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From the Media Desk of the Fraser Valley Soccer League...

A shock result Friday night in the FVSL Premier Division has set the table for a champion to be crowned as early as this coming week. At the same time, the Provincial Cup race has been reignited by the news that Whitecaps U19 will not be participating in the post-season tournament. Suddenly the results have taken on even more meaning as the season reaches a crescendo! Get on over to the FVSL Premier Review to catch up on who is in line for the first top-flight silverware of the season and who is in the running to represent the FVSL in the premier adult amateur soccer showcase in British Columbia.

It was yet another week where **Division 1** champions elect **Tzeachten FC** were handed a forfeit. Unable to field a team this week was **Surrey United SC Reds U21**. Tzeachten are now one win away from clinching the title and promotion to the FVSL Premier Division, and they will look to clinch at the first time of asking when they travel to face **Surrey United SC B**. Surrey come into the match on the heels of a narrow 1-0 win over **Premier Academy U21** via a **Christopher Serban** goal. Behind Tzeachten, the battle for second place remained neck and neck with **TSS FC Rovers II U21** and **TWU Spartans** playing to an enthralling 1-1 draw. **Jack Cluff** scored for TSS and moved within two goals of the top of the Golden Boot standings, while **David Saavedra** had the reply for TWU. Elsewhere, **Abbotsford United C** got in a pair of crucial matches in the relegation battle against fellow strugglers **Juba FC** and Premier. A battling 1-1 tie with Juba saw Juba score both goals, with **Romano James** scoring into his own net and **Brayan Perez** on target at the right end of the pitch from a Juba perspective. That result left Abby propping up the table, two points behind both Juba and Premier, until four different players scored Tuesday night in a 4-2 win over Premier. The other result on the weekend saw veteran side **North Delta SC NEWWAY** beaten 4-1 by upstart **Langley United B**.

Our Match of the Week was in **Division 2A** as the season schedule approached a thrilling conclusion. Mission SC A and Ridge Meadows SC United locked horns with the 2A title hanging in the balance. Ryan Cordoni scored for Ridge Meadows, but it was not enough, as Anthony Sullivan and Bandon Bergh were on target for Mission with team stalwart Eric Vanderhoek as scoring in a 3-1 win. The win lifted Mission into first place, above Ridge Meadows, at the conclusion of the season for both teams. Determination of the title then fell into the hands of defending champions Abbotsford United B, who could vault both Ridge Meadows and Mission with a win against Poco FC Titans. However, a David Peacock brace was enough to deliver the Titans a 3-1 win and leave first place in the balance. Had Ridge Meadows claimed all three points against Mission, that Titans win would have delivered them the silverware. Instead, it is Mission who now wait with bated breath for Abby's final match against FC Faly B U21. Only maximum points can keep the title with Abbotsford as, one way or another, a champion will be determined! Over in Division 2B, things are equally chaotic. North Surrey Mustangs A are in the clubhouse in first place with 31 points, but the heat is starting to get uncomfortable as the teams below them close in. Both Surrey United SC C and Coastal FC had a chance to overtake Mustangs as they sat level, four points back with two games in hand. Unfortunately for them, they played each other, so one team's championship dreams were set to end. The game lived up to its billing and, in the end, it was Coastal who emerged victorious, winning 4-3 and leaving themselves still alive in the title race. Regular contributors Mandeep Sara and Seth Hayward were on target in this match, but it was a brace from

Terry Oujla that really made the difference for Coastal. Coastal now sit level with Surrey FC Punjab, who were idle, and one point back of Mustangs with one final game remaining for both teams. All sorts of potential tie-breaking scenarios are in play, and it could be further complicated if Langley United Dynamo join them on 30 points with a further victory in their penultimate game. Dynamo moved onto 27 points with two games still to play after Corey Reid scored to deliver a 1-0 win over WRU Vault FC. That result could also prove crucial at the other end of the table with Vault looking to stave of FC Tigers Vancouver C, who fell 4-2 to Langley United Young Guns, in the relegation battle.

