



BC SOCCER

POST AGM (held November 7, 2020)
Amendments for Consideration at the
2020 Annual General Meeting

November 7, 2020

(Reference: BC Soccer bylaw 5.15.b)

Dear Member,

As we know, the world changed with the global COVID-19 pandemic. While that has made for challenging times across sport, we as a board, are proud of the membership in how they have supported BC Soccer navigating through the uncertainty. Input from the membership has been critical to guiding us all through. Impressively, across the 8+ surveys BC Soccer has conducted since March 13th, we've had some of the highest response rates in over five years! Further, we are thankful for the membership's understanding and trust in the Association as we made the decision to be as transparent as possible, sharing what we did know, didn't know, weren't clear on and, what we were hoping for in terms of returning to the pitch.

To that end, transparency, clarity and collaboration is what has inspired this Amendments Package. Admittedly, there are some complex amendments in this package. They represent things that we know need to be amended for compliance/alignment purposes, things that we want to become clearer on, and, things that we have collaborated on.

As always, the Amendments for Consideration have also been prepared with a focused, strategic approach that we believe are what is best for growing the game in BC and supporting our members in doing so.

To be more transparent with how some of the amendments, specifically bylaw amendments, came to be, this year, we have provided a Preamble, where appropriate. It provides a more in-depth introduction to the amendments that we hope will provide for better understanding.

The amendments for consideration have been provided within seven (7) Bylaw Amendments and, nine (9) Rule Amendments.

We look forward to presenting these amendments for your consideration at the AGM to be held on **Saturday, November 7th, 2020.**

Yours in soccer,

BC Soccer Board of Directors

To assist in your reading of this document, please note that the following icons are provided with additional information or opportunities to access additional information:



1. States rationale and/or “what a proposed amendment means or is doing” in a less formal way
2. Points out additional information that may be relevant for consideration



3. Links to an external resource and/or references something from an external resource specifically



4. Identifies a link to go somewhere else within this document



5. Identifies where the amendment has been prompted by consensus at a previous member meeting

The first 3 bylaw amendments are about 24 pages long.

Interested in a Shortcut?

Read the Preamble of Bylaw Amendment #1 and #2. Then read all of Bylaw Amendment #3. (Saves about 16 pages)

Bylaw Amendment #1, #2, and #3 are quite lengthy but are important and related. They cover “For-Profit Inclusion,” judicial related items for compliance with Canada Soccer, and membership related amendments to make it all clearer...if all three amendments are approved.

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BYLAW AMENDMENT #1

PREAMBLE

Over the past couple of years there have been increasing questions regarding which rules apply to For-Profit and Not-For-Profit Associate Members. There are misunderstandings that these organizations receive the same benefits as clubs without having to pay the same fees. Additionally, there are disputes about player pools and conflicts of interest.

At the 2019 AGM, BC Soccer proposed amendments that would enable For-Profit Organizations to become members of Youth District Associations; however those amendments did not pass. Since then, BC Soccer has:

- Received a letter from Canada Soccer which provided a clear direction in terms of the incorporation status of an organization and the relevance of this as it relates to inclusion within BC Soccer's membership structure. Specifically, the letter stated that, "Canada Soccer views 'private academies', 'for-profit clubs', and 'non-profit/community clubs' as one in the same". Further, as a member of Canada Soccer, the letter reiterated BC Soccer's obligation to comply with Canada Soccer's bylaws, rules, and policies.
- Received a letter from North Shore Youth Soccer Association requesting that BC Soccer revisit proposed bylaw amendments made at the 2019 BC Soccer AGM that, "will allow For-Profit Entities providing soccer activities (such as Academies) to be included formally within the sanctioned soccer environments as members of a regional youth soccer district..."
- Provided a legal opinion from BC Soccer's legal counsel, Alexander Holburn Beaudin + Lang LLP clarifying that, "a society incorporated pursuant to the Societies Act (British Columbia) may permit for-profit entities to be admitted as members of the society..."
- Engaged and further consulted with members through a series of memos, proposed timelines for implementation, drafted onboarding documentation (for Youth Districts to accept new club members) and answered questions through direct communication with members and through webinars that have been recorded and made available through BC Soccer's website.

Reference: The letters and links to documentation mentioned above is provided in [Appendix A](#) 

The proposed amendment below is designed to achieve the following:

- Remove the ability for academies/for-profit organizations to affiliate directly with BC Soccer
- Enable academies/for-profit organizations to affiliate with BC Soccer via a Youth District Association
- Give academies/for-profit organizations that affiliate with BC Soccer via a Youth District Association the same benefits and the ability to be governed by the same bylaws, rules and policies as non-profit clubs.
- Require Youth District Associations to have a membership application process for organizations that is free from conflict of interest

If carried, to manage the transition, the intention is to allow associate membership applications/renewals with BC Soccer to continue until January 10, 2022 as, by this time, per the Proposed Timelines distributed in the July 3, 2020 memo (reference Appendix A), Youth District Associations will have been required to have a new club membership application process in place and make a decision on any applications received during the submission period of September 1, 2021 to October 31, 2021.

RATIONALE

- To be compliant with Canada Soccer per their April 22, 2020 letter to BC Soccer
- To recognize the letter from North Shore Youth Soccer per the letter received June 2, 2020
- So BC Soccer and its members can become more inclusive, which is the desire of BC Soccer’s other governing body, viaSport.
- To have all organizations at the local level operate under the same bylaws, rules and regulations, and polices; and, have access to the same benefits of membership.

ACHIEVING THE INTENTION OF THE AMENDMENT

To achieve the full intention of “Bylaw Amendment #1” BC Soccer’s bylaws need to change across five (5) areas. Each area of change is presented individually for clarity below (1A, 1B, 1C, etc.); however, are proposed as a collective amendment.

By special resolution, the board of directors propose to amend BC Soccer’s bylaws as presented in items 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D, and 1E.

1A. To insert Part 1.2.d. and renumber the remainder

PROPOSED

PART 1 – GENERAL

1.2 Definitions

- (d) “Affiliated Organization” means organizations that are members of a member;

1B. To amend Part 1.2.j.i as follows

CURRENT

PART 1 – GENERAL

- (j) “Club” means:
- (i) “youth club”, being those organizations operating a minimum of four affiliated youth soccer teams having not less than 44 players and under the jurisdiction of a Youth District Association; or
 - (ii) “adult club”, being those organizations operating one or more adult teams under a common executive;

PROPOSED

PART 1 – GENERAL

- (j) “Club” means:
- (i) “youth club”, being those organizations which are registered with the province of British Columbia as a society, sole proprietor,



What’s this mean?

This amendment means for-profit organizations can also be a youth club within BC Soccer.

partnership or incorporation; and, operating a minimum of four youth soccer teams having not less than 44 players under the jurisdiction of a Youth District Association; or

- (ii) “adult club”, being those organizations operating one or more adult teams under a common executive;

1C. To amend Part 3.2.e and remove as of January 10, 2022:

CURRENT

PART 3 – MEMBERSHIP

- (2) Associate Members – Non-Voting
- (e) Limited Associate Membership may be granted to organizations by following the procedure set out in this subsection to for-profit soccer academies and schools for the sole purpose of granting permission to attend individual events sanctioned by recognized governing bodies, if requested, and subject to all rules and regulations of the Society.

PROPOSED

PART 3 – MEMBERSHIP

- (2) Associate Members – Non-Voting
- (e) Limited Associate Membership may be granted to organizations by following the procedure set out in this subsection to for-profit soccer academies and schools for the sole purpose of granting permission to attend individual events sanctioned by recognized governing bodies, if requested, and subject to all rules and regulations of the Society. (Remove January 10, 2022)



This means that as of January 10, 2022, BC Soccer will no longer have For-Profit and Not-For-Profit Associate Membership categories

1D. To insert Part 15.1 and renumber the remainder:

PROPOSED

PART 15 - YOUTH DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS, ADULT LEAGUES AND AFFILIATED YOUTH CLUBS

- 15.1** Youth District Associations shall have a process in place for accepting new club and/or organization as members with full benefits that is free from conflict of interest. (Required latest July 31, 2021).

Youth District Associations may have a process for a limited membership optional ONLY to the applying club if that club only intends to provide supplementary training.



This means that Youth District Associations have to have a process for accepting new clubs as members, and it has to be for full benefits in the first instance.

1E. To amend Part 15.2.c as follows:

CURRENT

PART 15 - YOUTH DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS, ADULT LEAGUES AND AFFILIATED YOUTH CLUBS

- 15.2** Youth District Associations and Adult Leagues. Each Youth District Association, enumerated in PART 14 – Boundaries, and Adult League shall be a registered BC society in compliance with the governance requirements set out in the PART

15 – Youth District Associations, Adult Leagues and **Affiliated Youth Clubs** and shall comply with the principles of the Society’s rules, regulations and policies.

(c) **Affiliated Youth Clubs.**

- (i) A Youth District Association shall only affiliate with clubs which are registered BC societies who complete at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements.
- (ii) All affiliated clubs shall comply with the principles of the Society’s rules, regulations and policies.
- (iii) All affiliated clubs shall comply with the Society’s conflict of interest policy and the procedures set out in the Act for conflicts of interest. No director shall vote on any matter directly affecting that director or any club or team in which that director is involved with.
- (iv) All affiliate clubs shall provide to their Youth District Association proof of filing of the affiliated club’s society annual report for the previous 12 months and annually thereafter.
- (v) All affiliate clubs shall provide at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice to their Youth District Association within 30 days of the club’s annual general meeting. Review and audit engagements are preferred.
- (vi) The books and records of all clubs and teams shall be open to inspection by their Youth District Association on demand.

PROPOSED

PART 15 - YOUTH DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS, ADULT LEAGUES AND **YOUTH CLUBS**

15.2 Youth District Associations and Adult Leagues. Each Youth District Association, enumerated in PART 14 – Boundaries, and Adult League shall be a registered BC society in compliance with the governance requirements set out in the PART 15 – Youth District Associations, Adult Leagues and **Youth Clubs** and shall comply with the principles of the Society’s rules, regulations and policies.

(c) **Youth Clubs.**

- (i) A Youth District Association shall only affiliate youth clubs which are **registered with the province of British Columbia as a society, sole proprietor, partnership or incorporation** that complete at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements.
- (ii) Youth Clubs shall comply with the principles of the Society’s rules, regulations and policies.



This means that Youth District Associations will be able to accept for-profit organizations as club members, and that these organizations will be held to the same or equivalent

- (iii) Youth clubs shall comply with the Society's conflict of interest policy.
- (iv) All youth clubs shall provide to their Youth District Association proof of filling of the affiliated club's society annual report or business registration renewal for the previous 12 months and annually thereafter.
- (v) All youth clubs registered as a society shall provide at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice to their Youth District Association within 30 days of the club's annual general meeting. Review and audit engagements are preferred.
- (vi) All youth clubs registered as a sole proprietor, partnership or incorporation shall provide a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice to their Youth District Association within 90 days of their fiscal year end. Review and audit engagements are preferred.
- (vii) The books and records of youth clubs and teams shall be open to inspection by their Youth District Association on demand.

standard as not-for-profit club members.

