



BC SOCCER

Membership Benefits Overview

BC Soccer

Version 1.3

Foreword

Dear BC Soccer Members and Potential Members,

BC Soccer is pleased to be the largest provincial sport organization (PSO) in BC and the third largest soccer specific PSO in Canada. We believe in the power of soccer and look to develop our game by emphasizing its benefits of active and healthy living while supporting our member clubs, districts, and leagues to strengthen and unite their local soccer community.

This Member Benefits document provides an overview of the benefits associated with being a member of our association.

Ultimately our goal is to promote continued and sustainable soccer and community development and overall growth for our game in every region of British Columbia. In order to achieve this goal we must ensure all partners are working in collective harmony while also embracing BC Soccer's Mission of "Developing the game by inspiring British Columbians to lifelong active, inclusive, and team play."

Many thanks to you all and we, as an association, look forward to continuing our working relationships to develop our game in British Columbia.

Sincerely,



Jason Elligott
Director of Community Development
BC Soccer

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Why should you be a member of BC Soccer?

BC Soccer, through its member districts, leagues and clubs, is committed to providing the best services possible to our members. Our Mission Statement – ***“Developing the game by inspiring British Columbians to lifelong active, inclusive and team play.”*** doesn’t refer strictly to our on-field capabilities but also to our commitment of excellence to our members. We have compiled this information to highlight the programs / services we offer and the overall benefits of being a member of BC Soccer.

Our programs and services are the benchmark nationally and other soccer governing bodies in Canada use our materials and manuals to service their programs. BC Soccer is indeed the measuring stick for soccer programming in this country. Why would you not want to be a member of the leading soccer organization in Canada?

Key Membership Benefits

Development Programs

BC Soccer works hard to ensure our programs are new and exciting and we take pride in providing our volunteers with the most innovative tools to allow them to succeed on a daily basis. We develop and distribute, through our development partners, programs to assist our players, coaches and officials, covering such topics as parent education and soccer development. We are very pleased our development programs are continually used as example at the national level.

Insurance

BC Soccer provides insurance coverage from our insurance provider All Sport Insurance for players, officials, coaches, directors and volunteers who are participating in recognized / sanctioned soccer in British Columbia.

Liability Insurance

No matter how careful you are, accidents happen. You can be sued by anyone who claims injury or damages resulting from your activities. You may not be liable, but you will need to be defended in court. A liability policy will pay for this defence as well as any costs awarded against you. In short, liability insurance gives you peace of mind. All members of the organization are covered during sanctioned or authorized events.

Sport Accident Insurance

Sport Accident Insurance is coverage for sanctioned practices and games. This includes items such as dental, physiotherapy, accident reimbursement, accidental death, fracture indemnity, rehabilitation indemnity, tuition fees reimbursement, emergency transportation benefit, and eye glasses or contact lenses expense.

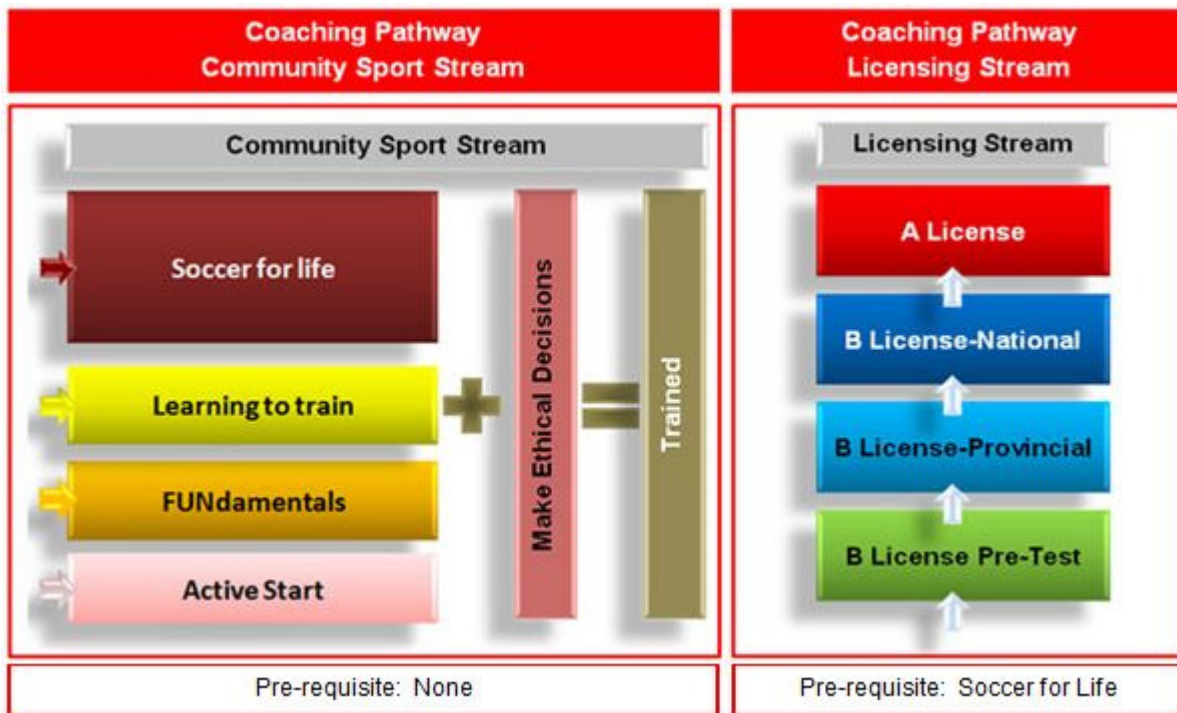
For a complete and detailed pamphlet of our Insurance Coverage please visit the insurance section of the BC Soccer website (bcsoccer.net under Member Service).

