



Fraser Valley Soccer League



October 21, 2021

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

In case the first two weeks of the season had not made it clear, once again this weekend it was made clear that the FVSL's Premier Division is going to feature plenty of twists and turns this season. Premier FC and Whitecaps U19 earned their inaugural FVSL top flight wins, while Langley United find themselves in a place where they are not at all accustomed to being – the bottom of the table. However, perhaps one thing we can count on is the steady play of Abbotsford United. The beat went on for them this week as they now sit atop the table alone, exactly where they finished that last FVSL season!

Here's a recap of all of this week's action:

Langley United 1-5 FC Tigers Vancouver – Friday 8:30pm; Willoughby Turf SW

This match was a might tighter affair than the final score alone reveals. A tough and physical first saw the teams battle each other for every inch of the turf and made this an entertaining watch. The breakthrough came just past the twenty minute mark when **Farivar Torabi** took advantage of a poor clearance to put Tigers ahead. Langley would find an equalizer, though, via **John Craig** who was able to force home a free kick to get the home side on the board. A key moment in this one came just before half time when Tigers were awarded a penalty kick for a handball. Langley felt the defender's hand was in a natural position but the referee disagreed and the visitors were presented with a great chance to take back the lead. **Erik Edwardson** stepped up to fire it home, although he surely had a few nervy moments between the time he kicked the ball and it hitting the back of the net as the shot was not placed fully in the corner and the keeper went the right way. Into the second half, the match remained a close-run affair as chances became harder to come by. The temperature also ratcheted up somewhat, which was punctuated by an incident in front of the technical areas part way through the half. Langley were without a win coming into this match and were clearly motivated to change that, while Tigers themselves were ornery following a loss their last time out. In the end it would be the visitors who claimed the points in this one when **Ivan Mejia** popped up at the edge of the area to fire home an insurance marker in the final minute. There was still time left for a pair of injury time goals to flatter the score line and **Filip Rakic** scored while Torabi added a second goal of the match to cap off a hard fought win for Tigers.

Surrey United 1-4 Abbotsford United U19 – Friday 8:45pm; Cloverdale Athletic #2

It was bad timing for Surrey United to come into this match slightly shorthanded, with Abbotsford already showing their clinical, all business attitude through the first two games of the season. Despite the low numbers, it was the home side who opened the scoring via **Ayuob Omar**. Abbotsford were certainly not about to shut up shop after falling behind, however, and they responded the way champions do, by redoubling their efforts! Cameron Frost in the Surrey goal did well to deny Abby's **Connor Hildebrandt** from a wonderful bicycle kick, but Hildebrandt was just getting started. After scoring to tie the match, Abbotsford took the lead in somewhat controversial fashion while Surrey potentially thought the referee had stopped the match to speak to a player. Instead, Abbotsford played on and finished off a nice passage of play to take the lead. The Hildebrandt show rolled on though, and by the time was all said and done he had tallied a hattrick en route to Abbotsford's comeback victory. **Colton O'Neil** also added his name to the scoresheet for the visitors. Despite the loss, defender **Bandon Nair**



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stood out for Surrey and **Roy Quaynor** had a strong performance. The loss is Surrey's first of the season, while the win leaves Abbotsford alone on top of the table with the lone remaining perfect record!

Premier FC 3-2 Micro Footie Academy – Saturday 8pm; Cloverdale Athletic #3

There was yet another inaugural winner in the FVSL's top flight this week, as this time Premier FC earned their first win of the season. A very competitive match between Premier and Micro Footie saw both teams play some nice football and score some great goals. Chances abounded for MFA with **Louis Paul** and **Mawuena Mallet** getting themselves on the scoresheet to go along with solid performances all game. **Talisen Kyle** was also instrumental in this game, however, Micro Footie were made to rue their missed chances. The match headed into the final stretch level after goal by Premier's **Ayman Iskandar** and **Hajir Rashid Abid**. The game was decided though, in the final minutes when **Adam Kavanagh** all but willed the ball into the net for the winning goal for Premier in a show of sheer determination. **Hassan Cancro** also played well for Premier in this one and the result sees the home side jump up the table and join an increasingly competitive mid-table section of the standings.

FC Faly 1-4 Vancouver Whitecaps U19 – Sunday 6pm; Hjorth Turf #1

The weekend wrapped up at Hjorth turf where Whitecaps U19 were the visitors as FC Faly looked to build on their first FVSL Premier Division win against Tigers the week previous. Instead, it would be the Whitecaps who took the lead when **Nicolas Mesiano** latched on to a partial clearance at the edge of the area and slotted the ball into the bottom corner. The game stayed this way until just before half time when Chad Baker was able to send the ball into the box for **Rohin Kapila** to get a head on and double the advantage for Whitecaps. Just after half time Faly thought they had found a way back into the match when **Anastazi Nahayo** smashed home a wonderful free kick to cut the lead back to a single goal. However, Baker was just getting going as he added a neat turn and finish of his own with just over twenty minutes remaining to restore two goal cushion for the 'Caps. A few minutes later the visitors salted this one away with **Joshue Ndakala** getting on the end of a well worked free kick routine. **Haris Hussaini** had a solid outing in the win for Whitecaps U19 alongside **Finn Lander**. For Faly, despite the loss, there were good performances from **Kosta Adzic** and **Wonder Tarr**. After back-to-back losses to begin their FVSL Premier campaign, Whitecaps will be hoping this win can act as a catalyst to kick their season into gear!



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Here's how the FVSL Premier Table looks after Week 3:

Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
 Abbotsford United A	3	3	0	0	18	2	16	9
 FC Tigers Vancouver A	3	2	0	1	8	4	4	6
 Surrey United SC A	3	2	0	1	7	6	1	6
 FC Faly A	3	2	0	1	6	7	-1	6
 Micro Footie Academy	3	1	0	2	5	5	0	3
 Vancouver Whitecaps U19	3	1	0	2	4	7	-3	3
 Premier FC	3	1	0	2	6	16	-10	3
 Langley United A	3	0	0	3	1	8	-7	0

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This week's Brown's Social House Player of the Week is **Connor Hildbrant**! In an early season top of the table battle against Surrey United, Hildebrant led Abbotsford back after falling behind with a hatrick performance. His goals helped Abby assume first place all alone after three weeks of play.

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



THIS WEEK'S FVSL PREMIER SCHEDULE:

Sat 10/23/2021 6:00PM

Abbotsford United vs. FC Faly

Mouat Turf #3

Sat 10/23/2021 6:00PM

Whitecaps U19 vs. Langley United

UBC NTC Turf

Sat 10/23/2021 8:00PM

FC Tigers Vancouver vs. Premier FC

Cloverdale Ath. #3

Sun 10/24/2021 6:00PM

Micro Footie Academy vs. Surrey United

Hjorth Turf #1

Still searching for a first win of the season, Langley United will travel to UBC to play Whitecaps U19. It is a tough ask for Langley given that Whitecaps will be looking to build on their first win of the season this past weekend. At the top of the table, Abbotsford United will be looking to make it a perfect four wins from four when they welcome FC Faly to Mouat on Saturday. Elsewhere, both Surrey United and Micro Footie will be looking to get back on track after losses this past weekend while FC Tigers, who righted their ship this week, welcome a buoyant Premier side to Cloverdale on Saturday night.



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