



BC SOCCER

2018-2019 ADULT COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

MEN AND WOMENS A CUP, B CUP, U21, AND MASTERS


PROVINCIAL
championships

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1) Introduction

a. Application

- i. These rules shall apply to the Provincial Championships managed by the British Columbia Soccer Association (BC Soccer). Any variances for specific competition shall be as noted in these Rules.

b. Management of Competitions

- i. BC Soccer shall control the operation of these competitions. The draws and the scheduling of games up to the time League winners are declared may be delegated to the associations having jurisdiction.
- ii. The Adult Competitions Committee shall have the authority to order any game that has been suspended or abandoned, replayed or played to a finish.
- iii. Within the constraints of 1) c. i., BC Soccer, through its Adult Competitions Committee, may make such temporary rules governing specific situations not otherwise provided for, as are necessary to achieve the objectives of BC Soccer. *Such changes shall be communicated to all effected teams and their Leagues, and whenever possible prior to the commencement of the competition so altered.*

c. BC Soccer Constitution/Rules and Regulations Precedence

- i. In the event of any discrepancy between this document and the rules and regulations of the British Columbia Soccer Association, the latter shall have precedence.
- ii. All games shall be played under BC Soccer's Adult Provincial Championships Competition Rules and Regulations as adopted by the Board each year.

d. BC Soccer Representatives

- i. BC Soccer, through its Adult Competitions Committee, shall appoint a BC Soccer Representative to the competition whose decision at the competition, on any matter not covered in the rules, bylaws and policies of BC Soccer, shall be final and binding on all parties. Unless otherwise stated, this person shall be the Chair of Adult Competitions for BC Soccer.

e. Risk Management and Harassment

- i. Participants in any BC Soccer Provincial Championship must adhere to BC Soccer's Criminal Record Check policy.

2) Team Eligibility

a. Category/Level of Play

See BC Soccer Rules & Regulations: Rule 5 – y)

b. Performance Bonds

- i. The Adult Competitions Committee shall have the power to place performance bonds on teams as they see fit.

c. Team Allocation

- i. Provincial Cup allocations will be determined annually by the Adult Competitions Committee.
- ii. Leagues must confirm they will fulfil their allocations by January 15 each year.
- iii. A league will lose a berth in a provincial competition if a team from that league withdrew from that competition past the allocation declaration deadline (January 15) without a replacement team in place and a fine may be issued.
- iv. Team names are to remain as they are registered with their respective league.

d. Coaching Qualifications

- i. Teams may not enter or take part in the Men's and Women's Provincial A Cup unless the Team Head Coach has completed the Community Stream coaching course called "Soccer for Life" or a higher level course in the Licensing Stream (C License, B Provincial, B National or A License levels).
- ii. Team failing to meet this qualification will forfeit the match.
- iii. A qualified team official must be present on each game day.

e. League Qualifying Competitions

- i. All entries to a BC Soccer Provincial Cup Competition must have been received by BC Soccer on or before the date approved by the Adult Competitions Committee as the entry deadline for the competition.
- ii. Each Adult League shall determine their own Provincial Cup qualifying competitions to fill their yearly allocations. Each League is required to submit to BC Soccer which competition(s) are designated as that association's qualifying play downs for a corresponding category of Provincial Cup competition. These must be submitted by December 15 of each season.

3) Player Eligibility

a. Registration

- i. No player shall be allowed to play for more than one team in any one Adult *Provincial Cup* competition under the jurisdiction of this Association in one competition season.
- ii. Any team proven to have played an ineligible player shall be disqualified from further participation in the competition and subject to fines and discipline.

b. Declarations/Entry Forms

- i. Provincial Cup entry will require that an entry form from each League be submitted to BC Soccer on behalf of their respective teams.
- ii. The entry form and entry fee is due to BC Soccer no later than seven (7) days prior to the Adult Provincial Cup draw. This date is to be determined annually.

c. Age

- i. Provincial Men's A & B and Women's A & B competitions are for Open Age players who are currently competing in BC Soccer full member Adult Leagues.
- ii. Masters A & B Provincial Men's competition is for male players who have reached 35 years of age before January 1 of the current playing season and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- iii. Masters Provincial Women's competition is for female players who have reached 30 years of age before January 1 of the current playing season and are currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues.
- iv. Under 21 Provincial Men's and Women's competitions are for male and female players under the age of 21 currently competing in BC Soccer Adult Leagues. Individuals must not have attained their twenty-first birthday prior to January 1st of the current calendar year.

d. ID Cards

- i. All players and team officials will be required to have a photo Identification Card which will be checked by the referee before each game. Electronic forms of ID cards are permitted if they are officially endorsed by the league.

