



Fraser Valley Soccer League



December 30, 2021

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

The weather did a number on the FVSL Premier Division schedule, as well as the SC Cup semifinals, over the final two weeks of the 2021 portion of the season. In the end, the league was able to confirm its first chance at hardware of the season as the SC Cup is now set. Additionally, a few matches survived the weather and made it into the books before the calendar page turned. The stage is set for quite the battle for the title and the Provincial Cup places come the New Year!

Here's a recap of all of the action:

Langley United 0-0 Vancouver Whitecaps FC U19 – Friday 8:30pm; Willoughby Turf SW

In something of a “coming-of-age” match for a young Whitecaps side, they went toe to toe with a veteran Langley side that had given them consternation in their previous meeting. The ‘Caps gave as good as they got in this match, with the tackles flying in on both sides. It was an enthralling contest, with set pieces often providing the best opportunities in front of goal. Both teams had their chances but, ultimately, this was a day for the defenders and, in particular, the goalkeepers. Veteran keeper **Nuno Jesus** was solid in goal for Langley, ready when called upon and using his supreme athleticism to repel everything the Whitecaps could manage on this day. Similarly, young **Max Anchor** is starting to make quite the name for himself as a reliable backstop between the sticks for the ‘Caps. Both players were the standout performers in this match as it finished in a stalemate and each team pocketed a point.

FCT Academy 2-2 Micro Footie Academy – Saturday 8:00pm; Cloverdale Athletic #3

Both FCT Academy and Micro Footie Academy were looking to climb their way away from the bottom of the table when they clashed at Cloverdale Athletic. The opening exchanges were even as both teams went in search of the breakthrough. Goals always seemed likely in this one, eventually it was FCT who broke the deadlock. **Huty Mohiddin** timed his run perfectly to get behind the MFA backline and calmly slotted home at the short side to give FCT the lead part way through the first half. However, the lead would not last long. MFA upped the tempo and, after a few half chances, found themselves level when the quickly took advantage of FCT being flagged for offside to break down the right wing and put a lovely cross into the area for **Pierce Moore** to tap home. In the second half the match reverted to how things began, with both teams looking well matched through midfield while also probing for attacking opportunities. Micro Footie’s **Tate Davidson** was leading the charge for the visitors and, as the half wore on, MFA looked to be wrestling their way on top. With roughly a quarter of an hour left on the clock, it was Micro’s turn to go in front as they made this building pressure tell. After intercepting the ball in midfield, it was played to **Louis Paul** on the wing who cut inside onto his right foot and smashed a cracking effort high into the top far corner. It was a goal worthy of winning any match, but there was still time left on the clock. Naturally FCT pushed forward looking for an equalizer and after not being able to conjure too much of anything in the way of guilt-edged chances, MFA perhaps showed some immaturity giving up an unnecessary last-minute free kick when a defender needlessly pushed through Mohiddin’s back on a throw-in. This set up FCT with a chance to send everyone forward for a ball in from the edge of the area, and it was all the invitation that they would need. An absolutely sumptuous



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ball was whipped into the back post and **Daniel Motalebian** rose highest to nod it home and earn FCT a share of the points right at the death!

FC Tigers Vancouver 2-0 Surrey United – Wednesday 8:45pm; Cloverdale Athletic #2

For the second time in quick succession FC Tigers and Surrey United locked horns, this time in league play. So far this season, FC Tigers just seem to have the number of Surrey United this season and that trend continued in this match. Surrey were improved from their previous league and SC Cup meetings with Tigers, but it was not enough on this night as they could not solve Tiger's keeper **Lucas Strauts** who recorded his league leading sixth clean sheet of the season. Speaking of league leaders, a goal by Tiger's leading scorer **Farivar Torabi**, his fifth in three games this season against Surrey in all competitions, took him to the top of the Premier Division Golden Boot race with eleven goals on the season. **Connor MacMillan** added a further tally as league leading Tigers recorded another three points to head into the Holiday Break an impressive twelve points clear at the top of the table!

Vancouver Whitecaps U19 1-1 FCT Academy – Saturday 6:00pm; UBC NTC

The lone match to survive the snow on the final weekend of the FVSL 2021 schedule saw Vancouver Whitecaps U19 host FCT Academy at UBC. It had been a busy week for Whitecaps, who, despite the wintery conditions, were able to play all three of their scheduled matches. **Jay Herdman** has been on fire for the 'Caps of late and turned in yet another strong performance. In addition to his strong play, Herdman was rewarded with a first goal of the season, as his side looked to close out their year with back-to-back wins and solidify their hold on second place. FCT, who have been much improved of late, had other plans, though. The teams were rather well matched on the evening and **Eric Hatungimana** struck for FCT to ensure that the teams would split the points heading into the New Year.