Educational Resources

BC Soccer is proud to be a national leader in player / coach / referee development and education.

Coaching

As the governing body for soccer in Canada the Canadian Soccer Association is responsible for training coaches from grassroots to national team level. With the increasing number of players registering with clubs across the country this represents a considerable challenge. In order to meet this challenge the Association has developed a Long Term Player Development (LTPD) Model and tailored the Coach Education Program to this Model. As a result a two-streamed education program (COMMUNITY SPORT and LICENSING STREAMS) have been developed in conjunction with the NCCP and our provincial/territorial partners that we feel will meet the needs of both developing coaches and the sport itself.



For complete information on our coach education program, please visit the coaching courses section of the BC Soccer website (bcsoccer.net under Coach).

As an incentive BC Soccer is pleased to offer the Active Start Coaching Course FREE of charge to member coaches as our initial investment in coaching education.

In addition to the National Coach Programs, BC Soccer is pleased to provide our members with Grassroots Workshops and the Goalkeeping Diploma Course.

Coaching - Grassroots Workshops

This player centered, coach driven FREE initiative is offered to all Member Club/ District Associations, which will be a 3 hour workshop. Each workshop consists of three (3) delivery options for the Member Club/ District Associations to select for its coaches.

- Workshop 1: Coaching the Under 6 to Under 8 Player
- Workshop 2: Coaching the Under 9 to Under 12 Player
- Workshop 3: Coaching Youth (Under 13+) and Adult Players

Refereeing

The BC Soccer's Referee Program exists to support and foster the development and education of referees from the grassroots to elite levels of refereeing throughout British Columbia.

The goal of BC Soccer is to provide member referees across British Columbia with the tools necessary to help build the future of soccer in British Columbia and to development referees.

If referees strive to be successful they will need more than law interpretation skill and experience; although these are both indispensable. Being a successful soccer referee is about personal desire towards continuing education and learning about the game and the Laws which govern it.

The BC Soccer Referee Program needs to be a shared and cooperative program with a proactive vision for the betterment of the game. Ultimately, OUR success will be measured by the growth of the game, at all levels, in British Columbia.

For complete information on our referee education program, please visit the referee clinics section of the BC Soccer website (bcsoccer.net under Referee).

Course Offerings and registration

BC Soccer has developed a province-wide online registration / database tool to support coaching and refereeing. The database complies with our Privacy Policy while at the same time providing sophisticated administrative functionality for user, clinic hosts, instructors, assessors, and back end administrators. Access to this system is free.

BC Soccer is only beginning to realize the full benefits of this system and in our assessment, this is just the first, rather than the final step to meeting the complex needs of our association and its stakeholders; therefore, we must ensure that we are looking to advance the operation and process behind all activities BC Soccer administer.

Provincial Championships

BC Soccer members offer competitive opportunities in numerous age divisions and levels of competition including league play and hundreds of sanctioned tournaments which in many cases lead to regional and provincial play downs and championship events.

Competitions directly supported by BC Soccer:

Regional Championships

Youth Interior qualifications for Provincial Championships - Boys and Girls, U13 – U18, 2 tiers

Western/National Championships

Coordinating teams travel to Westerns or National Championships

Provide travel grants for teams traveling to National Championships

Competition organized by BC Soccer:

Provincial Championships

Youth – Boys and Girls, U13 – U18, 3 tiers (Premier Cup, A Cup and B Cup)

Adult – Men and Women, Open – 2 tiers, U21, Masters/Classics (over 35)

Provide travel grants for eligible teams attending all of the above championships

Tournaments

Youth Futsal – Boys and Girls, U14 & U16

Westerns/Nationals Championships

Host Westerns or National Championships every 2 – 3 years

For complete information on all our Provincial Cup competitions, please visit the Provincial Cup section of the BC Soccer website (bcsoccer.net under Member Service).