Just when things were looking settled in **Division 3**, there was a further twist in the tale! In 3A, **Langley United Impact** long ago locked up first place and enjoyed a weekend off ahead of their final game of the season. Behind them, **Noah Falk** put in a hattrick performance for **Mission SC U21** as they beat relegated **Ridge Meadows SC Wolves U21** 9-0 to move into second place and close out their season. The only thing left to be decided on that side of the ledger is who else will be joining Wolves in going down. The drama came in 3B where first place **Ladner FC** had a chance to lock up the title with a win, but were instead beaten 4-2 by **Langley United C**, with four different scorers getting in the act for Langley. This means that the champion will be determined in the final match of the season, in two weeks' time, between second place **Whalley Wakanda**, who were merely spectator this past weekend, and Ladner!

This weekend settled the race at the top in **Division 4B.** First place was locked up when **North Delta 91's** drew 2-2 with **Grass & Hops FC** on Sunday, which was all that was needed for the 91's to hoist the title after **North Delta SC United SJ** had fallen 3-0 to **Surrey FC United** a day earlier. **Dan Vickers** and **Ryan Lal** scored the title clinching goals for the 91's while **Derek Jackman** had a brace for Grass & Hops. SJ could have vaulted into first place with a result against Surrey, but instead ceded the title after a pair of goals by Surrey's **Sukhman Singh** condemned them to defeat in their final game of the season. The 91's did have one further match to play, but that result is now purely academic. It was not all bad news for SJ, though, as with Grass & Hops also failing to pick up maximum points, the North Delta boys were assured of second place and will therefore join their rivals the 91's in earning promotion. **Aldergrove United Lowlanders** did their part to make things interesting by beating **North Delta SC Falcons** 1-0 on the back of a **Nathaniel Radons** goal, but SJ own the tiebreaker over Lowlanders. Over in **Division 4A**, first place was confirmed for **Tri City FC B**, previously, but the question of who will join them in promotion remains open. **Mission SC B** kept their hopes alive with a 3-2 win over **Abbotsford Phoenix FC**. While not a factor in the promotion battle, **Dan Clement** of **Aldergrove United** did put in a top performance this weekend, scoring a hattrick to help lift his team to a 4-1 win over **Xwelmexw FC B**.

Champions Langley United Knights celebrated their Masters 1 title with a 3-2 win over Surrey United SC as Langley now turn their attention to further trophies. Behind them, Jairo Rodriguez scored three goals against WRU South Surrey FC in a 4-0 win to help his cause in the Golden Boot race, which he now leads on 18 goals, as well the bid for North Delta SC Rangers to lock up second place and Provincial Cup qualification. The perfect season bid In Masters 2 for champions Ridge Meadows SC Wolves came to a crashing end when Jon Craig dipped into the Masters ranks from Open to score a hattrick and lead Langley United to a shock 6-2 win. There was also a hattrick for Mathew Point of Xwelmexw FC C as they were 4-1 winners over America United FC. Meanwhile, it looks to officially be becoming a two horse race in Masters 3 with first place Coastal FC Alumni and second place Ridge Meadows SC Thunder

posting convincing victories, 3-0 and 5-0 respectively, over **WRU South Surrey FC Bullets** and **North Delta SC Phoenix** to start to put some daylight between themselves and the pack.

MATCH OF THE WEEK

It is all to play for at both ends of the table in Division 2B this week. Langley United Dynamo need at least a point this week to keep their title hopes alive, but that would open up a number of different tie breaking scenarios. To give themselves the best chance on claiming the title, they will need all three points against their opponents this week: FC Tigers Vancouver C. While their promotion rivals have often relied on their offensive prowess, Dynamo's strength this season has been their rock-solid defense. Langley have allowed a division low 19 goals through 15 games with keeper Bryan Roman leading from the back and Roman's five clean sheets on the season have him in the heat of the Golden Glove race. Notwithstanding that, Dynamo do have players capable of putting the ball in the net, specifically veteran Cameron Whitters and Corey Reid who have scored five goals apiece. Langley will be hoping to have all aspects of their game clicking as they try and set up a fantastic finish to their season.

While FC Tigers C have not have had the inaugural season in the FVSL that they would have imagined back in September, they have an opportunity to salvage their season at the death if they can pick up a win and get some luck with other results. If WRU Vault fail to win their final match of the season, then a win for FC Tigers C would see them avoid relegation. Recent strong performances from Ayomide Duyile, Joshua Lee and Hongbo Zhou have given Tigers a platform, but they will likely need a season's best performance against Dynamo to deliver the points their need. Despite some struggles, one good game could send Tigers into the summer on a high ready to build for next season.

FC Tigers Vancouver C v Langley United Dynamo goes Sunday night at 8pm at Newton Athletic #1.

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