February 17, 2022

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

Congratulations to FC Tigers Vancouver A who claimed their first Fraser Valley Soccer League Premier Division title in emphatic fashion this past weekend. It was the first opportunity for Tigers to mathematically secure the championship, and they made no mistake whatsoever in locking up the silverware. Just how convincing was their performance? The answer to that, as well as where the remaining teams stack up in terms of the Provincial Cup places, the relegation battle and the fight for second place can all be found in this week's <u>FVSL Premier Review</u>.

After almost five full months of perfect soccer, **Division 1** leaders **Tzeachten FC** were finally defeated. **TWU Spartans B** got goals from **Habas Jawansheer** and **Francis Powell** to win 2-0 in a result that also denied Tzeachten the points they needed to official be confirmed as champions. This is because second place **TSS FC Rovers II U21** posted a convincing 5-1 win over **Surrey United SC B** with five different scorers on target for TSS, including leading scorer **Jack Cluff** who moved onto 18 for the season, one behind the leader **Dale Long** from Tzeachten. Those two will go head-to-head this coming week, with Tzeachten able to clinch the title with a win or a draw. At the bottom, the relegation race is incredibly tight after both **Abbotsford United C** and **Premier Academy U21** both lost. **Logan Picard** from **Langley United B** played the hattrick hero in a 5-1 win over Abby, while a third clean sheet of the season for **North Delta SC NEWWAY** goalkeeper **Mathew Pereira** condemned Premier to a 3-0 loss. With **Juba FC** picking up three valuable points via forfeit, that leaves both Juba and Premier on seven points each, with Abbotsford sitting on nine. Elsewhere, **Surrey United SC Reds U21** beat **FC Tigers Vancouver B** 4-0 on the back of a brace from **Kyle Johnston**.

There were just a handful of matches left on the **Division 2** schedule to be played this week, but one of them was our Match of the Week, as **Langley Untied Dynamo** took care of business in 2B, posting a 2-0 win over **FC Tigers Vancouver C**, keeping Dynamo's title hopes alive going into the final weekend. **Ryan Peebles** picked a great time to score his first goal of the season for Langley and **Corey Reid** was also on target. After the door was left open for Tigers to escape the 2A basement following **WRU Vault FC** losing 5-2 to **Langley United Dragons** the night before, the loss resigned Tigers C to last place and relegation. The focus will turn to the title race now this week as **Abbotsford United B** need a win to claim the 2A title and any one of **Coastal FC**, **Surrey FC Punjab**, **Langley United Dynamo** or **North Surrey Mustangs A** could come out on top in 2B when the dust finally settles.

With things at the top in **Division 3** either settled or on hold for this week, the focus was on the relegation places. Six big points for **Xwelmexw A** by way of a win and a forfeit settled the relegation race in 3A. **Tyson Jack** and **Mathew Point** scored Friday night to deliver a 2-1 win over champions **Langley United Impact** and when Xwelmexw were handed a further forfeit on Sunday their safety was confirmed. Tri City FC A would have been hoping things came down to their head-to-head showdown to close out the season this weekend with Xwelmexw, but instead they were relegated while on the sidelines. Over in 2B, it was a clutch 1-0 win for **North Delta SC Titans** over already relegated rivals **North Delta SC Royals** that came via a goal from Masters Golden Boot contender **Jairo Rodriguez** which ensured another season for the Titans at this level. It was all academic in the end, though, as shortly

thereafter **BCT Westside United** were pummeled 9-4 by **North Surrey Mustangs B**, ensuring that it would be BCT joining Royals in Division 4 next season, not Titans.

In **Division 4** there was a handful of teams playing out the string to close out their seasons. One match of relevance, though, also happened to include a top performance. Cometh the hour, cometh the man for Mission SC B as Manuel Neumann stepped up with a hattrick performance in a 6-3 win over Xwelmexw FC B that moved Mission into a tie for second place in 4A and kept their promotion hopes alive. Mission now hold their fate in their own hands with one more win clinching them a move up!

A 3-3 draw in **Masters 1** between **Langley United Knights** and Chilliwack Rapids kept alive Chilliwack's hopes for automatic Provincial Cup qualification as they sit six points back of second place North Delta SC Rangers, but hold the tiebreaker. It was also an important point in the battle for third place, with a decisive showdown still to come against Surrey United SC to slip into the back up Provincial Cup spot, pending the outcome of Cup play. Meanwhile, one of the biggest results of the weekend came in Masters 3 this week. First place Coastal FC Alumni put on hand on the trophy with a convincing 5-1 win over second place Ridge Meadows SC Thunder that opened up a five point gap at the top of the table with games rapidly running out. Diminutive midfielder Joe Battie was the star of the show for Coastal in the victory, as he posted a hattrick to help secure the points.

MATCH OF THE WEEK

For the vast majority of teams this will be the final weekend of the season, and plenty of the titles have come down to the final week. There are plenty of candidates for the Match of the Week, so rather than pick just one, here is a summary of what is on the line for who and where this weekend:

In Division 2A, Abbotsford United B will be looking for a strong offensive performance from Taranjit Bagri and Manveer Dhillion because only a win over FC Faly B U21 will deliver the 2B title, otherwise it will be Mission SC A who lift the trophy.

Abbotsford United B v FC Faly U21 goes Saturday night at 8pm at Mouat Turf #3.

The Division 2B title could still fall to any number of teams. North Surrey Mustangs on in the clubhouse with 31 points. Right behind them, Seth Hayward and Coastal FC sit on 30 points alongside Bryan Roman and Langley United Dynamo, whom they play this weekend. Also on 30 points are Amandeep Singh and Surrey FC Punjab who are taking on Tyler Walters and Surrey United SC C. While Surrey United can no longer win the title, a win against Punjab would lift them into the Provincial Cup conversation. If Coastal and Punjab win, Punjab own the tiebreaker. If Dynamo and Punjab win, Dynamo own the tiebreaker. If everyone ends up on 31 points it is chaos!

Coastal FC v Langley United Dynamo goes Saturday night at 6pm at South Surrey Athletic #10. Surrey FC Punjab v Surrey United SC C goes Saturday night at 8pm at Newton Athletic #3

Things are much more straightforward in Division 3B where Cameron Dhaliwal and Levi Shevernoha. After failing to clinch the title of their own volition at the first time of asking, will look to earn leaders Ladner FC a result over second place Whalley Wakanda and star man Geoffrey Bringi Yousef. A win or a draw and Ladner are champions, but a win for Wakanda would see them lift the title instead.

Whalley Wakanda v Ladner FC goes Sunday night at 8pm at Tom Binnie Turf.



Finally, while it is not for the title, there is a showdown for second place and promotion in Division 4B. Mission SC B, led by goalkeeper Jessie Frick, and Poco FC Pacific, led by their man between the pipes, Sebastian Silva Madrigal are both level on 33 points with one final game to play. A win for either side will secure second place, but a draw would leave the door open for Ridge Meadows SC Black Sheep who sit one point back and still have one further game to play against last place Xwelmexw FC B in a few weeks.

Mission SC B v Poco FC Pacific goes Sunday night at 8pm at Mission Sports Park.

Send NEWS to media@fraservalleysoccer.com

And for more information on the FVSL go to <u>fraservalleysoccer.com</u>