Good/Best Practice Guides (Good Governance documents)

Our member organizations are the heart of soccer in BC and we are working hard to support these organizations on a daily, weekly, monthly and yearly basis. One of the ways we are providing this support is by offering relevant tools and best practice guidelines aimed to not only strengthen the quality of their organization, but to invest time and resources to bring a ready-made solution to our members.

Ultimately our goal is to promote continued and sustainable soccer and community development and overall growth for our game in every region of British Columbia. In order to achieve this goal we must ensure all partners are working in collective harmony while also embracing BC Soccer's Mission of "Developing the game by inspiring British Columbians to lifelong active, inclusive, and team play."

For complete information and to view the Best Practice Guides we have development, please visit the Best Practice Guides section of the BC Soccer website (bcsoccer.net under Member Service).

Uniformity of rules, regulations and discipline

BC Soccer's Constitution & Bylaws and Rules & Regulations are the member voted /accepted governing documents of BC Soccer. Both document, along with the BC Soccer Discipline Policy and Procedure Regulations and other relevant policies can be downloaded here - <http://www.bcsoccer.net/bylaws>.

Additional BC Soccer Member Benefits

As a member of BC Soccer, in addition to the above key member benefits, below are a few of the other programs / services members can access / benefit from:

- Access to knowledge technical, soccer management and administrative staff as resources
- Access to prefer partner services such as Soccer Express, Alexander Holburn Beaudin Lang LLP (Legal Services), etc.
- Annual awards celebration
- Annual scholarship program / celebration
- Good / Best Practice Guides (Good Governance documents)
- Constitution & Bylaws and Rules & Regulations
- Discipline Policy (Consistent application)
- Dispute resolution (Appeals / Protest Process)
- Educational / Certification Clinics
- Enhanced BC Soccer Website
- Female Development
- General Meetings (i.e. Annual)
- Grants for U12 Jamborees and Festivals
- Grassroots Programming / Development (Coaching and Refereeing)
- High Performance Programming via BC Soccer Premier League and Provincial Development Program
- Insurance
- Parent Development / Education
- Provincial Development Programming (Selected Players)
- Referee Assessment Program
- Referee Candidates Program
- Referee Head Referee Program
- Regular BC Soccer Newsletter updates
- Risk Management
- Sanctioning (Tournament & Travel)

For more information on BC Soccer and benefits of being a member please visit us on line at bcsoccer.net (under Member Service and Becoming a member).

More Information on BC Soccer, including structure and brief history

Provincial Sport Governing Body of Soccer

When you register with your local soccer club / association, you become part of a family in excess of 150,000 members province-wide and 1,000,000 nation-wide, all of whom share a passion for our beautiful game. The Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) is the national governing body for soccer in this country and is the only recognized organization based in Canada that is a member of The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA). The British Columbia Soccer Association (BC Soccer) is a member of the CSA and is responsible for governing our game in BC, on behalf of the CSA. As a member of your local club / association, you are connected with the organization that selects, develops and operates Canada's national soccer teams at all levels, both male and female.

What is BC Soccer?

BC Soccer is the provincial sport governing body responsible for the governance, promotion and development of the game of soccer in British Columbia.

BC Soccer is the largest provincial sport organization (PSO) in BC; third largest soccer specific PSO in Canada. As a not-for-profit (society) provincial sport organization and member of the Canadian Soccer Association we are responsible for governing amateur soccer at all levels in British Columbia. Approximately 150 soccer associations / leagues, 120,000 players, 2,500 referees, plus numerous volunteers and countless others make our great game possible here in British Columbia.

How is BC Soccer funded?

BC Soccer is funded in a number of ways but primarily through participant and member fees as well as Provincial Government Grants.

Participant fees are received in a number of ways including annual player registrations, referee and coaching clinics and annual referee registration whilst member fees are received via annual registration, competition and team entry fees and sanctioning of tournaments and events.

BC Soccer is fortunate to receive funding through a number of Provincial Government Grants which it applies for annually. Grants are applied to various BC Soccer programs and focus on generating increased participation, coach development, high performance athlete support and the supporting of communities hosting events.

What does BC Soccer do?

BC Soccer services the soccer community of BC in many ways. As the provincial sport governing body responsible for the promotion and development of youth and adult soccer in British Columbia, BC Soccer delivers many competitive and recreational programs for our members, the participants and the soccer community.

These include the implementation of technical standards, the delivery of the Long-Term Player Development (LTPD) model for the Canadian Soccer Association via Elite and Grassroots service plans for member clubs, the provincial player development program, coach development and soccer science.

BC Soccer also facilitates the running of Provincial Championship competitions, provides annual participant insurance, implements referee development program (including appointments and annual registration) and offers and delivers all coaching and referee courses.