BYLAW AMENDMENT #2

PREAMBLE

Over the past couple of years, BC Soccer has been working to fully comply with Canada Soccer's Disciplinary Code. The most notable changes include the introduction of the Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer, and, that BC Soccer now has an independent Judicial Chair and an independent Appeals Chair.

While BC Soccer has been able to implement this and be compliant with Canada Soccer, when it comes to potential disciplinary matters of a BC Soccer Active (Full) Member or Associate Member, BC Soccer's bylaws are not aligned with Canada Soccer's directive of having all judicial matters be independent of the board of directors. (For example: Can a judicial panel discipline, suspend or potentially expel a member? Or can only the board do that? Or, could either?)

Upon seeking further clarification and guidance from Canada Soccer, it was explained that the bylaws need to be clear on when and how the board acts when a member has not complied with obligations that are task oriented (example: submission of registration data or fees); as well as, when and how the board acts when a member has not complied with obligations that are more conduct-based or matters of ethical breaches. Ultimately, Canada Soccer's guidance is that if the board is to have the ultimate authority to discipline, suspend or expel a member, then the investigation around conduct-based matters or potential ethical breaches should be conducted through the independent judicial processes.

With this in mind, BC Soccer has proposed amendments to clarify this to follow the guidance of Canada Soccer.

To properly achieve this clarity, BC Soccer needs to better define items that are requirements of the Societies Act. These things include: Classes of Membership; Admission to Membership; Rights of Membership, and Obligations of Membership.

Currently, BC Soccer's bylaws include all of these requirements; however, they are scattered throughout the bylaws, and there is some duplication. Further, there are areas of BC Soccer's bylaws that specify requirements of Youth District Associations and Adult Leagues (Full) that are already covered in the Societies Act. BC Soccer Active (Full) Members are required to comply with the Societies Act by way of maintaining their registered society status; therefore, BC Soccer's bylaws do not also need repeat these specifics. If the Active (Full) Members are compliant with the Societies Act, BC Soccer shall consider them to be governing themselves properly.

Therefore, this proposed amendment clarifies the Classes of Membership, Admission to Membership, Rights of Membership and Obligations of Membership; as well as, empowers Members to further govern themselves according to the Societies Act. It is important to note that the proposed is made up of items that are already within BC Soccer's bylaws and although some of the wording is adjusted, or slightly amended to be further aligned with Canada Soccer and the Societies Act, the purpose and intention of the bylaws have not materially changed. Moreover, this will also make the proposed amendments for addressing disciplinary/judicial matters of a BC Soccer member more straightforward.

RATIONALE

- To clarify jurisdiction and process for BC Soccer board administering sanction(s) and expulsion of members.
- To be compliant with Canada Soccer's Bylaws and Disciplinary Code.

- To clarify classes of membership; as well as, the rights and obligations of membership.
- To further align with Canada Soccer.
- To remove duplication between BC Soccer bylaws and the Societies Act

ACHIEVING THE INTENTION OF THE AMENDMENT

To achieve the full intention of “Bylaw Amendment #2” BC Soccer’s bylaws need to change across three (3) areas. Each area of change is presented individually for clarity below (2A, 2B, and 2C); however, are proposed as a collective amendment.

By special resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend BC Soccer’s bylaws as presented in items 2A, 2B, and 2C.

2A. To amend Part 4.3, 4.4. and 4.6 as follows:

CURRENT

PART 4 - MEMBERSHIP DUES, TERMINATION AND DISCIPLINE

4.3 **Discipline of Members.** The Board shall have authority to discipline, suspend or expel any member from the Society on any one or more of the following grounds:

- (a) violating any provision of the constitution, these bylaws, or written policies of the Society;
- (b) failing to be in good standing;
- (c) carrying out any conduct which may be detrimental to the Society, as determined by the Board in its sole discretion; or
- (d) for any other reason that the Board in its sole and absolute discretion considers to be reasonable, having regard to the purposes of the Society.

In the event that the Board determines that a member should be disciplined, suspended, or expelled from membership in the Society, the President, or such other director or senior manager as may be designated by the Board, shall provide, in a written notice, 20 days’ notice of the proposed discipline, suspension, or expulsion to the member and shall, in the written notice, provide reasons for the proposed discipline, suspension or expulsion. The member may make written representations to the President, or such other director or senior manager as may be designated by the Board, in response to the notice received within such 20 day period. In the event that no written representations are received by the President or such other director or senior manager as may be designated by the Board, the President or such other director or senior manager as may be designated may proceed to notify the member in writing that the member is suspended or expelled from membership in the Society. If written representations are received in accordance with this Section, the Board will consider such representations in arriving at a final decision and shall notify the member concerning such final decision within a further 20 days from the date of receipt of the submissions.

A member may appeal a Board decision in accordance with the Rules & Regulations of BC Soccer.

4.4 **Suspension.** In the event a member is suspended from membership in the Society in accordance with Section 4.3, the member shall not be entitled to exercise any of the rights of being a member of the Society under these bylaws and the Act, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (a) the right to receive notice of any members' meetings; and
- (b) the right to vote at members' meetings.

The member so suspended shall automatically cease to be a member one year from the date of such member's suspension unless a decision is made by the Board to restore the member to good standing.

4.6 **Failure to Pay Membership Fees.**

- (a) A member may be declared by the Board to be not in good standing due to non-payment of any annual membership fee or any outstanding debts to the Society.
- (b) In any case, the member shall be advised in writing of the declaration of not in good standing by the Board. Members shall remain not in good standing until the Board accepts that the debt is cleared or a financial arrangement for repayment of said debt has been entered into with the Society, or until the Board is satisfied of the member's compliance with the bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and board policies of the Society.

A member who is not in good standing or is suspended from membership shall not be eligible to vote at meetings of the members or to participate in the business of the Society at meetings of the members.

PROPOSED

4.3 **Failure to Meet Financial or Reporting Obligations of Membership.**

- (a) A member may be declared by the Board to be not in good standing due to non-payment of any financial obligation, non-submission of reporting obligations, or any other outstanding debts to the Society.
- (b) In any case, the member shall be advised in writing of the declaration of not in good standing by the Board. Members shall remain not in good standing until the Board accepts that the debt is cleared or a financial arrangement for repayment of said debt has been entered into with the Society, or until the Board is satisfied of the member's compliance with the bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and board policies of the Society.



← This is very similar to the current, except would mean that the board could declare a board member not in good standing for not reporting something as well, instead of just fees. An example might be registration data.

A member who is not in good standing or is suspended from membership shall not be eligible to vote at meetings of the members or to participate in the business of the Society at meetings of the members.

4.4 Sanction and Expulsion of Members.

(a) Sanctions of a Member

- (i) A Voting or Non-Voting Member that violates its obligations as a Member may be suspended by the Board pursuant to subsection 4.2.c. 
- (ii) A Voting or Non-Voting Member may receive sanctions, including suspension, by the Board if it and/or individuals with official roles within seriously and/or repeatedly violates the bylaws, rules and regulations, Judicial Code and Policies, other Policies, decisions and/or directives of BC Soccer and/or the statutes, bylaws, regulations, directives and decisions of Canada Soccer or FIFA.

(b) Expulsion of a Member

- (i) A Voting or Non-Voting Member may be expelled by the Board if:
 - i. It and/or individuals with official roles within seriously and/or repeatedly violates the bylaws, rules and regulations, Judicial Code and Policies, other Policies decisions and/or directives of BC Soccer and/or the statutes, bylaws, regulations, directives and decisions of Canada Soccer or FIFA.
 - ii. In the case of a Life Member, the person is convicted of a criminal offence under the Criminal Code of Canada or any other domestic or international criminal statute.

(c) Process for the Board to Sanction or Expel a Member

- (i) In the event that the Board is presented with an allegation of a serious and/or repeated violation by a Voting or Non-Voting Member and/or individuals with official roles within, of the bylaws, rules and regulations, Judicial Code and Policies of BC Soccer, other Policies the Board shall refer the allegation to the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer. The Judicial Chair of BC Soccer shall investigate and/or assign an ethics and/or a discipline panel to review and investigate the allegation. Upon completion of the investigation, the Judicial Chair shall prepare a report that details the investigative process conducted, findings, conclusions and recommendation of potential sanction(s), expulsion or other of the Member. The Judicial Chair of BC Soccer shall present the report and recommendations to the Board. The Board shall have



BYLAWS REFERENCE

4.2. Termination of Membership. A membership in the Society is terminated when:

c) unless otherwise provided in these bylaws, a member is not in good standing for more than 90 days;



Bringing BC Soccer into compliance with CSA, this makes it so if the Board receives an allegation that a member has made a more conduct or ethics-based violation, then the Board would have BC Soccer Judicial conduct the investigation, make a recommendation and then report all that back to the Board. The Board would make the final decision, not Judicial. This removes any potential conflict or bias a board member may have, including opportunity for “political gain.”

- final authority in determining the sanction(s), or expulsion of a Member.
- (ii) The Board must advise the Member of the Member's sanction(s) or expulsion in writing within 20 days of having been presented with the report by the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer.
 - (iii) A suspended Member may not exercise any of their Membership rights.
 - (iv) Upon suspension of a Member, the Board must provide requirements imposed on the Member in order for the Suspension to be lifted.
 - (v) A suspension will be in effect until the Member meets the requirements imposed by the Board and/or the Board judges that the Member has taken the required steps to become compliant.
 - (vi) An expelled Member shall lose all Membership Rights.

2B. To remove Part 15.2.b.i, ii, iii, iv, v, and ix:

CURRENT

PART 15 - YOUTH DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS, ADULT LEAGUES AND AFFILIATED YOUTH CLUBS

15.2 Youth District Associations and Adult Leagues. Each Youth District Association, enumerated in PART 14 - Boundaries, and Adult League shall be a registered BC society in compliance with the governance requirements set out in this PART 16 - Youth District Associations, Adult Leagues and Affiliated Youth Clubs and shall comply with the principles of the Society's rules, regulations and policies.

- (b) **Governance.** The bylaws of each Youth District Association and Adult League shall set out the following:
 - (i) A Youth District Association shall have no less than five directors and an Adult League shall have no less than three directors elected at its annual general meeting. The board of directors shall meet whenever the chair of the board or a majority of the directors deems necessary, and in any case shall meet at least once every two months. A majority of the elected directors shall constitute a quorum.
 - (ii) Youth District Associations and Adult Leagues may establish guidelines to determine the eligibility of candidates, manner of election and length of term of directors, provided a director's term shall be a minimum of one year, unless a director is elected to fill a vacancy until the next annual general meeting.
 - (iii) The term of office for a director must commence no later than 30 days after the date of the annual general meeting.



This is removing the overlap between the Societies Act and BC Soccer's bylaws. If members are compliant with the Societies Act, then they're considered to be governing themselves properly and BC Soccer's bylaws don't need to further dictate this.