SOCCKER CITY PREMIER CUP

Surrey United 1-6 FC Tigers Vancouver – Friday 8:45pm; Cloverdale Athletic #2

With a chance to play for silverware on the line for the first time this season, FC Tigers went about their business in a ruthless to book their place in the SC Cup Final. Surrey United were somewhat short staffed for this match due to a mounting injury list, but FC Tigers showed no mercy at all in putting their opponents fully to the sword. An own goal by Surrey's **Evan Chow** hardly helped matters from the United perspective, although Chow did atone for his error by scoring SU's only goal of the match. However, that marker ended up being rather academic and a mere consolation at the end of the day. FC Tigers leading man, and leading scorer, **Farivar Torabi** was fully on song on this night, netting a brace, while young up-and-comer **Huty Mohiddin** also put his name on the scoresheet. Tallies by **Chris Jacovou** and **Joseph Zepo** rounded out the scoring. As is often the case, while he did not chip in directly with a goal himself, **Ivan Meja** was a key contributor all over the park for Tigers in this match, putting in a standout performance. On the other side of the ball, **Juhnhyung Lee** did what he could for Surrey on this night, battling all game in midfield and trying to find a way forward for United. In the end, though, it was a night to forget for SU, who will refocus on trying to climb back into the Provincial Cup places via their league performance in the New Year.

Abbotsford United 0-2 Vancouver Whitecaps FC U19 – Thursday 8:00pm; Mouat #3

It has been a stop and start few months for Abbotsford United and when they took to the field for their SC Cup semifinal against Whitecaps U19 it was their first match since November 27 and just their second



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since November 13. No doubt the defending FVSL Champions and reigning Pakenham Cup Champions are not quite at full sharpness. Ironically, their last game was also against Whitecaps U19 and they were narrowly edged 3-2 on that occasion, making it back-to-back losses for Abby and leaving them without a win since November 5. With all this, United could be forgiven for not being at their best and, despite a solid effort, the Whitecaps, who have been in decent form of late and have climbed to second in the table, had that little bit extra on this evening. **Joven Mann** and **Eric Kim** supplied the goals, while **Max Anchor** shut the door at the back and the 'Caps put in a solid team performance to book a spot in the SC Cup Final and give themselves a shot at silverware in their inaugural FVSL season!

Here's how the FVSL Premier Table looks at the Holiday Break:

Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 FC Tigers Vancouver A	12	10	1	1	40	8	32	31
 Vancouver Whitecaps U19	13	5	4	4	22	18	4	19
 FC Faly A	11	6	0	5	21	24	-3	18
 Abbotsford United A	8	5	0	3	27	14	13	15
 Langley United A	12	4	3	5	17	20	-3	15
 Surrey United SC A	11	4	1	6	22	25	-3	13
 Micro Footie Academy	12	3	1	8	18	34	-16	10
 FCT Academy	12	2	2	8	18	43	-25	8
 TWU Spartans A	4	2	1	1	10	8	2	7
 Surrey FC Royals	3	1	1	1	6	7	-1	4

BROWNS SOCIAL HOUSE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

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This week's Brown's Social House Player of the Week is **Max Anchor** from Whitecaps U19. Anchor held the fort for the young Whitecaps ensuring that they went into the break on the heels of a three match unbeaten stretch, over which he posted two shutouts. While he was not able to stretch his clean sheet to three matches, he only conceded a single goal over this stretch and helped book his team a place in



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the Soccer City Cup Final by denying defending FVSL Champions Abbotsford United entirely in a 2-0 semifinal win!

Congratulations Max, you have won a \$25 gift card courtesy of Brown's Social House!



THIS WEEK'S FVSL PREMIER SCHEDULE:

Sat 01/08/2022 6:00PM	Abbotsford United vs. Langley United	Mouat Turf #3
Sat 01/08/2022 8:00PM	FCT Academy vs. FC Faly	Cloverdale Ath. #3
Sun 01/09/2022 6:00PM	Micro Footie Academy vs. FC Tigers Vancouver	Hjorth Turf #1
Tue 01/11/2022 8:00PM	Abbotsford United vs. FCT Academy	Mouat Turf #3
Wed 01/12/2022 7:10PM	Surrey United vs. Whitecaps U19	UBC NTC

Those in Abbotsford will be hoping that a new year can mean a return to old form as the final few months of 2021 were hardly kind to the reigning FVSL champions. A variety of weather phenomena completely disrupted their program and the few matches they were able to play did not go their way. They will be straight back into the thick of things in 2022, though, with the matches coming fast and furious. The first week back sees them hosting Langley United on the weekend and then FCT Academy midweek. Abby will be doing their best to narrow the gap to leaders FC Tigers, who begin the New Year against Micro Footie Academy. Abbotsford also find themselves currently behind upstart new boys FC Faly as well, and Faly resume their campaign away to FCT Academy on the weekend. The third side currently still ahead of the defending champions is Whitecaps U19, and they will get back at it Wednesday night when they tangle with Surrey United out at UBC.

The Challenge Series
The Challenge Series will return in 2022!

****NEW THIS SEASON** – Check out full FVSL Matches on YouTube at [BC Sports Media](#)**

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