As part of its responsibility in governing the game, BC Soccer implements and upholds rules and regulations, sanctions competitions, and oversees disciplinary matters.

BC Soccer also provides its member groups with good practice and best advice across various areas of the game.

Our Purpose

1. **Active Play** (promoting lifelong physical activity and healthy living by British Columbians).
2. **Inclusive Play** (promoting respect and harmony through access to soccer by boys and girls, men and women, and all people regardless of origin, age and walk of life).
3. **Team Play** (promoting collaboration, cooperation and coordination in the pursuit of excellence in soccer and all aspects of life).

Our Responsibilities

- The association dedicates itself to the advancement of soccer for all individuals in BC through progressive leadership by ensuring meaningful opportunities and enjoyable experiences in a sportsmanlike environment;
- To present a common voice on behalf of the members in all discussions that could affect them at the local, provincial, national, and international level;
- To ensure compliance of the rules & regulations of the game, as adopted by the association members;
- To supervise and carry out the competitions for the championship of BC;
- To elevate the awareness of the responsibilities of the soccer public in ensuring the game is played in a positive environment;
- To assist members in their pursuit of development by providing effective programs and services through available resources;
- To monitor and review services, benefits and programs available to members in order to meet their ever changing needs.

Our Structure

BC Soccer has approximately 40 Youth District Soccer Association, 12 Full Member Adult Leagues and number Associate Member Associations / Organizations. For more details information on the members of the association see here - <http://www.bcsoccer.net/directory-membership>.

We have 14 elected Board of Director Members from across the Province, with 15 staff members.

For more information and contact information of our board and staff, see here - <http://www.bcsoccer.net/staff-board-directory>.



Our Committees

BC Soccer has a number of committees and working groups to guide and service the game across BC. These committees are made up of board and community members and are support by staff.

The following Standing Committees are constituted to be advisory to the Board of Directors. The terms of reference, shall be kept up to date and published on the Association's web site for public access.

- a) Finance and Audit
- b) Nominations
- c) Governance
- d) Risk Management
- e) Membership

The following Operational Committee's are constituted to be accountable to the board and the membership. The terms of reference shall be kept up to date and published on the Association's web site for public access.

- a) Youth Competitions
- b) Adult Competitions
- c) Soccer Development (Grassroots and High Performance)
- d) Referees

A Judicial Committee shall be constituted and chaired by a member of the board of Directors who shall oversee the following committees:

- a) Appeals
- b) Protests
- c) Discipline

BC Soccer's brief history

Organized soccer in British Columbia began at the turn of the twentieth century. The British Columbia Youth Soccer Association was formed in 1907 and joined the national governing body in 1920. Throughout the 1920s, the organization steadily grew and became a leader in soccer both within the province and in the country, a role that continues to the present day.

Originally focused on Youth soccer however over the years another association developed, the British Columbia Soccer Association (BC Soccer) which focused on senior (adult) soccer. In the 1990s discussions began to bring the two organizations under one umbrella and at the 1998 Annual General Meeting the two associations became one, the British Columbia Soccer Association (BC Soccer), governing both youth and senior soccer for the entire province of BC.

Today ...

BC Soccer oversees approximately 120,000 players and 2,500 referees and numerous volunteers with a commitment to excellence in providing a safe and fun learning experience for all members. With current programming, BC Soccer will continue to be at the forefront of bringing exposure and opportunity to amateur soccer in British Columbia.

The structure of soccer in BC / Canada

Below is the structure of soccer in BC and Canada.

For **youth** players, your local soccer club is a member of the local district association, in turn the district association is a member of the provincial association (BC Soccer), and finally the provincial association is a member of the national association (CSA).

For **adult** players, your local soccer club is a member of a Senior/Adult League, in turn the Senior/Adult League is a member of the provincial association (BC Soccer), and finally the provincial association is a member of the national association (CSA).

Your local club is your point of contact where you register to play soccer in your region / area. The local association / leagues organize leagues, schedules, teams, finance transactions, equipment, and uniforms.

By having the below structure in place, each level is represented on the next level up to ensure the ability for your input to be heard at all levels of the soccer hierarchy. The local district associations and senior leagues have their own constitution that control them and the members of that district association / league can effect change locally through the powers entrenched in their constitution. Issues of dispute are to be addressed at the most immediate local level first with appeal capabilities to BC Soccer and even in certain situations to the CSA.

National Soccer Association



Provincial Soccer Association



BC SOCCER



Adult Leagues & Youth District Soccer Associations



Local Soccer Clubs & Teams



Player

Why would you not want to be a member of the leading soccer organization in Canada?

BE A MEMBER! SEE THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

Active Play

Inclusive Play

Team Play

PROMOTE POSITIVE SOCCER EXPERIENCES!

BC Soccer Association

www.bcsoccer.net



BC SOCCER