4) Team Rules

a. Roster

- i. A complete Provincial Cup Match Report/Roster form must be submitted with uniform colors specified and players clearly identified by uniform number. These forms require League signature of approval and are due to BC Soccer no later than 12:00pm on the date of the Adult Provincial Cup draw, or within 24 hours of qualification.
- ii. For all BC Soccer Adult Provincial Cup competitions, teams may dress a maximum of twenty (20) players at each game. Only players listed on the game day Provincial Cup Match Report/Roster form for the match in question are eligible to be seated on the team bench or in the team bench area.

b. Team Officials

- i. A team roster can include up to a maximum of five (5) team officials.
- ii. Only team officials listed on the team roster are eligible to be seated on the team bench and technical area during the game.
- iii. One (1) member of the team officials must be the same gender as the team. This team official must be present on the bench and in the changing rooms. This team official cannot be a player.

c. Adult Player Pick Ups

- i. Adult player pick-ups are not permitted for any BC Soccer Adult Provincial Cup competition.

d. Uniforms

- i. Teams participating in Provincial Championships are required to have two sets of uniforms (including socks and shorts) of different colors to avoid color conflict.

- ii. Where the uniform colors of competing teams are similar, the home team must change. Goalkeepers must wear colors that distinguish them from the other players and the officials.

e. Meetings

- i. All teams must have at least one team official attend a pre-competition meeting, if applicable. Failure to attend will result in a fine.

f. Events and Ceremonies

- i. If there are any social, civic and official functions associated with the competition all teams must attend. Each team must also have in attendance one (1) team official from those listed on the Team Roster. Failure to attend an official function will result in a fine.

5) Game Rules

a. Laws of the Game

- i. All games are to be played in accordance with International Football Association Board (IFAB) Laws of the Game.

b. Substitutions

- i. In Provincial Men's A and Women's A Cup competition a maximum of five (5) substitutions shall be allowed during game play (including any extra time). Players that are substituted off may be substituted back on later in the game.
- ii. Unlimited substitutions may also be made at half time or at full time before any extra time.
- iii. In Masters, Adult B, or Under 21 competitions unlimited substitution shall be allowed.

c. Duration of Play

- i. The duration of each game shall be two halves of forty-five (45) minutes each. In the event of a draw at the end of the regulation time of ninety (90) minutes, extra time shall be played consisting of two halves of fifteen (15) minutes each, for a total of thirty (30) minutes. If the game is still tied after extra time, the match will be decided by kicks from the penalty mark, as per the IFAB rules.

6) Competition Rules

a. Scheduling

- i. After the Adult Provincial Cup Draw, the top team listed on the official cup bracket is deemed the Home Team.
- ii. Teams are required to schedule their own fields for all rounds leading up to the Finals of Provincial Cup play. Teams must schedule and communicate the time, date and location of the game to BC Soccer by Tuesday at noon of that week. If the game details are not submitted to BC Soccer by Tuesday at noon, the Away

team will become the Home team and is given the option of scheduling the game.

- iii. The Home team for any round of Provincial Cup except the finals must schedule the game for a date/time on Friday, Saturday or Sunday if it involves two lower mainland teams or two island teams. Alternatively, you must schedule a date/time on Saturday or Sunday that kicks off between 12:00pm and 4:00pm if the game involves one Lower Mainland team and one Vancouver Island team/Sunshine Coast. Once confirmed with BC Soccer, the schedule will not be changed unless otherwise agreed to by both teams.
- iv. Championship matches may be scheduled for any time.
- v. Fields must be scheduled for a minimum of three hours per game.
- vi. Where games are played on open parks, the first named (i.e. home) team shall be responsible for marking out the grounds.
- vii. For Men's and Women's A Cup Competitions, every effort must be made by the schedulers to provide a field with adequate change rooms available for both teams.
- viii. All teams must be able to provide one net for the goalposts.

b. Format

- i. All Adult Provincial Cup Competitions are Single Elimination format.

