-13
2017	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
2018	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
2019	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
2020	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007

#### c. ID Cards

- i. In Provincial Cup Competitions, each team will supply to the referee a set of BC Soccer Photo Identification Cards, for all players and team officials.

### 4) Qualification

#### a. Categories/Levels

- i. Teams qualify for and must enter the Provincial Cup Competition at the age group level of the league in which they participate. 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 U13, U14, U15, U16 & U18 Girls
  3. Provincial B Cup Championships for U13 to U18 Boys and Girls.

#### b. Provincial Premier Cup

- i. See Rule 2) a) Declarations/Entry Deadlines



- ii. All declared Coastal (non BC SPL) teams will play down to one qualifier per age group. See Appendix 2 – “Coastal Premier Cup Playdowns” for details.
- iii. All declared Interior (non BC SPL) teams will play down to one qualifier per age group. See Appendix 3 – “Interior Premier Cup Playdowns” for details.
- iv. The Coastal qualifier will then play the Interior qualifier. See Appendix 3 – “Coastal vs Interior Premier Cup Playdowns” for details.
- v. The winner of this match plays the 4th place BC SPL team as determined by the BC SPL league standings at the end of Phase 1.
- vi. The winner of this match will join the top three BC SPL teams as determined by the same league standings.
- vii. These four teams will then proceed to the Provincial Premier Cup semi-finals and compete in a single elimination tournament. See section 7 – Competition Rules and Formats.

**c. Provincial A Cup**

- i. See Rule 2) a) Declarations/Entry Deadlines
- ii. The 2015 Provincial A Cup will be a four-team round robin tournament in each age/gender, consisting of the:
  1. Coastal Cup Winner
  2. Metro Select League (MSL) Winner (1st place at the end of the year)
  3. Vancouver Island Champion
  4. Interior Champion
- iii. If the MSL winner is the same as the Coastal Cup winner, then a berth will be awarded to the 2nd place team in the MSL standings.
- iv. If an island team wins the Coastal Cup, then the Coastal Cup Winner berth will be awarded to the runner up in Coastal Cup.
- v. In the scenario above, if the Coastal Cup runner up is also the MSL winner, a berth will be awarded to the second place team in the MSL.
- vi. For A Cup at U13 (at which age there is no VIPL), any Island team entrants will enter the combined “Coastal Cup” draw and attempt to qualify through the Coastal Cup. The three qualifiers from the Coast and Vancouver Island will be the MSL winner and the two finalists in the Coastal Cup. Should one team win two of these qualifying spots, the MSL runner-up will be awarded the third Coastal spot. Should the two Coastal Cup finalists be the two highest placed teams in the MSL, the third berth will go to the winner of a play-off game between two the losing Coastal Cup semi-finalists.
- vii. If no interior teams are declared in an age group, the next highest finishing team in the Coastal cup will be offered this berth. If more than one team is eligible for this berth, a separate play in competition will be arranged to determine this qualifier.
- viii. For Provincial A Cup qualification purposes, should the MSL League Champion declare for the BC Premier Cup, the highest-placed MSL standings team entering A Cup will be awarded the ‘Champion’ berth.

**d. Girls Provincial B Cup & Les Sinnott Memorial Boys Provincial Cup**

- i. The 8 qualifying teams for U13 through U18 are:
  1. First Place Coastal B Cup

2. Second Place Coastal B Cup
  3. First Place Vancouver Island/Powell River
  4. First Place Thompson Okanagan
  5. First Place Columbia Kootenay
  6. First AND Second Place in the Northern BC Region (Formerly Cariboo North Region and North Coast Region)
  7. Host District Berth
- ii. **Host District Berth:** 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 Coastal regions, and June 1st for Interior regions. The teams that will fill the host berths must be declared by May 15<sup>th</sup> for Coastal Regions and by June 15<sup>th</sup> for Interior Regions.
  - iii. If the host district team is the regional winner the host berth will go to the second place team in the same region.
  - iv. If the host district does not have a team in an age group, the berth will go to the second place team in the same region.
  - v. If there is no team in the host age group from within the region, the Competition Committee will award the berth to another region.

**e. 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.

**5) 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>. Rosters become locked and only players competing on a permit (see rule 5 e) may be added to a game day 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. for U13 - U16 the maximum shall be eighteen (18) players
- v. for U17 and U18 the maximum 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.