- (iv) Any vacancy on a board shall be filled at the earliest opportunity by the remaining directors of the Youth District Association or Adult League, and in any event within a period of 60 days. Such vacancies shall be advertised to the Youth District Association's or Adult League's members.
- (v) Any director absent without cause from three consecutive meetings or willfully neglecting duties may be removed from the board. Such determination shall be made by majority vote of the Youth District Association or Adult League board.
- (vi) An Adult League may not insert in its constitution or bylaws that teams must play in any given competition.

2C. To amend Part 3.1; insert 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4; and, amend/move Part 15.1 and 15.2 as follows:

CURRENT

PART 3 – MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Membership Conditions.

There shall be three classes of membership in the Society: Active Members, Associate Members and Life Members. The following conditions of membership shall apply:

(1) Active Members - Voting

- (a) Active membership shall be available only to organizations who meet the following membership qualifications, who have applied for and have been accepted for Active membership in the Society in accordance with this subsection. To be eligible to become an Active Member, an organization must:
 - (i) be either:
 - A. those Adult Leagues primarily established for the purpose of organizing and administering adult age soccer as defined by the Society in these bylaws; or
 - B. those Youth District Associations primarily established for the purpose of organizing and administering youth age soccer in one of the Districts as defined by the Society in these bylaws; and
 - (ii) have recognizable memberships and bona fide operation according to the requirements of the Society in accordance with PART 16 - Youth District Associations, Adult Leagues and Affiliated Youth Clubs of these bylaws.



This "CURRENT" section is all of the bits and pieces within BC Soccer's bylaws that speak to things like Classes of Membership, Admission to Membership, Rights of Membership, and Obligations of Membership. Pointed out....



← Classes of Membership

(b) An organization wishing to become an Active Member must present a membership application form to the Society. The application shall be reviewed by the Society's Membership Committee for completeness. Applications that pass the Membership Committee's scrutiny shall be sent to the Board for approval.



← Admission to Membership

(c) Subject to the delegate voting system set out in PART 13 - Delegate Voting System of these bylaws, each Active Member shall be entitled to receive notice of, to attend and to vote at all meetings of the members of the Society.



← Rights of Membership

(2) Associate Members – Non-Voting

(a) Associate membership shall be available only to organizations who meet the following membership qualifications, who have applied for and have been accepted for Associate membership in the Society in accordance with this subsection. To be eligible to become an Associate Member, an organization must:



← Classes of Membership

- (i) have similar objectives to the Society; and
- (ii) eligible organizations include but are not limited to affiliated Adult Leagues (indoor and outdoor), schools, college and university leagues, and referees', coaches' and trainers' associations.



← Obligations of Membership

(d) An organization wishing to become an Associate Member must present a membership application form to the Society. The application shall be reviewed by the Society's Membership Committee for completeness and the applicant's alignment with the objectives of the Society. Applications that pass the Membership Committee's scrutiny shall be sent to the Board for approval.



← Admission to Membership

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



← Obligations of Membership

(f) The Board may admit an organization as an Associate Member for a short term of up to 30 days where such admission is of benefit to the members of the Society and that short term admission supports the objectives of the Society.



← Classes of Membership

(g) Limited Associate Membership may be granted to organizations by following the procedure set out in this subsection to for-profit soccer academies and schools for the sole purpose of granting permission to attend individual events sanctioned by recognized governing bodies, if requested, and subject to all rules and regulations of the Society.



← Classes of Membership

(h) Associate Membership in the Adult League category is designed for Adult Leagues that:



(i) play full 11-aside outdoor soccer during the spring and summer; or

(ii) play indoor, small sided outdoor and/or FUTSAL soccer.

(i) An Associate Member shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend at meetings of the members of the Society, and have speaking rights at meetings of the members, but shall have no vote, except as required under the Act. An Associate Member shall only receive additional membership rights or services from the Society if approved by the Board.

(3) Life Members – Non-Voting

(a) Life membership shall be available only to individuals who have rendered valuable service to the Society and have been accepted for Life membership by recommendation of the Board to the members and acceptance by the voting members by resolution at a meeting of the members; and

(j) a Life member shall be entitled to receive notice of, to attend, and have speaking rights at meetings of the members, but shall have no vote, except as required under the Act. A Life member shall not be required to pay membership dues.

← Classes of Membership

 ← Rights of Membership

 ← Classes of Membership

 ← Rights of Membership

PART 15 - YOUTH DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS, ADULT LEAGUES AND AFFILIATED YOUTH CLUBS

15.1 Youth Districts, Adult Leagues, and Affiliated Youth Clubs. This Part shall set out the requirements for qualifying registered BC societies to participate in the Society.

 ← Obligations of Membership

15.2 Youth District Associations and Adult Leagues. Each Youth District Association, enumerated in PART 14 -Boundaries, and Adult League shall be a registered BC society in compliance with the governance requirements set out in this PART 16 - Youth District Associations, Adult Leagues and Affiliated Youth Clubs and shall comply with the principles of the Society’s rules, regulations and policies.

 ← Obligations of Membership

(a) Annual Tasks.

(i) Bylaws. Each Youth District Association and Adult League shall submit a copy of its constitution, bylaws, and rules and regulations annually, duly amended, to the Society for approval within 30 days of their annual general meeting.

 ← Obligations of Membership

(ii) Elections. Each Youth District Association and Adult League shall submit the result of the election of officers and provide a list of current directors showing the names, telephone

 ← Obligations of Membership

numbers and email addresses to the Society within 30 days of any election.

(iii) Financial Statements. Each Youth District Association and Adult League shall produce at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements, which have been prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice, to the Society within 30 days of their annual general meeting. Review and Audit Engagements are acceptable. A financial statement for the current fiscal period shall be issued to the directors and voting members prior to the annual general meeting in accordance with the notice requirements of the Act.

(iv) Discipline. Each Youth District Association and Adult League shall submit a discipline report on an annual basis to the Judicial Committee of the Society in a form acceptable to the Society.

(b) **Governance.** The bylaws of each Youth District Association and Adult League shall set out the following:

(vii) Youth District Associations, Adult Leagues and their affiliated clubs shall comply with the Society's conflict of interest policy and the procedures set out in the Act for conflicts of interest. No director shall vote on any matter directly affecting that director or any club or team in which that director is involved with.

(viii) The books and records of a Youth District, Adult League shall be open to inspection by the Society on demand.

(ix) All teams within the jurisdiction of an Adult League must be members of the Adult League in order to be affiliated with the Society.

(c) **Affiliated Youth Clubs.**

(i) A Youth District Association shall only affiliate with clubs which are registered BC societies who complete at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements.

(ii) All affiliated clubs shall comply with the principles of the Society's rules, regulations and policies.

(iii) All affiliated clubs shall comply with the Society's conflict of interest policy and the procedures set out in the Act for conflicts of interest. No director shall vote on any matter directly affecting that director or any club or team in which that director is involved with.



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←Obligations of Membership

- (iv) All affiliate clubs shall provide to their Youth District Association proof of filling of the affiliated club's society annual report for the previous 12 months and annually thereafter.
- (v) All affiliate clubs shall provide at a minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice to their Youth District Association within 30 days of the club's annual general meeting. Review and audit engagements are preferred.
- (vi) The books and records of all clubs and teams shall be open to inspection by their Youth District Association on demand.



←Obligations of Membership



←Obligations of Membership



←Obligations of Membership

PROPOSED

PART 3 – MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Classes of Membership.

There shall be three classes of membership in the Society: Active Members and Associate Members, with each having its own sub-classes; and, Life Members.

(1) Active (Full) Members – Voting

- (a) **Youth District Associations.** Membership shall be open to only one properly constituted Youth District Association, registered with the province of British Columbia as a society, in each of the Youth District boundaries per Appendix A.
- (b) **Adult Leagues.** Membership shall be open to all properly constituted amateur leagues, operating in and registered with the province of British Columbia as a society.

(2) Associate Members – Non-Voting

- (a) **Associate Members.** Membership shall be open to organizations, on an annual basis, where such admission is of benefit to members and/or the wider soccer community, including but not limited to the following:
 - (i) **Adult Associate Leagues.** Membership shall be open to all properly constituted adult leagues operating 11-aside soccer during the Spring or Summer, and/or indoor, small-sided or futsal soccer during any time of the year in British Columbia.
 - (ii) **Short Term Members.** Membership shall be open to organizations for a short term of up to 30 days where such admission is of benefit to the Society, its members and/or the wider soccer community.



This "PROPOSED" section is taking all of the bits and pieces listed in the "CURRENT" and grouping them into clearer sections: Classes of Membership, Admission to Membership, Rights of Membership and Obligations of Membership. It removes a couple things that were duplicated previously. The Rights of Membership are built out a little more because this area was a bit skimpy...members always had the rights listed, it just wasn't documented very well. In some areas the language is consistent with Canada Soccer. Again, this doesn't

- (iii) **Limited Associate Membership** may be granted to organizations by following the procedure set out in section 3.2 to for-profit soccer academies and schools for the sole purpose of granting permission to attend individual events sanctioned by recognized governing bodies, if requested, and subject to all rules and regulations of the Society.

add anything new,
just documents it
better.

(3) Life Members – Non-Voting

- (a) Life membership shall be available only to individuals who have rendered valuable service to the Society and have been accepted for Life membership by recommendation of the Board to the members and acceptance by the voting members by resolution at a meeting of the members. A Life member shall not be required to pay membership dues.

3.2 Admission to Membership

- (a) An organization wishing to become a Voting or Non-Voting member must do so in writing by submitting the applicable membership application form to the Society.
- (b) The application will be reviewed by the Society's Membership Committee for completeness and the applicant's alignment with the mission, vision, values and objectives of the Society.
- (c) Applications that pass the Membership Committee's scrutiny shall be sent to the Board for review and approval.

3.3 Rights of Membership

- (a) A Voting Member has the following rights:
 - i. To attend and take part in all Meetings of Members, to receive notice of the Meeting of Members and the agenda within the prescribed time.
 - ii. To have speaking rights at Meetings of Members
 - iii. To vote at all Meeting of Members as set out in PART 13 – Delegate Voting System.
 - iv. To submit proposals for inclusion on the agenda of all Meetings of Members
 - v. To propose amendments to the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of BC Soccer
 - vi. To requisition the board of directors to call a general meeting as described in PART 5 – Meetings of Members
 - vii. To be informed of the affairs of BC Soccer through the official spokespersons of BC Soccer
 - viii. To take part in competitions and/or other activities sanctioned by BC Soccer

- ix. To take part in BC Soccer Provincial Championships
 - x. To be advised when it is at risk of failing to meet the Obligations of Membership under 3.4. and what measures are required to meet the Obligations.
 - xi. To exercise all other rights arising from the Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, policies and decisions of BC Soccer.
- (b) An Associate Member (Non-Voting) has the following rights:
- i. To attend and take part in all Meetings of Members, to receive notice of the Meeting of Members and the agenda within the prescribed time; however, shall not be entitled to vote at any such meeting.
 - ii. To have speaking rights at Meetings of Members
 - iii. To be informed of the affairs of BC Soccer through the official spokespersons of BC Soccer
 - iv. To take part in competitions and/or other activities sanctioned by BC Soccer as specified within its membership class
 - v. To be advised when it is at risk of failing to meet the Obligations of Membership under 3.4. and what measures are required to meet the Obligations.
 - vi. To exercise all other rights arising from the Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, policies and decisions of BC Soccer.
- (c) A Life Member (Non-Voting) has the following rights:
- i. To attend and take part in all Meetings of Members, to receive notice of the Meeting of Members and the agenda within the prescribed time.
 - ii. To have speaking rights at Meetings of Members.