c. Ball

- i. The home team must supply two suitable game balls. The away team must be able to supply one.

d. Official Match Reports

- i. Each team shall be required to bring 2 completed and signed copies of their Provincial Cup Match Report/Roster form. These must be provided to the referee one hour prior to the start of each game.
- ii. For Championship matches, each team is required to bring 3 completed and signed copies of their Provincial Cup Match Report/Roster Form.
- iii. The Provincial Cup Match Report/Roster is the official record of each Provincial Cup game, and each team shall be entitled to receive a copy of the completed form from BC Soccer after it has been duly signed and submitted by the referee.
- iv. It is the referee's responsibility to forward copies of the completed Match Report/Roster forms for each team and each game within 24 hours of the completion of the match.
- v. If a team fails to complete or produce the appropriate paper work for a match, it may result in a fine and/or disqualification from the competition at the discretion of the Adult Competitions Committee.

7) Discipline

a. Tournament Discipline Committee

- i. Any disciplinary offence during Provincial Cup play will be handled as required by the BC Soccer Judicial. Team officials will be notified if a player is required to appear before the BC Soccer Discipline Committee for a hearing.
- ii. For simple game related offences, automatic sanctions will be sent to the team and individual based on the referee report, and the BC Soccer Discipline Sanction Guidelines. Individuals always have the right to request an in person hearing for any offence or sanction. In this case the result of the hearing will override the automatic sanction

b. Suspended Players

- i. Suspensions carried over from league play do not apply to Provincial Cup games; however, if the suspension is egregious or from All Soccer Related Activity, this will carry over to Provincial Cup games.
- ii. For game related offences, any suspensions incurred during Provincial Cup play must be served during the players next Provincial Cup Game and will carry over to future seasons Provincial Cup games while not affecting their status for league play. This is subject to change at the discretion of the BC Soccer Judicial Committee.

c. Red Cards

- i. Expulsion or Red Cards during Provincial Cup play shall result in an automatic one (1) game suspension and additional games if warranted based on the BC Soccer Discipline Sanction Policy guidelines. If BC Soccer or the accused requests, a disciplinary hearing will be conducted.

d. Cautions

- i. Cautions (Yellow Cards) received during all rounds of the Adult Cup Competition will accumulate and apply during that competition only and are as follows:
 1. Two cautions (Yellow Cards) in one game is cause for= ejection plus an automatic one game suspension
 2. Accumulation of two (2) cautions (Yellow Cards) in Provincial A, B, U21, Masters, and Women's B Cup competition play is cause for an automatic one game suspension
 3. Accumulation of further cautions (Yellow Cards) is cause for performance review and additional disciplinary action as determined by the Discipline Committee
 4. Upon the conclusion of the quarter finals of all categories of Provincial Cup, and prior to the commencement of the semifinals, all Cautions (yellow cards) shall be removed from the record of all participating players. Note that any suspensions earned must still be served, but any/all accumulated cautions to that point are removed from the player's record.

e. Retirement of Suspensions

- i. For all game related suspensions confined to Provincial Cup play, a minimum of 2 games will be considered "served" at the conclusion of the Provincial Cup

finals each subsequent year, regardless of whether or not that individuals team has qualified to compete in Provincial or not.

8) Administration of the Competition

a. Travel Assistance

- i. All teams travelling between the Greater Vancouver Region and Vancouver Island for Provincial Cup games and Finals are eligible for a travel grant of \$500.00 per team for every eligible game you participate in.
- ii. Travel grants will be paid to the team's league upon completion of the Provincial Championship.

b. Field Rental Grant

- i. BC Soccer will reimburse leagues \$80 for each home game their teams play during the Provincial Championships.
- ii. Field rental grants will be paid to the team's league upon completion of the Provincial Championships.

c. Protests

- i. The protest fee for any game is \$250.00. Protests must be filed in accordance with the BC Soccer Rules and Regulations - Rule 11 -Protests. In the event the protest is upheld, the fee will be returned. If the protest is denied, the fee will be forfeited.
- ii. The grounds upon which the protest is based must be included in a written submission, which must be forwarded to the Provincial Representative in attendance within 24 hours of the completion of the match being protested. The fee must accompany the protest.
- iii. The protest must contain the details of the protest, including the rule that was allegedly breached, and the evidence to support that claim. Protests can only be considered on the grounds of misinterpretation of IFAB Laws of the Game, on the eligibility of players, or on breaches of the Competition Rules and Regulations. (Rule 11.a.)