**d. Player Pick Ups**

- i. The purpose behind allowing pick-up requests is to provide teams with the ability to have enough players to compete in the Provincial Championships. It is not designed to allow teams to strengthen their roster by dropping players to pick up stronger ones. Any team proven to be abusing this privilege will face disciplinary action by the BC Soccer Board of Directors.
- ii. 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.
- iii. No player shall be permitted to play for more than one team in the same Provincial Cup Competition in the same season.
- iv. For the Provincial Premier, A and B Cups, the player being picked up must be from a lower calibre or lower age level of play.
- v. Players cannot be picked up from a higher calibre of play, regardless of age.
- vi. All players being picked up cannot be Cup Tied (see 5) e.)
- vii. Any player who is requested for pick up can only be chosen from within a team's club system, if such a system is in place. If no club system is in place, teams may apply to pick up players from within their district, with BC Soccer and District approval.
- 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.
- ix. Players being replaced must be released through either:
  1. Medical certificate, or
  2. Letter from parent/guardian and player indicating unavailability and the reasons for this
- x. If no medical certificate or letter is available, the Youth Competitions Committee can consider the circumstances on a case by case basis, and make a judgement whether a pick up will be permitted.
- xi. 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.
- xii. 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.
- xiii. In cases where a team has lost a goalkeeper, Player Pick Ups may be approved after the deadline(s).
- xiv. ID cards must be provided for all players. Team officials are responsible for obtaining ID cards for all players under this clause.
- xv. BCSPL clubs are not permitted to use this type of player pick up.

**e. Cup Tied**

- i. Players are cup tied to the age category and calibre of competition that they have competed in/declared for during the current season.
- ii. A player shall be deemed 'cup tied' at the moment he or she participates in a game or on a team that is in the final regional groupings as defined by the Youth Competition Committee.
- iii. Final regional groupings include the Coastal Cup, and the Interior Play Downs and may include other competitions

**f. Permits**

- i. Teams competing in the Provincial Premier Cup may use players playing on a BC Soccer Premier Cup Permit form. Permits may not be used in the Provincial A or B Cup competitions.
- 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. ID cards must be provided for all players. Team officials are responsible for obtaining ID cards for all players under this clause.
- viii. Teams may not release a player from their roster in order to make room for a permitted player.

**g. 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. The Youth Competitions Committee recommends that players have the same number on both sets of jerseys. The team listed as the home team will be required to change uniforms in the case of a colour conflict.

**h. 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.

**i. 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 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. 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 2017 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	Extra Time
Under-18 Division	2 halves of 45 minutes	2 halves of 15 minutes
Under-17 Division	2 halves of 45 minutes	2 halves of 15 minutes
Under-16 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes	2 halves of 10 minutes
Under-15 Division	2 halves of 40 minutes	2 halves of 10 minutes
Under-14 Division	2 halves of 35 minutes	2 halves of 10 minutes
Under-13 Division	2 halves of 35 minutes	2 halves of 10 minutes

- ii. Round Robin (if applicable) games that end in a tie will stand.
- iii. If teams are still tied at the end of regulation time in the Premier Cup semifinals or in all Provincial Championship Finals, the teams will play two (2) equal halves of extra time as per the chart in rule 6. C).

## 7) Competition Formats

### a. Provincial Premier Cup Format

- i. A 4-team single elimination, knock out style tournament.
- ii. Qualification rounds (if required) to reach 4 teams are outlined in Appendix 2 & 3.
- iii. **Seeding:** 1st place vs. 4th place and 2nd vs. 3rd place. Seeding will remain in place from the start of the Semi-Finals to the Finals with the highest place seeds designated as 'home' teams.
- iv. 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 Provincial A Cup will be a four-team Round Robin tournament in each age/gender at U13, U14, U15, U16 and U18.
- ii. The first and second place team in each group will play in the Gold Medal game, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place teams in each group will compete in the Bronze medal game.
- iii. **Seeding:** There are no seeded teams in the Provincial A Cup

### 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 2016 will be used to seed the U14 division in 2017. 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 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> and fourth place teams in each group will compete for 7<sup>th</sup> 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 two teams are tied on points ties shall be broken according to subsection 5 below, and in the order specified.
- iv. If more than two teams are tied on points, ties shall be broken according to subsection 5 below in the order specified until one team is no longer tied, at which time, the tie breaking sequence will be applied from the beginning to the remaining tied teams.
- v. 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. 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.
  4. Goals for – The total number of goals scored on all opponents during the round robin to a maximum of five (5) goals per games shall be totalled, the team with the higher number shall be awarded the higher standing.
- vi. In the event a tie cannot be broken using the rules above, kicks from the penalty mark shall be taken as follows:
1. Two (2) teams tied - As per FIFA 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 penalty kicks 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:
    - Most points win; three (3) points awarded for a win; one (1) point for tie.
      - Previous match results as per 7) c. 5. above but from the mini game just played.
      - Goal difference as calculated from the total mini games involving each team.
    - Repeat mini game process until standings are determined.
- vii. 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) to decide the final standings as in the three (3) teams case above.
- 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 LOC in the assignment of all game officials.
- iii. For the Provincial Premier Cup finals, BC Soccer will assign all games officials (1 center official and 2 assistant referee). In the final games only, a 4<sup>th</sup> official will also be assigned.
- iv. For the Provincial A Cup, Girls B Cup and Les Sinnott boys Memorial Cup, 1 center official and 2 assistant referees will be assigned to each game. Fourth officials will not be used.

**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.

**g. Results Reporting**

- i. The referee is responsible for ensuring that the completed match reports and misconduct reports are submitted to the competition headquarters as soon as possible following each game. Teams can pick up a copy of the report at the tournament headquarters.