3.4 Obligations of Membership

- (a) All Voting and Non-Voting Members have the following obligations:
- i. To have similar objectives of the Society
 - ii. To comply with the applicable Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Judicial Code and Policies, other Policies, decisions and directives of BC Soccer and the statutes, bylaws, regulations, directives and decisions of Canada Soccer, FIFA at all times
 - iii. To participate in the affairs, programs and activities of BC Soccer within the reasonable constraints of the member
 - iv. To meet all of its financial obligations to BC Soccer
 - v. To comply with the conflict of interest policies of the Society
 - vi. To manage its affairs independently and ensure that those affairs are not influenced unduly by third parties.

- vii. To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through its regulations
 - viii. To respect the Laws of the Game as determined by IFAB and to ensure these are also respected by its members.
 - ix. To provide the books and records of the organization to the Society for inspection upon request.
- (b) Voting Members of the Society have the following obligations:
- i. To register and/or report all of its and its member's players, team officials and association officials in a format provided by BC Soccer.
 - ii. To inform the Society, in writing, the date of its annual general meeting, a minimum thirty (30) days prior to the set date.
 - iii. Within thirty (30) days following its annual general meeting, to submit a copy of the following to the Society:
 - i. Constitution, bylaws and rules and regulations duly amended for approval.
 - ii. Minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice. Review and audit engagements are acceptable.
 - iii. A listing of the current officers and directors showing the names, telephone numbers and email addresses of each
 - iv. Proof of filing of the organization's annual report with Societies BC
 - iv. To submit a discipline report on an annual basis in a format acceptable by the Society
 - v. To submit a Criminal Record Check Report on an annual basis in a format acceptable by the Society.
 - vi. All teams within the jurisdiction of an Adult League must be members of the Adult League in order to be affiliated with the Society.
 - vii. Youth District Associations with affiliated youth clubs shall adopt, by December 31, 2021, a clause(s) in its bylaws or regulations that its affiliated clubs must comply with the principles of the Society's rules, regulations and policies; and, on a defined annual basis provide the following to the Youth District Association:
 - i. Minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice. Review and audit engagements are acceptable.
 - ii. Proof of filing of the club's society annual report
 - iii. A listing of the current officers and directors showing the names, telephone numbers and email addresses of each.

- iv. A discipline report submitted in a format acceptable by the Youth District Association
- v. A Criminal Record Check Report in a format acceptable by the Youth District Association
- vi. Confirmation that the books and records of the club shall be open to inspection by the Youth District Association upon request.

- (c) Non-Voting Members of the Society have the following obligations:
 - i. To make an application for membership renewal with the Society annually, in line with the Society's fiscal year, in a format provided by the Society.
 - ii. All teams within the jurisdiction of an Adult Associate League must be members of the Adult Associate League in order to be affiliated with the Society.
 - iii. To register and/or report all of its and its member's players, team officials and association officials in a format provided by BC Soccer.
- (d) To meet its Obligations of Membership under 3.4 a Voting and Non-Voting Member must be in compliance with the bylaws, rules and regulations, Judicial Code and Policies and decisions of BC Soccer.
- (e) Violations of the obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these bylaws or in the Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer.

BYLAW AMENDMENT #3

(Withdrawn if Bylaw Amendment #1 and/or Bylaw Amendment #2 is Defeated)

PREAMBLE

There are areas of overlap between Bylaw Amendment #1 and Bylaw Amendment #2. As an example, with Bylaw Amendment #1 being Carried, Part 15 of BC Soccer's bylaws require Youth District Associations to have a process to accept new club members, including for-profit organizations, in place. Subsequently, with Bylaw Amendment #2 also being Carried, these portions of Part 15 were moved into other areas of the bylaws.

Therefore, for clarity, we believe it would make sense to incorporate, or, merge, the content of Bylaw Amendment #1 and Bylaw Amendment #2 together if both are approved by the membership as this makes the bylaws easier to understand. If this is agreeable to the membership, with the newly carried amendments in place, the applicable bylaws would read as follows in the Proposed. For ease, Bylaw Amendment #1 (related to including for-profit organizations) has been highlighted in blue.

RATIONALE

For housekeeping and transparency. The board of directors recognizes that to simply merge the Carried amendments from Bylaw Amendment #1 and Bylaw Amendment #2 without having the membership observe how the bylaws would then read in advance could be perceived as unexpected and misleading.

By special resolution, the board of directors propose to merge bylaw amendments carried in Bylaw Amendment #1 and Bylaw Amendment #2 together as presented in "Bylaw Amendment #3 – Proposed".

PROPOSED

PART 3 – MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Classes of Membership.

There shall be three classes of membership in the Society: Active Members and Associate Members which each having its own sub-classes; and, Life Members.

- (1) Active (Full) Members – Voting**
- (b) Youth District Associations.** Membership shall be open to only one properly constituted Youth District Association in each of the Youth District boundaries per Appendix A.
- (c) Adult Leagues.** Membership shall be open to all properly constituted amateur leagues that operate in British Columbia
- (2) Associate Members – Non-Voting**
- (b) Associate Members.** Membership shall be open to organizations, on an annual basis, where such admission is of benefit to members and/or the wider soccer community, including but not limited to the following:



There is no "CURRENT" because it is basically the Proposed sections of Bylaw Amendment #1 and Bylaw Amendment #2.

With a couple grammar adjustments, this "PROPOSED" brings it all together which makes it all make better sense.

Areas of overlap are highlighted in blue and related back to the area of Bylaw Amendment #1.

- (i) **Adult Associate Leagues.** Membership shall be open to all properly constituted adult leagues operating 11-a-side soccer during the Spring or Summer, and/or indoor, small-sided or futsal soccer during any time of the year in British Columbia.
- (ii) **Short Term Members.** Membership shall be open to organizations for a short term of up to 30 days where such admission is of benefit to the Society, its members and/or the wider soccer community.
- (iii) Limited Associate Membership may be granted to organizations by following the procedure set out in this subsection to for-profit soccer academies and schools for the sole purpose of granting permission to attend individual events sanctioned by recognized governing bodies, if requested, and subject to all rules and regulations of the Society. (Remove January 10, 2022)

Note: 1A and 1B were the definitions which don't have a major/direct overlap but would obviously still be included if all this is approved.



← **1C** – removing BC Soccer's For-Profit and Not-For-Profit Associate Membership categories as of January 10, 2022

(3) Life Members – Non-Voting

- (b) Life membership shall be available only to individuals who have rendered valuable service to the Society and have been accepted for Life membership by recommendation of the Board to the members and acceptance by the voting members by resolution at a meeting of the members. A Life member shall not be required to pay membership dues.

3.2 Admission to Membership

- (d) An organization wishing to become a Voting or Non-Voting member must do so in writing by submitting the applicable membership application form to the Society.
- (e) The application will be reviewed by the Society's Membership Committee for completeness and the applicant's alignment with the mission, vision, values and objectives of the Society.
- (f) Applications that pass the Membership Committee's scrutiny shall be sent to the Board for review and approval.

3.3 Rights of Membership

- (d) A Voting Member has the following rights:
 - i. To attend and take part in all Meetings of Members, to receive notice of the Meeting of Members and the agenda within the prescribed time.
 - ii. To have speaking rights at Meetings of Members

- iii. To vote at all Meeting of Members as set out in PART 13 – Delegate Voting System.
 - iv. To submit proposals for inclusion on the agenda of all Meetings of Members
 - v. To propose amendments to the Bylaws and Rules & Regulations of BC Soccer
 - vi. To requisition the board of directors to call a general meeting as described in PART 5 – Meetings of Members
 - vii. To be informed of the affairs of BC Soccer through the official spokespersons of BC Soccer
 - viii. To take part in competitions and/or other activities sanctioned by BC Soccer
 - ix. To take part in BC Soccer Provincial Championships
 - x. To be advised when it is at risk of failing to meet the Obligations of Membership under 3.4. and what measures are required to meet the Obligations.
 - xi. To exercise all other rights arising from the Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, policies and decisions of BC Soccer.
- (e) An Associate Member (Non-Voting) has the following rights:
- i. To attend and take part in all Meetings of Members, to receive notice of the Meeting of Members and the agenda within the prescribed time; however, shall not be entitled to vote at any such meeting.
 - ii. To have speaking rights at Meetings of Members
 - iii. To be informed of the affairs of BC Soccer through the official spokespersons of BC Soccer
 - iv. To take part in competitions and/or other activities sanctioned by BC Soccer as specified within its membership class
 - v. To be advised when it is at risk of failing to meet the Obligations of Membership under 3.4. and what measures are required to meet the Obligations.
 - vi. To exercise all other rights arising from the Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, policies and decisions of BC Soccer.
- (f) A Life Member (Non-Voting) has the following rights:
- i. To attend and take part in all Meetings of Members, to receive notice of the Meeting of Members and the agenda within the prescribed time.
 - ii. To have speaking rights at Meetings of Members

3.4 Obligations of Membership

- (f) All Voting and Non-Voting Members have the following obligations:
- i. To have similar objectives of the Society
 - ii. To comply with the applicable Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Judicial Code and Policies, other Policies, decisions and directives of BC Soccer and the statutes, bylaws, regulations, directives and decisions of Canada Soccer, FIFA at all times
 - iii. To participate in the affairs, programs and activities of BC Soccer within the reasonable constraints of the member
 - iv. To meet all of its financial obligations to BC Soccer
 - v. To manage its affairs independently and ensure that those affairs are not influenced unduly by third parties.
 - vi. To observe the principles of loyalty, integrity and good sporting behaviour as an expression of fair play through its regulations
 - vii. To respect the Laws of the Game as determined by IFAB and to ensure these are also respected by its members.
 - viii. To provide the books and records of the organization to the Society for inspection upon request.

- (g) Voting Members of the Society have the following obligations:
- i. To register and/or report all of its and its members' players, team officials and association officials in a format provided by BC Soccer.
 - ii. To have a process in place for accepting new club and/or organizations as members with full benefits that is free from conflict of interest (Required latest July 31, 2021).
 - i. Youth District Associations shall only affiliate youth clubs which are registered with the province of British Columbia as a society, sole proprietor, partnership or incorporation
 - ii. Youth District Associations may have a process for a limited membership optional ONLY to the applying club if that club only intends to provide supplementary training.
 - iii. All teams within the jurisdiction of an Adult League must be members of the Adult League in order to be affiliated with the Society.
 - iii. To inform the Society, in writing, the date of its annual general meeting, a minimum thirty (30) days prior to the set date.
 - iv. Within thirty (30) days following its annual general meeting, to submit a copy of the following to the Society:
 - i. Constitution, bylaws and rules and regulations duly amended for approval.



