



January 13, 2021

**Attention:** BC Soccer Members

**From:** BC Soccer

**Subject:** Next Steps - New Club Members for Youth District Associations

In follow up to the [memo circulated November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020](#), BC Soccer is pleased to now provide the finalized Youth District Association Standards for New Club Memberships. Please find it following this memo. As summarized in the November 5<sup>th</sup> memo, the updated document has implemented the corresponding amendments.

Additionally, BC Soccer is pleased to share that its 2020 AGM, held November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Voting Members passed the proposed bylaw amendments to allow new clubs to become members of Youth District Associations, regardless of the organization's legal form or tax status. Specifically, the new bylaws will require Youth District Associations, *"To have a process in place for accepting new club/organizations as members with full benefits that is free from conflict of interest (Required latest July 31, 2021)."*

Based on this, BC Soccer's next steps are to further support Youth District Associations in meeting the bylaw requirement. Following this, BC Soccer will seek to implement the [timelines that proposed and agreed in July 2020](#). These timelines are provided below as a recap:

<b>(NEW)</b> On or before: <b>March 1, 2021</b>	BC Soccer to provide Youth District Association's a New Club Membership Application Template
On or before: <b>July 31, 2021</b>	All Youth District Associations must provide their new Club Membership Application to BC Soccer's Membership Committee.
On or before: <b>August 31, 2021</b>	BC Soccer's Membership Committee to review Youth District Members' New Club Membership Application and provide feedback.
On or before: <b>September 1, 2021</b>	All Youth District Associations' application process will open, and applications will be accepted until October 31, 2021.
On or before: <b>January 10, 2022</b>	All Youth District Associations' decisions regarding new member organization applications will be announced. *Per BC Soccer's bylaws the for-profit and non-profit associate member categories will be removed at this time.
On or before: <b>April 2022</b>	New full members of Youth District Associations in the Interior Region may initiate operations to commence play for the 2022 Spring/Summer season starting April 2022; or defer the start to a maximum of one playing season.
On or before: <b>September 2022</b>	New full members of Youth District Associations in the Coastal Region may initiate operations to commence play for the 2022 Fall/Winter season starting September 2022; or defer the start to a maximum of one playing season.

\*BC Soccer Bylaws – Part 3 – Membership

- (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)

BC Soccer understands that some Youth District Associations may need to make relevant bylaw amendments to become compliant and/or in alignment with BC Soccer’s bylaws. To assist with this process, BC Soccer has updated its version of its Youth District Association Constitution & Bylaws template which can be found here - <https://bcsoccer.net/good-practice-guides>.

BC Soccer also recognizes that some Youth District Associations currently operate as a Club; therefore, have bylaws that only identify players/parents, coaches, etc. as its members, not other organizations or clubs. To transition to be able to accept clubs as members, and in many cases a new Youth District Association will need to be created. While the updated Youth District Association Constitution & Bylaws template will assist, BC Soccer believes this could also be an opportunity for neighbouring Youth District Associations that operate as clubs to come together. By working together, a larger (geographically) Youth District Association could be created which would allow current Youth Districts Associations that operate as a club, to continue operation much like they have, as a club. If this is of interest to any Youth District Association, please contact Nicole Laird, Manager of Member Services ([nicolelaird@bcsoccer.net](mailto:nicolelaird@bcsoccer.net)) to express your interest and ask any questions.

Should there be interest from multiple Youth District/Club members, BC Soccer will seek to host at a suitable time in 2021 a webinar that details what Youth District/Club Associations coming together could look like and the process of how that could happen.

**-End-**