d. BC Soccer Match Commissioner

- i. BC Soccer will appoint one (1) Match Commissioner to act on BC Soccer's behalf for each final match of the Provincial Cup Finals.
- ii. The Match Commissioner's duty and authority is specified in Appendix 2 – Match Commissioner.

e. Trophies

- i. Each championship team will be awarded a "Keeper" trophy.

f. Code of Conduct

- i. Players and Team Officials must abide by the Adult Competitions Committee's Code of Conduct

9) National Championships

a. Club Nationals

- i. Men's and Women's A Cup Provincial Champions qualify for the Canada Soccer Club Nationals held each year.
- ii. Masters Provincial Champions qualify for the Canada Soccer Club Regional/National Championships held each year.
- iii. Teams must notify BC Soccer within 14 days of winning Provincials if the team cannot meet its commitment to attend either Canada Soccer competition.
- iv. It is the responsibility of all Adult leagues to ensure that its member teams fulfill all Championship commitments once they have entered Provincial Championships up to the time a Provincial Champion is declared, and the Canadian Club Championship is held. It is also a league's duty to monitor the progress of any member team(s) which qualifies as a result of their victory in the Provincial Championship for the Canadian Club Championships (Adult A Men's and Women's and Masters).
- v. Teams failing to attend a national competition will be fined.

10) Competition Location and Schedule Information

- a. The location of the Provincial Championship Finals weekend is determined on an annual basis by the Competitions Committee. Every third year, Vancouver Island will be the location for the finals.
- b. Schedule and location of the finals is to be determined each year by the Adult Competitions Committee.

Appendix 1: Schedule of Fines

This section provides an outline of some general infractions that may be dealt with by the BC Soccer Adult Competitions Committee, made up of no less than 3 persons or an adjudicating body appointed by the committee. This section does not cover all instances in which a fine may be assessed or a bond imposed upon a player, team, team official or spectator for a violation of the BC Soccer Rules and Regulations. BC Soccer reserves the right to independently review each situation and use their discretion regarding all fines listed below.

- 1) Team fails to appear for a scheduled game without just cause**
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, up to \$750.00 fine, plus field and game official costs
- 2) A Team fails to comply with all pre-game requirements without just cause.**
Penalty: \$100.00
- 3) Failure to return a trophy by the deadline**
Penalty: \$500.00
- 4) Failure to return a trophy**
Penalty: \$500.00 plus the cost of replacing the trophy.
- 5) Team fails to commence a game or withdraws from the game after it has started**
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, \$500.00 fine plus field and game official costs.
- 6) Team or teams held to be at fault for abandonment of a game**
Penalty: Forfeiture of the game, up to \$2,000.00 fine plus field and game official costs. Cases may be referred to BC Soccer Judicial Committee.
- 7) Team fails to send a representative to pre-competition meeting**
Penalty: \$200.00 fine
- 8) Team fails to have a team official with sufficient coaching qualifications**
Penalty: \$100.00 fine
- 9) Team fails to provide a team roster or team Profile form 24 hours prior to the start of the draw.**
Penalty: Each league is fined \$100 per team found in non-compliance
- 10) Team is at fault for losing or damaging an Annual Provincial Cup trophy.**
Penalty: The cost of the repairs, or to replace the trophy, whichever is less.
- 11) Team fails to fulfill Provincial and/or Club National commitment**
Penalty: \$1000.00, plus the CSA fines that are assessed to BC Soccer

Appendix 2: Match Commissioner

BC Soccer will appoint a Match Commissioner for each match to act on behalf of BC Soccer at the Provincial Cup Finals or any other designated match that they feel appropriate. The duties of the Commissioner are to be responsible to report any issues involving the game in hand except for the officiating of the game which will be the responsibility of the referee coordinator.

This will include but not be limited to the following:

1. Briefing the players and coaches of the conduct that is required for them before, during and after the match.
2. Ensuring that the field is appropriately prepared prior to referee inspection.
3. Ensuring that all parties are aware of the pre-game protocol and that the game starts on time.
4. Provides the necessary feedback to the Competitions Committee regarding any outside interferences that may be evident and possible solutions.
5. Acts under the direction of the BC Soccer Competitions Chair with regards to any issues not covered under the Rules and Regulations.