← **1D** – Requirement for Youth District Associations to have a process in place to accept new member clubs that is free of conflict and for full benefits in the first instance. It also incorporates part of **1E** which requires clubs to register with the province of BC (as a society, sole proprietor, etc.)

- ii. Minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice. Review and audit engagements are acceptable.
 - iii. A listing of the current officers and directors showing the names, telephone numbers and email addresses of each
 - iv. Proof of filing of the organization's annual report with Societies BC
- v. To submit a discipline report on an annual basis in a format acceptable by the Society
- vi. To submit a Criminal Record Check Report on an annual basis in a format acceptable by the Society.
- vii. Youth District Associations with affiliated youth clubs shall adopt, by **December 31, 2022**, a clause in its bylaws or regulations that its **youth clubs must comply with the principles of the Society's rules, regulations and polices**; and, on a defined annual basis, provide the following to the Youth District Association:
 - i. **Minimum Notice to Reader financial statements prepared by a licensed CPA in public practice. Review and audit engagements are acceptable.**
 - ii. **Proof of filing of the club's annual report or business registration renewal as applicable.**
 - iii. **A listing of the current officers and directors showing the names, telephone numbers and email addresses of each.**
 - iv. **A discipline report submitted in a format acceptable by the Youth District Association.**
 - v. **A Criminal Record Check Report in a format acceptable by the Youth District Association.**
 - vi. Confirmation that the books and records of the club shall be open to inspection by the Youth District Association upon request.

(h) Non-Voting Members of the Society have the following obligations:

- i. To make an application for membership renewal with the Society annually, in line with the Society's fiscal year, in a format provided by the Society.
- ii. All teams within the jurisdiction of an Adult Associate League must be members of the Adult Associate League in order to be affiliated with the Society.
- iii. To register and/or report all of its and its member's players, team officials and association officials in a format provided by BC Soccer.



← **1E** – Requires club members of Youth District Associations to be held to the same or equivalent standards.

- (i) To meet its Obligations of Membership under 3.4 a Voting and Non-Voting Member must be in compliance with the bylaws, rules and regulations, Judicial Code and Policies and decisions of BC Soccer.
- (j) Violations of the obligations by any Member may lead to sanctions provided for in these bylaws or in the Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer.

BYLAW AMENDMENT #4

PREAMBLE

The amendments presented in Bylaw Amendment #4 are all related to the Board of Directors. For efficiency purposes of the meeting, they are being presented in one amendment.

RATIONALE

The intention of the amendments presented here are:

- To clarify jurisdiction and process as it relates to discipline and/or removal of a director and comply/align with Canada Soccer. Similar to members, the amendment reflects that any investigation into an allegation of Director Non-Compliance would be conducted by the appropriate Judicial body and the conclusions would be shared with the board for next steps.
- To provide clarity and further remove potential conflict of interest of BC Soccer Board Members
- Per the recommendation of Rubin Thomlinson's "Safe Sport Program Assessment and Policy Analysis" report (December 2019), which stated:
*"ii. Completion of Screening as a Qualification for Directors
The current qualifications for directors to the BC Soccer board within the By-Laws do not state that they are required to complete background screening. This requirement is contained in the Rules and Regulations. Putting the requirements together would clarify what is required for this role. It would also highlight BC Soccer's commitment to safe sport through its support of background checks at all levels of the organization."*
- To remove the Secretary position as a role filled by a BC Soccer board member to reflect current practice.

By special resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend BC Soccer's bylaws as presented in items 4A, 4B, 4C, and 4D.

4A. To insert Part 6.8 and renumber the remainder as follows:

PROPOSED

PART 6 - DIRECTORS

6.8 Director Non-Compliance. In the event the Board is presented with an allegation of non-compliance by a Director with applicable Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, Judicial Code and Policies, other Policies, decisions and directives of BC Soccer and the statutes, bylaws, regulations, directives and decisions of Canada Soccer and FIFA, the Board shall refer the matter to the Judicial Chair of BC Soccer. The Director shall be advised in writing of the nature and extent of such allegations. The Judicial Chair shall investigate and/or assign an ethics and/or discipline panel to review and investigate the allegation. Upon completion of the investigation, the Judicial Chair shall prepare a report that details the investigative process conducted, findings, conclusions.

- (a) When the Board receives the Judicial Chair's report, the following shall occur:



Bringing BC Soccer into compliance with CSA, this makes it so if there were an allegation of a board member not complying with BC Soccer bylaws, rules, policies, etc., then (similar to members), the Board would utilize BC Soccer Judicial to conduct the investigation, make a

- (i) The Board shall advise the Director involved of the conclusions in writing.
- (ii) If the Judicial Chair's report concluded that the allegations are without grounds, the Board shall take no further action.
- (iii) If the Judicial Chair's report concluded that the allegations are valid and that the Director should be removed, the Board may seek removal of the Director per subsection 6.9
- (iv) If the Judicial Chair's report concluded that the allegations are valid and recommends any other action(s) pursuant to the Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer, the Board may implement these action(s) via Board resolution with immediate effect.

recommendation and then report all that back to the board. The board would make the final decision, not Judicial. This helps to remove any potential conflict or bias another board member may have; and, removes the awkwardness of board members potentially having to investigate allegations against their colleague.

4B. To amend Part 6.14.a and b as follows:

CURRENT

PART 6 – DIRECTORS

6.14 Resignation from Conflicting Positions.

- (a) No member of the Board shall hold an office, be a director, or be an employee of a member under the jurisdiction of the Society. A newly elected director must relinquish all positions held with a member within a period of 60 days of becoming a director.
- (b) No member of the Board shall hold an, be a director, office or be an employee of a governing body of the Society. A director must relinquish all such positions within a period of 60 days of becoming a director.

PROPOSED

PART 6 – DIRECTORS

6.14 Resignation from Conflicting Positions.

- (a) No member of the Board shall hold an office, be a director, be an employee, **or be a contractor** of a member under the jurisdiction of the Society. A newly elected director must relinquish all positions held with a member within a period of 60 days of becoming a director.
- (b) No member of the Board shall hold an office, be a director, be an employee, **or be a contractor** of a governing body of the Society. A director must relinquish all such positions within a period of 60 days of becoming a director.



This creates further independence of board members and further removes potential conflict of interest by requiring them to resign from a contractor position held with a member, club, or a BC Soccer governing body (viaSport, Canada Soccer, for example).

4C. To insert Part 6.6.d as follows:

PROPOSED

PART 6 – DIRECTORS

6.6. Qualifications. In order to be qualified as a director, an individual must:

- (d) within 30 days of election or appointment, have completed a Vulnerable Sector Check or Enhanced Police Information Check on file and completed in accordance with BC Soccer’s Criminal Record Check Policy.

4D. To remove Part 6.10.f and amend Part 10.1 as follows:

CURRENT

PART 6 - DIRECTORS

- (f) **Secretary.** This role is responsible for doing, or making the necessary arrangements for, the following:
 - (i) maintaining the Rules of Soccer pursuant to PART 13 - Delegate Voting System of these bylaws;
 - (ii) issuing notices of general meetings and directors’ meetings;
 - (iii) taking minutes of general meetings and directors’ meetings;
 - (iv) keeping the records of the Society in accordance with the Act;
 - (v) conducting the correspondence of the Board; and
 - (vi) filing the annual report of the Society and making any other filings with the Registrar under the Act.

A person holding an executive position with the Society who is desirous of accepting office with the Society shall first resign from his current position.

PART 10 - NOTICES

- 10.1 Method of Giving Notices. Unless otherwise specified in the constitution, these bylaws or the Act, any notice (which term includes any communication or document) to be given, sent, delivered or served to a member, director, Senior Manager or member of a committee of the Board or to the auditor shall be sufficiently given, if:
- (a) delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person’s registered address;



This requirement is in place via BC Soccer’s Criminal Record Check Policy; however, by having this in BC Soccer’s bylaws, it makes a stronger stance for the importance of board members to have completed a criminal record check, including vulnerable sector.



In practice, many of the duties listed below are delegated to the Executive Director and staff team. Though ratified by the board, the suggestion is to remove this to reflect current practice. Ultimately, the board is responsible for these duties, and this is covered in bylaw **6.11 Duties of the Board**. *It shall be the duty and responsibility of the Board to:*

- (c) *review the annual budget, as prepared by the Finance Committee, for presentation to the membership at the annual general meeting;*
- (d) *ensure the minutes of Board meetings are properly recorded*

- (b) mailed to such person at such person's registered address by prepaid ordinary or air mail; or
- (c) sent to such person in writing by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's registered address for that purpose.

A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the registered address as aforesaid. A notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box. A notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch. The **secretary** may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any member, director, Senior Manager, auditor or member of a committee of the Board in accordance with any information believed by the **secretary** to be reliable. The declaration by the **secretary** that notice has been given pursuant to this bylaw shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The signature of any director or Senior Manager of the Society to any notice or other document to be given by the Society may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

- and filed in the Society's minute book;*
- (e) organize an annual general meeting or any other meetings of the members;*
- (f) solicit funds at such time and in such manner as deemed advisable by the Board;*
- (g) manage and perform such other duties, responsibilities and obligations as may be required by law; and*
- (h) maintain all Rules and Regulations which govern the game of soccer among the Active Members and Associate Members of the Society.*

PROPOSED

PART 10 - NOTICES

10.1 Method of Giving Notices. Unless otherwise specified in the constitution, these bylaws or the Act, any notice (which term includes any communication or document) to be given, sent, delivered or served to a member, director, Senior Manager or member of a committee of the Board or to the auditor shall be sufficiently given, if:

- (a) delivered personally to the person to whom it is to be given or if delivered to such person's registered address;
- (b) mailed to such person at such person's registered address by prepaid ordinary or air mail; or
- (c) sent to such person in writing by telephonic, electronic or other communication facility at such person's registered address for that purpose.

A notice so delivered shall be deemed to have been given when it is delivered personally or to the registered address as aforesaid. A notice so mailed shall be deemed to have been given when deposited in a post office or public letter box. A notice so sent by any means of transmitted or recorded communication shall be deemed to have been given when dispatched or delivered to the appropriate communication company or agency or its representative for dispatch. The **board or designate** may change or cause to be changed the recorded address of any member, director, Senior Manager,

auditor or member of a committee of the Board in accordance with any information believed by the board or designate to be reliable. The declaration by the board or designate that notice has been given pursuant to this bylaw shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice. The signature of any director or Senior Manager of the Society to any notice or other document to be given by the Society may be written, stamped, type-written or printed or partly written, stamped, type-written or printed.

BYLAW AMENDMENT #5

RATIONALE

To ensure that organizations do not resign membership without paying owed fees and to ensure terminated members are held accountable for any fees owed prior to termination.

