



Fraser Valley Soccer League



March 3, 2022

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

Slowly but surely the FVSL Premier Division table is becoming settled. Three of the four league based Provincial Cup places are now confirmed, with the fourth spot all but decided. The final few matches of the season still have plenty to determine, though. Specifically, who will finish in position to secure the fifth qualification spot, should the Pakenham Cup winner already have earned a spot? There is also the small matter of the relegation battle still to be settled. Stay up to date with everything in the top flight by checking out the [FVSL Premier Review](#) as the division heads towards its thrilling conclusion!

There was some housekeeping to look after in **Division 1** this weekend. An impressive 5-3 win for **TSS FC Rovers II U21** on Saturday night over champions **Tzeachten FC** vaulted TSS back into second place with one game remaining on their schedule. A pair of goals by each of **Liam MacGowan** and **Evan Lycos** led the way in the win. TSS will have the ability to secure a second place finish in their final game after **TWU Spartans B** were beaten 1-0 by **North Delta SC NEWWAY**, leaving them in third place, two points behind TSS with one game to go. A first goal of the season for **Luca Lanci-Roberts** was the sum of the North Delta offense, with **Mathew Pereira** chalking up a fifth shutout of the season in the win. As for Tzeachten, there was no dwelling on their second loss of the season, as they went again the next day against **Surrey United SC B** and put in a performance much more akin to that which has become expected of the champions throughout this season, winning 6-0 on the back of a **Josh Cradock** hatrick and an impressive eighth clean sheet of the season for Golden Glove winning goalkeeper **Jonathan Vugteveen**. The other match on the weekend saw **Langley United B** conclude their schedule with a 0-0 draw against **FC Tigers Vancouver B**. Elsewhere, **Abbotsford United C** triumphed over **Juba FC** on penalties to qualify for the **Pakenham Cup**.

With the Division 2 and Division 3 schedules concluded, and the Division 4 schedule complete for all intents and purposes, attention shifted to the **Presidents Cup**, which began in earnest this past weekend. Our Match of the Week came from this competition and it lived up to the billing, needing penalties to decide a winner. **Brendan Getty** and **Kayl Grant** scored for **Xwelmexw FC A**, alongside **Brandon Ned**, but **Ridge Meadows SC Black Sheep** leading scoring **Jonathan Candia** was on target in this game, as were **Seth Injates** and **Connor McKellar**, so the teams could not be separated at full time. After a tense penalty shootout, the Div. 4 Black Sheep completed the upset of Div. 3 Xwelmexw and advanced to the second round. Elsewhere, **Cameron Dhaliwal** had a hatrick for 3A champions **Ladner FC** as they eased past **Langley United Studs** 9-0 to book a spot in the next round. There was a notable upset with relegated Div. 3 side **North Delta SC Royals** getting goals from **Zack Russell** and **Kyle Fortin** to knock off relegated Div. 2 side **FC Tigers Vancouver C**. Another Div. 2 side, **Surrey United SC Elite**, were also upset as Div. 3 **Poco FC Rockets** ran out 2-1 winners on the back of goals by **Pietro Nardone** and **Dawinder Singh**. Fresh off earning promotion from Div. 4, **Tri City FC B** demonstrated that perhaps they ought to be the "A" team at their club as they put in a top performance, knocking off Div. 3 **Langley United C** 3-1, while **Tri City FC A**, who have been relegated from Div. 3, were eliminated at the first hurdle following a 2-1 loss to promoted Div. 4 side **North Delta SC United SJ**. Other upsets included **Ridge Meadows SC Folly**, from Div. 4, taking down club rivals, Div. 3 **Ridge Meadows SC Strikers** 1-0 and **Mission SC B**, who have secured promotion from Div. 4, getting past **Ridge Meadows SC Mistfits** on



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penalties. With all the upsets, Div. 2 sides **Poco FC Titans** and **WRU Vault FC** would have been happy to secure their advancement to round two. Titans knocked off, and knocked out, club rivals **Poco FC Athletic** at a canter, winning 9-0 as **Josh Marcinkow** and **David Peacock** both scored twice. Meanwhile, Vault got goals from **Michael Caldwell** and **Ethan Dempsey**, plus **Allen Sorrell** was on target in a 3-1 win over upstart Div. 4 side **Grass & Hops FC**.

Back in league play, **Masters 1** champions **Langley United Knights** closed out their league schedule with a 5-3 defeat of **Aldergrove United Players** that featured a **Jason Flint** hattrick, which was enough to secure Flint the Golden Boot by a slim one goal margin. The more impactful result on the table, though, saw **Chilliwack Rapids** defeat **WRU South Surrey FC** 4-0 thanks in part to a brace from **Craig Robinson**. The result ensured Chilliwack at least a third place finish, but they still have the chance to move up to second place, and a guaranteed spot in the Provincial Cup, with a win in their final match. In **Masters 2**, there are still a handful of matches to be played to tidy up the final standings and **Brent Durie** from **Xwelmexw FC C** had a top performance at the weekend, scoring an impressive four goals in a 6-1 win over **White Rock United**. Meanwhile, in **Masters 3** first place was confirmed after **North Delta SC Phoenix** were unable to field a team to play **Coastal FC Alumni** and then second place **Ridge Meadows SC Thunder** were edged 3-2 by **Langley United Heat**. Congratulations to Coastal on a great season!

MATCH OF THE WEEK

This week we check in on the Masters B cup where the luck of the draw has set a pair of teams that would have expected to contend for the silverware against each other in the first round. Masters 2 second place Whalley City and third place Langley United meet at the first hurdle and only one team can progress. Offensively, these two teams are almost inseparable, both having scored 44 goals over their 16 game seasons. However, Langley often relied on their club system to provide that offense. As for regular contributors, Dal Milin led the way with eight goals and Steve Kurk had six, but he has not scored since the calendar changed to 2022. The issue for Langley was a leaky defense that allowed 52 goals against and saw them begin the season with just one win through their first eight games. They sorted things out after that, however, as they lost only once over the second half of the campaign, which included an impressive beat down of the champions Ridge Meadows SC Wolves.

That one second half of the season loss for Langley, though, came at the hands of Whalley City, who took four points off their opponents this season. That most recent match was a convincing 5-1 win for Whalley as Langley appeared in that game much more like the team that began the season as opposed to the one that finished it. The offense has come from the collective at Whalley this season, with six players having scored four or more goals on the season, led by Keenan Nddjiva who has seven to his name. Unlike Langley, Whalley have been in the hunt at the top all season and their stout defensive record is a big reason why. Anchored by keeper Mike Arrano, their 30 goals against is the second best defensive record in the division, second only to champions Ridge Meadows. Only four times this year have Whalley allowed more than two goals against in a match, and in those four games they still managed to pick up four points. That said, they did only keep three clean sheets all year and, given the offensive prowess of these two teams, hopeful it means that this match is in store for some goals and



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plenty of them! Both of these sides would surely have hoped to cross paths at a much later stage of the competition, but it was not to be. The football gods have cast them together early, and hopefully the match produces a “final-like” atmosphere!

Langley United v Whalley City goes Friday night at 9pm at Yorkson Turf.

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