



VIA EMAIL

July 13, 2017

Attention: BC Soccer Membership (and affiliated soccer clubs)

From: BC Soccer

Re: International Transfer Certificate and Registration Clarification

It has come to BC Soccer's attention that there may be some misunderstanding regarding FIFA's International Transfer Certificate rules as they relate to Canada Soccer and BC Soccer's registration rules. While BC Soccer would like to see an update to FIFA's rules to make the requirements more flexible for amateur soccer in Canada, it is required to remain compliant nonetheless. With that in mind, BC Soccer would like to make the following clarifications:

- Youth Districts, Adult Leagues and affiliated clubs must register all players that participate in any programming (including training) put on by their organization.
- To register with BC Soccer (via a Youth District/Adult League/affiliated club) an individual must be eligible to register. As it relates to players who have moved to BC/Canada from another country and/or international students: individuals who are 10 years or older who have previously been registered to play soccer in another country, or are seeking their first soccer registration in BC, must receive an International Transfer Certificate to become eligible to register. International Students typically do not meet FIFA's requirements to apply for an International Transfer Certificate (as their parents typically have not moved to Canada/BC for purposes other than soccer; i.e. work).

With the above two points in mind, regrettably, members and/or affiliated clubs are not allowed to provide separate programming for International Students and not register those players to BC Soccer, even if the member/affiliated club provides insurance coverage separate from BC Soccer's insurance program.

International Students and those who do not receive an International Transfer Certificate may be able to participate in some sanctioned soccer activity on a single-event basis using a BC Soccer Short Term Event Player Permit. To learn more about Short Term Event Player Permits, please read the July 2016 communication:

https://www.bcsoccer.net/files/AboutUs/Communications/2016/communication_short_term_permit_administration.pdf. Additionally, international students are encouraged to participate in soccer at school as BC School Sports is an Associate Member of BC Soccer but does not register players; therefore, is not subject to the registration rules that full members and affiliated clubs are.

For reference, below are the relevant rules and regulations from BC Soccer and its soccer governing bodies:

BC Soccer Rules & Regulations state:

RULE 5 – PLAYER REGISTRATION

- f) *Any player or official not registered with BC Soccer shall be determined to be ineligible to participate in league and cup competition under the jurisdiction of BC Soccer and not eligible for any benefit from membership in BC Soccer.*

- g) *Failure to register all players by any district, league or affiliated association shall result in a directive from the Board leading to the expulsion and/or suspension of that district, league or affiliated association from BC Soccer. Such suspension or expulsion shall not commence for 10 working days from the date that the directive is delivered in writing to the district, league or affiliated association and shall remain in effect until the matter has been rectified to the satisfaction of the Board.*

Youth

- v) *A youth age player shall be recognized as a registered player of BC Soccer once BC Soccer or designate validates the youth's application for membership, providing the applicant has met all eligibility requirements.*

Canada Soccer's rules state:

5.13 Registration of Amateur Players

- 1. *Restriction of Players*
 - i. *All other amateur players must register with Canada Soccer through their Provincial/Territorial Association.*

FIFA's Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players state:

9. International Transfer Certificate

- 1. *Players registered at one [National] Association may only be registered at a new [National] association once the latter has received an International Transfer Certificate (ITC) from the former [National] association.*

To read more about International Transfer Certificates, please reference [BC Soccer's International Transfer Certificate Procedures](#) document.

Should you have further questions, please direct them to loridandrea@bcsoccer.net.

Regards,



Lori D'Andrea
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BC Soccer