By special resolution, the Board of Directors propose to **amend** Part 4.2 as follows:

CURRENT

PART 4 - MEMBERSHIP DUES, TERMINATION AND DISCIPLINE

4.2 Termination of Membership. A membership in the Society is terminated when:

- (a) any specified term of membership expires;
- (b) a member fails to maintain any qualifications for membership specified in Section 3.1 of these bylaws;
- (c) unless otherwise provided in these bylaws, a member is not in good standing for more than 90 days;
- (d) the member resigns by delivering a written resignation to the registered office of the Society, in which case such resignation shall be effective on the date specified in the resignation;
- (e) the member dies, or, in the case of a member that is an organization, is disbanded, dissolved or ceases its operations;
- (f) the member is expelled in accordance with PART 4 - Membership Dues, Termination and Discipline of these bylaws or is otherwise terminated in accordance with the these bylaws or by Special Resolution at a meeting of the members in accordance with Section 4.5 of these bylaws, provided that a Life Member may not be expelled by Special Resolution; or
- (g) the Society is liquidated or dissolved under the Act.

Subject to these bylaws, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the member, including any rights in the property of the Society, automatically cease to exist.

PROPOSED

PART 4 - MEMBERSHIP DUES, TERMINATION AND DISCIPLINE

4.2 Termination of Membership. A membership in the Society is terminated when:

- (a) any specified term of membership expires;
- (b) a member fails to maintain any qualifications for membership specified in Section 3.1 of these bylaws;
- (c) unless otherwise provided in these bylaws, a member is not in good standing for more than 90 days;
- (d) the member resigns by delivering a written resignation to the registered office of the Society, in which case such resignation shall be effective on the date specified in the resignation;
- (e) the member dies, or, in the case of a member that is an organization, is disbanded, dissolved or ceases its operations;

- (f) the member is expelled in accordance with PART 4 - Membership Dues, Termination and Discipline of these bylaws or is otherwise terminated in accordance with the these bylaws or by Special Resolution at a meeting of the members in accordance with Section 4.5 of these bylaws, provided that a Life Member may not be expelled by Special Resolution; or
- (g) the Society is liquidated or dissolved under the Act.

Subject to these bylaws, upon any termination of membership, the rights of the member, including any rights in the property of the Society, automatically cease to exist.

Monies owing to BC Soccer by resigning or terminated Members must be paid.



This makes it so a member can't just resign their membership to avoid paying fees (which is different than if a member dissolves or goes bankrupt, etc.)

BYLAW AMENDMENT #6

RATIONALE

For compliance with Canada Soccer as the Judicial Chair should not be appointing the Appeal Chair.

By special resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend Part 6.19 and insert Part 6.20 as follows:

CURRENT

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.

PROPOSED

PART 6 – DIRECTORS

6.19 Judicial. The board shall appoint an individual who does not serve on the Society's board or Committees, its 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) Protests; and
- (c) Discipline.

6.20 Appeals. The board shall appoint an individual who does not serve on the Society's board or Committees, its members or affiliated clubs in a staff or volunteer capacity to oversee the appeal policies and procedures of the Society and its members, including constituting appeal panels as needed.

BYLAW AMENDMENT #7

RATIONALE

To provide clarity, bring into alignment with Canada Soccer and reflect current practice.

By special resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend housekeeping bylaw items outlined in Appendix B:

Housekeeping amendments are presented in the Constitution & Bylaws tracked changes with comments document.



Tired of scrolling?
[CLICK HERE](#) to jump
to Appendix B!

CARRIED

PROPOSED RULE AMENDMENTS

RULE AMENDMENT #1

RATIONALE

To provide clarity, bring into alignment with Canada Soccer and reflect current practice.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend housekeeping rule items outlined in Appendix C:

Housekeeping amendments are presented in the Rule & Regulations tracked changes with comments document.



Tired of scrolling?
[CLICK HERE](#) to jump
to Appendix C!

CARRIED

RULE AMENDMENT #2

RATIONALE

To remove duplication between Rule 1 and Rule 17.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to **amend** Rule 1.b as follows and **remove** Rule 17 – Provisional:

CURRENT

RULE 1 - REGULATIONS REGARDING VARIATIONS OF THE GAME OF SOCCER

General

- b) BC Soccer may enact rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the By-laws, Rules and Regulations of the Canadian Soccer Association, for the sanction and control of districts, leagues, teams and players playing in variations of association football indoors or outdoors.

RULE 17 - PROVISIONAL

The Board may, from time to time, make temporary rules governing specific cases not provided for in the Rules and Regulations, but which may be necessary to carry out the objectives of BC Soccer. A copy of every proposed change to the Rules and Regulations shall be forwarded by BC Soccer to the membership within fifteen (15) days of board approval. These decisions must be submitted for ratification by the membership at the next General Meeting and are in effect immediately upon receipt of notification.

PROPOSED

RULE 1 - REGULATIONS REGARDING VARIATIONS OF THE GAME OF SOCCER

General

- b) BC Soccer may **make temporary rules governing specific cases not provided for in the Rules & Regulations and/or** enact rules and regulations, not inconsistent with the By-laws, Rules and Regulations of the Canadian Soccer Association, for the sanction and control of districts, leagues, teams and players playing in variations of association football indoors or outdoors.



Note: The requirement for BC Soccer to share board approved rule amendments with the membership within 15 days and for the membership to ratify at the next General meeting has **not** been reviewed. It is already in Rule 1.c



Rule 1

c) A copy of every proposed and/or approved change to the Rules and Regulations shall be forwarded by the Executive Director (or designate) of BC Soccer to the membership within fifteen (15) days after receipt and/or approval. These decisions must be submitted for ratification by the membership at the next General Meeting.

RULE AMENDMENT #3

RATIONALE

To reiterate BC Soccer's position on diversity, equity and inclusion.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to **insert** Rule 1.d and 1.e. as follows:

PROPOSED

RULE 1 - REGULATIONS REGARDING VARIATIONS OF THE GAME OF SOCCER

Neutrality and Non-Discrimination

- d) BC Soccer, its members and affiliated organizations shall be neutral in matters of politics and religion.
- e) Discrimination of any kind, as defined by BC Human Rights Legislation, is strictly prohibited and subject to disciplinary action.

RULE AMENDMENT #4

RATIONALE

To provide clarity and reflect current practice for youth aged players. Following the rule as currently stated, Interior players would be a year younger than Coastal players when the seasons of play and competition overlap; for example, at Youth Provincial Cup.

To bring Coastal Youth and Adult Playing Seasons into alignment.

To define the playing seasons for youth. There has been uncertainty in the past as to the date for which players can register with a different team for the spring/summer (especially on the Coast). The amendment defines the dates while maintaining the requirement for youth players to complete their playing commitments if the team, for example, has made it to playdowns and/or provincial cup.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend Rule 2.a, b and c; amend Rule 3; amend Rule 5.j and insert Rule 5.k as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 2 - PLAYER AGE LIMITS

- a) A player's age category is determined by the age a player attains on or after the first day of January (January 1) of the current calendar year.
- b) The current calendar year is the year in which play ends.

Youth

- c) Youth age categories shall comprise players who have not attained their:

18 th Birthday	U-18	10 th Birthday	U-10
17 th Birthday	U-17	9 th Birthday	U-9
16 th Birthday	U-16	8 th Birthday	U-8
15 th Birthday	U-15	7 th Birthday	U-7
14 th Birthday	U-14	6 th Birthday	U-6
13 th Birthday	U-13	5 th Birthday	U-6
12 th Birthday	U-12	4 th Birthday	U-6
11 th Birthday	U-11		

before the first day of January (January 1) of the current calendar year.

- d) Youth players are ineligible to play in an age category for which they attain the limiting age before the first day of January (January 1) of the current calendar year, unless permission is granted as defined in the 2014 BC Soccer Playing Down Policy.

AGE ELIGIBILITY CHART

Using January 1 Cut-Off Date

Born in or after the current calendar year (Current calendar year is the year in which play ends)

SEASON (Year in which play ends)	U-18	U-17	U-16	U-15	U-14	U-13	U-12	U-11	U-10	U-9	U-8	U-7	U-6
2020	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
2021	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
2022	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2023	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2024	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
2025	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019

EXAMPLE: A player born in 2004 would be in the U18 age category for the season ending in the year 2022

RULE 3 - PLAYING SEASON

General

Youth

- a) For youth players, the "coastal" playing season shall commence on the 1st day of August and terminate on the 31st day of July in the following year.
- b) For youth players, the "interior"-playing playing season shall commence on the 1st day of April and terminate on the 31st day of March in the following year.
- c) For youth players, the "calendar"-playing playing season shall commence on the 1st day of January and terminate on the 31st day of December of the same year.
 - i) For youth players registered at the U18 age level, the "calendar" season shall commence on the 1st day of January and terminate on the 31st day of July of the same year.

Adult

- d) For Adult players, the "winter" playing season shall commence on the 1st day of September and terminate on the 31st day of March in the following year.
- e) For Adult players, the "summer" playing season shall commence on the 1st day of April and terminate on the 31st day of August in the same year.

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

General

- j) Subject to competition rules, a player whose team has completed its playing season, and who wishes to play for the same team or a different team in another league or competition, must be registered again as per the [Registration Manual](#).
- i) Youth players may register for a different team for a secondary season in the current registration season after April 1 (Coastal Season) and August 1 (Interior season) provided they fulfill their obligations to their current team. Cup tied rules apply.

PROPOSED

RULE 2 - PLAYER AGE LIMITS

- a) A player’s age category is determined by the year in which the player was born and registers for.
- b) The current Coastal registration year is the year in which registration ends.
- c) The current Interior registration year is the year in which registration begins.
- d) The current Calendar registration year is the year in which registration ends.

Youth

- e) Youth age categories shall comprise players who have not attained their:

18 th Birthday	U-18	10 th Birthday	U-10
17 th Birthday	U-17	9 th Birthday	U-9
16 th Birthday	U-16	8 th Birthday	U-8
15 th Birthday	U-15	7 th Birthday	U-7
14 th Birthday	U-14	6 th Birthday	U-6
13 th Birthday	U-13	5 th Birthday	U-6
12 th Birthday	U-12	4 th Birthday	U-6
11 th Birthday	U-11		

before the first day of January (January 1) of the current **registration** year.

- f) Youth players are ineligible to play in an age category for which they attain the limiting age before the first day of January (January 1) of the current **registration** year, unless permission is granted as defined in the 2014 BC Soccer Playing Down Policy.

AGE ELIGIBILITY CHART

Using January 1 Cut-Off Date

Born in or after the current calendar year **per Rule 2b through 2c.**

CALENDAR YEAR	U-18	U-17	U-16	U-15	U-14	U-13	U-12	U-11	U-10	U-9	U-8	U-7	U-6
2021	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
2022	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
2023	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
2024	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
2025	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019

EXAMPLES:

A player born in 2004 registered on the Coast would be in the U18 age category for registration ending in on July 31, 2022.