**h. Retreat Line**

- i. For the Under 13 division of all Provincial Championships, the “Retreat Line” rule is in effect. The Retreat line comes into play when the ball has gone out for a goal kick. All opposing players will retreat to flags indicating the attacking 3rd zone and cannot pursue the ball until:
  - The ball is received by a teammate OR,
  - The ball travels over the retreat line OR,
  - The ball leaves the field of play
- ii. If a team chooses to play quickly, they can. The ball will be in play as soon as it leaves the penalty area regardless of the opposing team’s position. If the opposing team repeatedly infringes the retreat line, an indirect free kick shall be awarded from the place where the offence occurred.

**8) Discipline**

- a. All Judicial/Discipline matters will be dealt with by the Provincial Championships Discipline Committee.
- 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. Disciplinary Hearing will be conducted by BC Soccer 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 Discipline Committee 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 appropriate authority within BC Soccer.
- 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 Committee for that event. Please visit <http://www.bcsoccer.net/protests-appeals> for information regarding appeals.
- 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 Discipline Committee.
- i. Cautions
  - i. Yellow card accumulations will NOT be carried over from the regular season to Championship or regional qualifying games.
  - 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. Provincial Cup for youth teams is defined as all "Premier", "A" Cup competition and "B" Cup competition beyond inter-district qualification, Coastal Cup and Interior Play Downs..
  - iii. Any suspensions still to be served at the conclusion of regional qualifying competitions will carry over to Provincial Championship games.

## 9) Administration of the Competition

### a. Travel Assistance grants

- i. There will be no travel grants available for teams competing in the Premier Cup.
- ii. For teams competing in the Provincial 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.  $\text{Distance Travelled one way(km)} - 500 (X \$1) = \text{Grant}$
  - 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.

- iii. One travel grant per eligible team will be issued; no application is required.
- iv. 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. All teams competing in any category of Youth Provincial Championship are obligated to stay in the host hotel.
- 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 Local Organizing Committee for the competition is responsible for ensuring all teams have a minimum of 8 hotel rooms available at the time of their qualification as close as reasonably possible the competition venue.
- 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 the BC Soccer Rules and Regulations - Rule #11 (Protests), 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 BC Soccer personnel 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. (Rule 11.a.)

**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. Convene and chair any hearings necessary to handle any discipline or protest arising at the competition
5. Attend all official functions
6. 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.

**e. Code of Conduct**

- i. All participants at BC Soccer Provincial Championships are expected to:
  1. Act as ambassadors for their local clubs, districts 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 Regulations.
  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 clubs, districts, and leagues.
  7. Regard participation in the Provincial Championships as a privilege.
  8. Respect the Clean Air policy and ban on smoking at Championship venues and facilities.
  9. Obey all federal laws, provincial laws and municipal by-laws, on alcohol consumption and illegal substance (drug) and tobacco use.
  10. Respect the Zero Tolerance of alcohol (acquiring, possession of purchasing or consuming) at Provincial Youth Championships.
  11. Not abuse, damage or destroy facilities or equipment.
  12. Not breach the requirements of the British Columbia Soccer Association Harassment Policy.
- ii. All participants at BC Soccer Provincial Championships are required to sign a Code of Conduct form indicating that they have read and understood the BC Soccer Code of Conduct. Players under the age of U18 should review the Code of Conduct with their parents and/or legal guardians, who shall be witness to their signing.

**f. Fair Play**

- 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. 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.

**10) Competition Locations and Schedules**

- a. Clubs and Districts can bid to host a Provincial Championship up to 2 years in advance.
- b. Host locations are chosen and announced at least 15 months prior to the competition.

## Appendix 1: Schedule of Fines

This section provides an outline of some general 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.

- 1) **Once a team commits to competing in an out of district competition, 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) **If after warnings by the referee – lack of spectator control by team official(s) including failure to address the referee, harassment of referee, persistent criticism of the referee or disputing calls of the referee by team officials, players or spectators**  
Penalty: \$2,500.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition
- 8) **If requested by referee or Provincial Representatives – failure to identify spectator(s) responsible for misconduct towards a referee or linesperson**  
Penalty: \$2,500.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition
- 9) **Player/team official, while under suspension and attending a game as a spectator, behaves in a manner that brings the game into disrepute**  
Penalty: \$2,500.00 fine and suspended from attendance at the game sites
- 10) **Team fails to send a representative to pre-competition meeting**  
Penalty: \$500.00 fine

- 11) Team fails to attend opening ceremony**  
Penalty: \$500.00 fine and team may be excluded from attending further competitions
- 12) Team fails to attend a required closing ceremony**  
Penalty: \$500.00 fine and team may be excluded from attending further competitions
- 13) 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.
- 14) Extremely bad behavior by a team, player, team official, or spectator**  
Penalty: Up to \$2,500.00, and/or risk of immediate expulsion from the competition and a review of that team's eligibility to compete in future years.