A player born in 2004 registered in the Interior would be in the U18 age category for registration beginning April 1, 2022.

A player born in 2004 registered on the Calendar year would be in the U18 age category for registration ending on December 31, 2022.

RULE 3 –PLAYING SEASON

- a) The Coastal Winter playing season shall commence on September 1st and terminate on March 31st of the following year.
- b) The Coastal Summer playing season shall commence on April 1st and terminate on August 31st.
- c) The Interior Summer playing season shall commence on April 1st and terminate on October 31st.
- d) The Interior Winter playing season shall commence on November 1st and terminate on March 31st the following year.

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

General

- j) The Coastal registration year is September 1st to August 31st the following year.
 - i) Within the Coastal registration year, a player may register to one team for the Winter Playing Season and a different team for the Summer Playing Season provided they fulfill obligations to their Winter Playing Season team, per league and/or cup competition rules.
- k) The Interior registration year is April 1 to March 31st of the following year.
 - i) Within the Interior registration year, a player may register to one team for the Summer Playing Season and a different team for the Winter



Note: Some players in the Interior, specifically U18 players whose teams cease to continue playing after youth provincial up, may want to join an adult league to continue playing. The Interior transfer deadline is June 30th; however, per Rule 7.h. they could complete a transfer.



Rule 7

h) When a team, with the written consent of the district or league having jurisdiction, has ceased to operate, or has been declared defunct, then the players registered on this team shall be entitled to transfer without fee to any

Playing Season provided they fulfill obligations to their Summer Playing Season team, per league and/or cup competition rules.

- l) The Calendar registration year is January 1st to December 31st.
 - i) For registered youth players in the U18 age category, the registration year shall commence on January 1st and terminate on July 31st.

other team, upon making application to BC Soccer. Having satisfied itself of the bona fide of the application, BC Soccer shall have the power to transfer the player to a team producing the player's signed application. BC Soccer may, at its discretion, transfer a player of a team that has been declared defunct after the transfer deadline.

Otherwise, permitting is another option.

RULE AMENDMENT #5

PREAMBLE

The rule (below) was initially intended to be inclusive for individuals that are not cisgender (i.e. sense of personal identity and gender corresponds with their birth sex); however, as we continue to learn more about inclusion and the diversity among soccer participants, it has become clear that the rule, as stated, is not as inclusive as its original intention. Essentially, having the requirement for a player to provide confirmation that their stated gender is sincerely held through supporting documentation is a barrier. Further, it does not speak to individuals who are gender fluid (i.e. gender shifts between masculine and feminine) or gender non-binary (i.e. doesn't identify as specifically male or female). This does not align with BC Soccer's commitment to welcome all participants to our game as detailed in the [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy](#).

viaSport, one of BC Soccer's governing bodies, has various inclusion guidelines. In their "[Trans Athlete Inclusion Guidelines](#)", they summarize:

- *"Athletes, no matter the level of competition, should be able to compete with the gender with which they identify"*
- *"Athletes should not be required to disclose their gender identity or personal information beyond requirements for cisgender athletes"*

viaSport's summary points above are based on their endorsement of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport's (CCES) document, "[Creating Inclusive Environment for Trans Participants in Canadian Sport](#)" with was developed by CCES' Trans Inclusion in Sport Expert Working Group. As it relates to competitive advantage, the CCES document discusses the assumption that males have an athletic advantage over females, even citing a case that recognized the advantage may be to the order of 10-12%; however, upon providing further rationale, concludes:

"We currently lack the scientific evidence to directly and consistently connect endogenous hormone levels with athletic performance," noting that, *"There have not been any studies that look at hormone levels as they correlate to the objective measures of athletic performance (for example, time trials, weight lifted, goals scored, etc.)"*

Typically, a person's gender is sincerely held; however, on the chance that it wasn't and a player was alleged not to be honouring the Rules & Regulations, similar to other potential breaches of BC Soccer's bylaws, rules, and policies, the matter would be handled through judicial processes. Based on the [Judicial Code & Policies of BC Soccer](#), a related breach could potentially be considered Forgery and/or Falsification.

RATIONALE

To align with viaSport and remove barriers to registration. To become more inclusive, ensuring all individuals are dignified with the right to be valued and respected for their own sake and treated ethically.

By ordinary resolution, the board of directors propose to amend Rule 4.g as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 4 - TEAM AFFILIATION

General

- g) For the purposes of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies, and confirmation sufficient for guaranteeing access shall be satisfied by documentation or

evidence that shows the stated gender is sincerely held, and part of a person's core identity. Documentation satisfying the herein stated standard includes, but is not limited to, government-issued documentation or documentation prepared by a health care provider, counsellor, or other qualified professional not related to the player.

PROPOSED

RULE 4 - TEAM AFFILIATION

General

- g) For the purposes of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies. All identifications of gender identity by athletes shall be considered to be made in good faith and shall not require further disclosure or documentation. If a player does not identify with one gender specifically, the player may register with the team wherein they feel most comfortable.

RULE AMENDMENT #6

RATIONALE

To promote registration and allow for more flexibility when it comes to team registration and roster limits. This would allow Districts (and/or their clubs), In-District-Leagues, Inter-District Leagues or Adult Leagues' rules to determine the number of players that can register to a team, enabling members to do what is best for the game and for teams. As an example, this will perhaps allow more players to be registered at ages where player commitments (i.e. U16 to U18) may vary due to other conflicts such as school, other activities, of family commitments.

This would also bring youth and adult rules into alignment.

By ordinary resolution, the board of directors propose to amend Rule 4.m and remove 4.n and 4.o as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 4 - TEAM AFFILIATION

Youth

- m) Youth teams aged Under 13 to Under 16 shall not be permitted to register more than eighteen (18) players.
- n) Youth teams aged Under 17 and Under 18 shall not be permitted to register more than twenty (20) players.

Adult

- o) Adult league teams shall be permitted to register the number of players as defined by league rules approved by BC Soccer.

PROPOSED

RULE 4 - TEAM AFFILIATION

- m) The number of players permitted to register to a team shall be defined by the Youth District, Inter-District Youth League, Adult League, or BC Soccer competition rules as approved by BC Soccer.



For BC Soccer Provincial Cup, the BC Soccer Provincial Cup Competition Rules will specify registration/roster minimum and maximums.
Note: As it relates to Canada Soccer national competitions, Canada Soccer rules would apply.

RULE AMENDMENT #7

RATIONALE

To remove adult player registration categories. The A, B, M, O form, etc. have become outdated as adult leagues have moved from carbon-copy paper team and player registration forms to online team and player registration. Additionally, over the years there has been a stronger desire for Adult Leagues to have flexibility for what form teams/players are registered with so teams/players can be placed appropriately for league play and participate in a provincial cup competition that suits, so long as players meet the age requirement, etc. Removing the registration categories will provide this flexibility.

ACHIEVING THE INTENTION OF THE AMENDMENT

To achieve the full intention of removing the adult registration categories/forms, there are 5 areas of BC Soccer's Rules & Regulations that need to be removed and/or amended. Each area is presented individually for clarity below (7A, 7B, 7C, 7D and 7E); however, are proposed as a collective amendment.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend BC Soccer's Rules & Regulations as presented in items 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D and 7E.

7A. To amend Rule 5.y and remove Rule 5.y.i through 5.y.vi as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

Adult

Active Full Members

- y) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues may obtain the Adult Player Registration Form from BC Soccer for distribution to registering players or collect the required information via an alternative format. Registrations shall be completely filled in and submitted to the League Registrar who will in turn record each registration and return the various portions of the form and/or electronic confirmation to the players and submit the registration data to BC Soccer as per the Registration Manual. The cost of the registration is determined and circulated by BC Soccer to the membership prior to March 15th annually, in advance of the forthcoming season. Payment for all registration is due as per the Registration Manual and current fee schedule.
 - i) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with open age divisions wishing to participate in the provincial championships which lead to the national championships must register all open age players with BC Soccer in the category known as Form "A".
 - ii) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with open age divisions wishing to participate in the provincial championship that does not lead to the national championships must register all open age players with BC Soccer in the category known as Form "B".
 - iii) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with Graduate divisions, players Under the Age of 21, wishing to participate in the provincial championship



There was consensus to proposing this amendment at the Adult League Forum June 11, 2020.

From the Minutes:
"Staff informed attendees that they are looking to simplify the registration process by eliminating player forms (i.e. A Form, B Form etc.). A league stated concern that this may negatively affect their Provincial Cup allocations. Staff informed them that if the same number of teams are eligible for cups that allocations will still be calculated similarly. Leagues expressed support in removing registration forms."

This is reiterated in the "PROPOSED" **7D** below.

that does not lead to the national championships must register all players in a Graduate division with BC Soccer in the category known as Form “B under 21”.

- iv) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with Masters Divisions wishing to participate in the provincial championships which lead to the Western Canadian championships may register Masters Players/Divisions with BC Soccer on either an A form, B form or M form.
- v) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with Over 40 Divisions must register all players with BC Soccer in the category known as Form “O”.
- vi) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues with divisions that operate in Secondary Season must register all players with BC Soccer in the category known as Form “SEC”.

PROPOSED

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

Adult

Active Full Members

- y) Active (Full Member) Adult Leagues must submit the registration data to BC Soccer as per the Registration Manual.  Payment for all registration is due as per the Registration Manual and current fee schedule.

7B. To amend Rule 5.z and 5.aa as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

Associate Members

- z) Adult teams forming a league may apply to register under the category of Associate Member. This category shall not be provided with and shall not be allowed to participate in any provincial or national competitions. Applications to BC Soccer under this category must be made seasonally and registration under this category shall not be granted to applicants qualifying under Categories “A”, “B”, “M” “O” or “SEC” of Adult registrations. Eligibility for registration under this Associate category is at the discretion of the Board and is intended for unique circumstances such as short-term community leagues, developmental leagues and geographically isolated leagues.



REGISTRATION MANUAL REFERENCE

BC Soccer’s Registration Manual provides guidance to Youth District and Adult League members for submitting player and team official registration data and payment to BC Soccer. Mostly, it provides submission deadline dates.

- i) Notwithstanding the above, associate adult leagues that run futsal specific programming or league play may participate in futsal specific provincial or national competitions.
 - ii) Upon submission to BC Soccer for membership under the Associate category, the application must include a copy of the league operating rules and regulations, a financial report, identification of league officers and a tentative league schedule.
 - iii) Associate Member Adult Leagues in this category may obtain the Adult Player Registration Form from BC Soccer for distribution to registering players or collect the required information via an alternative format. Registrations shall be completely filled in and submitted to the League Registrar who will in turn record each registration and return the various portions of the form and/or electronic confirmation to the players and submit the registration data to BC Soccer as per the Registration Manual. The cost of the registration is determined and circulated by BC Soccer to the membership prior to March 15th annually, in advance of the forthcoming season. Appropriate payment for all registration is due as per the Registration Manual and current fee schedule.
 - iv) Associate Member Adult Leagues must register all players with BC Soccer in the category known as Form "C".
- aa) Single Adult amateur teams wishing to play in an international amateur league may apply to register under the category of Associate Member. This category shall not be provided with, and shall not be allowed to participate in any provincial or national competitions. Applications to BC Soccer under this category must be made seasonally and registration under this category shall not be granted to applicants qualifying under Categories "A", "B", "M", "O" or "SEC" of Adult registrations. Eligibility for registration under this Associate category is at the discretion of the Board and is intended for unique circumstances such as developmental leagues and geographically isolated leagues.

PROPOSED

RULE 5 - PLAYER REGISTRATION

Associate Members

- z) Adult teams forming a league may apply to register under the category of Associate Member. This category shall not be allowed to participate in any provincial or national competitions. Eligibility for registration under this Associate category is at the discretion of the Board and is intended for unique circumstances such as short-term community leagues, developmental leagues and geographically isolated leagues.

- i) Notwithstanding the above, associate adult leagues that run futsal specific programming or league play may participate in futsal specific provincial or national competitions.
- ii) Upon submission to BC Soccer for membership under the Associate category, the application must include a copy of the league operating rules and regulations, a financial report, identify the league's officers and a tentative league schedule.

iii) Associate Member Adult Leagues must register players in accordance with the BC Soccer Registration Manual. Payment for all registration is due as per the BC Soccer Registration Manual and Fee Schedule.

aa) Single Adult amateur teams wishing to play in an international amateur league may apply to register under the category of Associate Member. This category shall not be allowed to participate in any provincial or national competitions. Applications to BC Soccer under this category must be made annually. Adult Amateur teams must register players in accordance with BC Soccer's Registration Manual. Payment for all registration is due as per the BC Soccer Registration Manual and Fee Schedule.

7C. To remove Rule 10.f and 10.g as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 10 - SANCTION AND CONTROL OF LEAGUES

- a) A league or competition for Adult Category "A" amateur players shall allow to participate, only players who are registered as Adult Category "A" amateur players and registered youth players in accordance with the provision of Rule 8 - Permits.
- b) A league or competition for Adult Category "B" amateur players shall allow to participate; only players who are registered as Adult "Category "B" amateur players and registered youth players in accordance with the provision of Rule 8 – Permits.



← (This is just a grammar change)



← Notably the wording, "Eligibility for registration under this Associate category is at the discretion of the Board and is intended for unique circumstances such as developmental leagues and geographically isolated leagues," has been removed; however, this authority of the board, etc. isn't. It's already captured via the Associate Member application process. These groups would apply in the "Other" category.

7D. To remove Rule 22.a, 22.b and 22.c; and insert Rule 22.f (renumbering accordingly) as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 22 - 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 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 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 Cup competition.

PROPOSED

RULE 22 - ADULT CUP COMPETITION RULES

- f) Each league shall submit in writing to BC Soccer, how many teams are eligible for each Provincial Cup Competition each year.

7E. To remove Rule 2.f, 2.g and 2h:

CURRENT

RULE 2 - PLAYER AGE LIMITS

Adult

- f) Adult U21 age categories shall comprise of affiliated teams whose players have not attained their twenty-first birthday prior to January 1st of the current calendar year.
- g) Men’s MASTERS age categories shall comprise of affiliated teams whose players have attained (at a minimum) their thirty fifth (35) birthday prior to January 1st of the current calendar year.
- h) A women’s MASTERS age category shall comprise of affiliated teams whose players have attained their thirtieth (30) birthday prior to January 1st of the current calendar year. For Coastal BC the current calendar year is the year in which play ends.



These rules reference the age categories. If the age categories are removed, then there is no need for this to be in BC Soccer’s over-arching rules. Adult Leagues can put these requirements within their League Rules.

 [BC Soccer’s Adult Competition Rules](#) specify age requirements for the different cup competitions.

EXAMPLE:

**“3) Player Eligibility
c) Age**

*ii) Masters A & B
Provincial Men’s
competition is for*

*male players who
have reached 35
years of age
before...”*

RULE AMENDMENT #8

RATIONALE

To reflect current practice.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend Rule 14.b and insert Rule 14.b.i as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 14 - REFEREES

- b) All individuals wishing to become a BC Soccer registered referee shall be examined as to their suitability for duty by BC Soccer 's Referees' Committee. Such examinations may include oral, written and field test.

PROPOSED

RULE 14 - REFEREES

- b) All individuals wishing to become a BC Soccer registered referee or maintain their BC Soccer registered referee status must complete the appropriate referee course as delivered by BC Soccer.
 - i. Referees who are 19 years of age or older must also comply with the Association's Criminal Record Check Policy  requirements in order to become a referee or maintain their registration status.



**CRIMINAL RECORD
CHECK POLICY
REFERENCE**

RULE AMENDMENT #9

RATIONALE

To ensure organizations hosting sanctioned tournaments have a refund policy in place; and, to ensure those entering tournaments have access to the refund policy prior to registering for the tournament.

By ordinary resolution, the Board of Directors propose to amend Rule 15.b as follows:

CURRENT

RULE 15 - TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

- b) Teams, clubs, Youth Districts, Adult Leagues and associations affiliated with BC Soccer desiring to host a tournament shall then submit a tournament application form provided by BC Soccer, requesting permission to stage the tournament and containing necessary tournament information. Tournament applications shall be approved prior to the announcement of the tournament and shall be signed by the district, league or affiliated association having jurisdiction. A copy of the approved tournament application shall then be sent to the applicant, the responsible Youth District, Adult League or the affiliated association.

PROPOSED

RULE 15 - TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

- b) Teams, clubs, Youth Districts, Adult Leagues and associations affiliated with BC Soccer desiring to host a tournament shall then submit a tournament application form provided by BC Soccer, requesting permission to stage the tournament and containing necessary tournament information. **A refund policy must be provided with the tournament application and made publicly available upon BC Soccer's approval of tournament sanctioning.** Tournament applications shall be approved prior to the announcement of the tournament and shall be signed by the district, league or affiliated association having jurisdiction. A copy of the approved tournament application shall then be sent to the applicant, the responsible Youth District, Adult League or the affiliated association.



BC Soccer does not intend to dictate what a refund policy should entail; however, it is important that tournament hosts have one so participants “know what they’re signing up for” should they need to withdraw, or, if the tournament has to be cancelled.

APPENDIX A



The Canadian Soccer Association
l'Association canadienne de soccer

rue 237 Metcalfe Street, Ottawa
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T 613-237-7678 F 613-237-1516

canadasoccer.com

April 22nd, 2020 VIA EMAIL

Jason Elligott, Executive Director

jason.elligott@bcsoccer.net

BC Soccer Association

250 – 3410 Lougheed Highway Vancouver, BC

V5M 2A4

Phone: 604.299.6401 Ext. 1414

Dear Jason,

First and foremost, my apologies for the delay in getting this to you after our conversations over the past few weeks.

As we discussed, it is the obligation of all Member Associations of Canada Soccer to “*comply with the By-laws, Rules and Regulations, Code of Conduct and Ethics, Disciplinary Code, policies, and decisions of Canada Soccer and the Statutes, regulations, directives and decisions of FIFA and CONCACAF at all times, and with all duties arising therefrom*”.

In addition to this, Member Associations must enact By-laws, Rules and Regulations, etc. that are in accordance with the above.

Regarding one of the areas we discussed, Canada Soccer defines a Club as *an organization operating one or more teams that is subordinate to Canada Soccer or a Member Association*; our Rules and Regulations further go on to state *a Club is an organization operating one or more teams under a common executive*. The ‘Club’s’ status (professional or amateur), its legal form, or its tax status is not and should not be relevant to its inclusion into membership.

For clarity, Canada Soccer views ‘private academies’, ‘for-profit clubs’, and ‘non- profit/community clubs’ as one in the same. For example, the Montreal Impact are a ‘not-for- profit’ club/organization while Toronto FC are a ‘for-profit/private’ club/organization. Both are in the same membership class and afforded the same rights and benefits of membership.

Therefore, we’d expect the same regarding membership with a Member Association. I trust this makes sense and hope you and your family are both safe and healthy.

Kindest regards,

Earl Cochrane
Canada Soccer

APPENDIX A

BC Soccer Association
250 – 3410 Lougheed Highway Vancouver, BC
VSM 2A4



June 2, 2020

Attention: Jason Elligot, Executive Director

Re: For-Profit Entities (Academies) District Inclusion

On behalf of North Shore Youth Soccer Association (NSYSA), we would request BC Soccer's support in drafting and proposing several by-law amendments, rule changes and/or motions (as required) that will allow For-Profit Entities providing soccer activities (such as Academies) to be included formally within the sanctioned soccer environment as members of a regional youth soccer district at the upcoming AGM in November. We understand that the Canada Soccer letter dated April 22, 2020 is clear on the inclusion of For-Profit entities. We believe that the most prudent governance structure is that For-Profit Entities to be included as members of the regional youth soccer districts.

We may also need to address whether there needs to be uniformity in how Districts on-board new clubs. We assume that each District will need to develop policy that clearly and fairly outlines the requirements for registration. We believe BC Soccer can support this process by convening a meeting of the regional youth soccer districts, releasing a position paper for comment in the near term developing best practice guidelines and the creation of a basic application template.

NSYSA is looking forward to collaborating with BC Soccer in the coming few months and once finalized propose the required By-Law and/or Rule changes at the upcoming BC Soccer AGM.

We thank you for your efforts and support in advance.


John White – Chair


Dave Kershaw – Vice-Chair

CC: Gary Sangha, Chair, Governance Committee
Gail Statton, Chair, Membership Committee

APPENDIX A



YOUR **PERSPECTIVE**
OUR **FOCUS™**

June 24, 2020

VIA E-MAIL

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Reply to: Ingrid M. Tsui*
Direct Line: 604.484.1746
Direct Fax: 604.484.9746
E-mail: itsui@ahbl.ca
Matter No.: 1107721

British Columbia Soccer Association
250 - 3410 Lougheed Highway
Vancouver, BC V5M 2A4

Attention: Jason Elligott, Executive Director

Dear Mr. Elligott:

Re: British Columbia Society - Admission of For-Profit Entity as Member

We are writing to confirm that a society incorporated pursuant to the *Societies Act* (British Columbia) may permit for-profit entities to be admitted as members of the society, unless the bylaws or policies of the society provide otherwise.

Yours truly,

ALEXANDER HOLBURN BEAUDIN + LANG LLP

Per:

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "I. Tsui".

Ingrid M. Tsui* Partner
IMT

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APPENDIX A

Links to BC Soccer Documentation related to For-Profit Inclusion and Member Engagement/Consultation

[Memo - June 6, 2020 - Canada Soccer Letter Regarding For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Organizations](#)

[Memo - July 3, 2020 - Proposed timelines related to inclusion of For-Profit/Private Organizations to Youth District Associations](#)

[Webinar - July 16, 2020 - For-Profit/Private Organization Inclusion Timelines Q&A](#)

[Proposed document - September 4, 2020 - Youth District Association Standards for New Club Membership Applications](#)

APPENDIX C