



Fraser Valley Soccer League



RULES & REGULATIONS - 2023-2024 (September 2023)

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Section 1 - MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

- 1(a) Every member is responsible to the League for the action of its officers, players and supporters and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators from threatening or assaulting game officials, team officers or players before, during and upon completion of games.
- 1(b) No officer, team official, player, referee, assistant referee shall bet on any soccer match, and the league teams are required to prevent betting and the use of objectionable language. Any team officer, team official, player or spectator may be removed from the park or ground in case of a breach of this rule.
- 1(c) Every member must ensure that their team is represented at all League scheduled meetings.
- 1(d) A team responsible for the defaulting (forfeit) of a game shall be charged with a \$250 fine and a 5-0 result. (Premier is \$500 and a 5-0 result).
- 1(e) Field preparation is the responsibility of the home team; this is to include properly secured goal nets and corner flags on a post not less than five feet high with a rounded (non-pointed) top. Field markings in accordance with FIFA Laws of the Game (including the technical area).
- 1(f) Where there is a conflict of team colors, the VISITOR will be required to change. Practice bibs are not considered proper shirts.
- 1(g) Each team is responsible for making its own travel arrangements including reservations, fares, hotel/motel accommodation and meals.
- 1(h) Each team shall be responsible to ensure that every player is properly dressed and equipped in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. The normal dress of a soccer player is a shirt, shorts stockings and shoes. Shin guards are mandatory and must be completely covered by the stockings at all times. Jewellery is dangerous and is not allowed. Every player must be identifiable by means of a number on his uniform, the minimum requirement for which shall be a number of contrasting color and at least eight (8) inches in height, of proportionate width, permanently affixed and appearing on the back of the player's shirt. Players are not to share a shirt and duplicate numbers are not allowed. Teams are expected to do everything possible to make the game attractive from the spectator's point of view. Teams are to provide the league administrator all 3 component colours for HOME games by Aug 15, prior to the season start. These colours will be listed on the website under team contacts.
- 1(i) Both teams must supply the league mandated STANDARDIZED game ball for every game. FVSL STANDARD MATCH BALLS are supplied by Soccer City. Available for pickup at Soccer City Langley.
- 1(j) Team lists are to indicate date of match, location, name of opponent and are to be signed (PRINT name as well) by a team official. Team lists (2 Copies) complete with jersey numbers shall be handed to the referee with fee of \$45 before the commencement of the game (30 minutes before KO for Premier and \$105). Incomplete TEAM SHEETS will result in a \$25 FINE per instance. Team sheets complete with registered players, showing players suspended, MUST BE PRINTED from the FVSL website. **A maximum of 22 players can be dressed and present on the team sheet for each game in Premier.**
- 1(k) it is the responsibility of the home team to inspect their field on game day. The home team shall be liable for traveling costs for the visiting team and game official's fee should the game be postponed by the referee due to unplayable field conditions. Fine is \$150 for failure to notify travelling team.

In uncertain weather teams must attend the grounds and await the decision of the referee as to the fitness of the playing area, unless they have been previously notified by the HOME team that the field is unplayable or closed. Where both teams agree to a change of venue and/or kick-off time the request must be approved by the league Executive Director.

Section 2 - GAMES

2(a) Duration of all games shall be ninety (90) minutes. Extra time, when scheduled, shall be two fifteen minute halves. A team must field a minimum of seven (7) properly dressed players to start the game. Any team failing to field the minimum number of players fifteen (15) minutes after the scheduled kick-off time will forfeit the game and shall be liable for all expenses incurred. Forfeit is a \$250 fine and a 5-0 result.

2(b) Should any game not be completed, the League Executive shall have discretionary power to either:

- i - determine the outcome of the match or
- ii - schedule the portion of the game to be replayed.
- iii Schedule a full replay.

2(c) Games shall be credited in the League standings as:

- i - three (3) points for a win,
- ii - one (1) point for a draw.

2(d) At the completion of the schedule, promotion / relegation, where applicable shall be the top team/s promoted and the bottom team/s relegated.

The team having the highest number of points in each of the divisions of the League shall be declared the winner in the respective division. In the event of a tie in points, the position of the teams will be determined in the following order:

- i - Record against the other team or teams; or, if still tied
- ii - goals for and against versus the other team or teams; or, if still tied
- iii - a playoff between the team or teams.

2(e) In the event that a team defaults one of its games to the other team or teams, then the defaulting team will receive the lower position.

2(f) There being a maximum of three points in any one game, in a circumstance where a team forfeits its right to the points in that game, the forfeited points shall be awarded to the opposing team.

2(g) The record of a team who resigns or is expelled from the League before completing one half of its schedule shall be expunged. A team who resigns or is expelled after completing one half of its schedule will forfeit the points for all remaining games on its schedule.

2(h) A suspended team will forfeit any games missed during the suspension, at the discretion of the executive.

2(i) Any team wishing an exhibition game in lieu of a League game must apply in writing to the Executive ten (10) days prior to the scheduled date of the game.

2(j) Exhibition game disciplinary matters will be handled in accordance with BCSA guidelines. The League referee scheduler/Executive Director must be contacted to ensure that a suitable referee is appointed.

2(k) No team may permit a player from another team to play in any exhibition or benefit game without first obtaining, in writing, the permission of the club with which the player is currently registered.

2(l) Any team wishing to play a benefit or charity game must first obtain permission from the Executive and BCSA.

2(m) **Schedules** - All regular games will normally be scheduled Friday evenings, Saturdays or Sundays. Kick-off times are variable: From time to time, teams will be scheduled to play games on other days of the week. Whenever possible, ten days' notice will be given of any changes to the posted schedule. Once league schedules are posted there are no changes or movement of games without league approval. Postponing games to a later date is NOT allowed.

2(n) Teams must set up their benches on opposite sides of the field. The home team has the right to choose their side. Where there are soccer specific benches on the same side of an artificial Turf field, this will be at the referee's discretion.

Section 3 - PLAYERS

3(a) All senior amateur players in the Fraser Valley Soccer League shall be registered in accordance with the regulations supplied by the BCSA. All Premier and Division One players are to complete a competitive "A" form. Master's Division players will complete an "M" form. All other players will complete a recreational "B" form.

3(b) Senior amateur players must be registered with the League registrar/Executive Director at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to game time for league games. **For all FVSL & PROVINCIAL cup competitions, a player must be registered seven (7) days prior to game time.**

3(c) Only eligible players' names may appear on the team list. FVSL Identification cards for all players in the current line-up must be presented to the referee, together with the team lists, before the game.

3(d) An eligible player who is late for the kick-off may participate in the game at the referee's discretion. He must present his identification card to the referee. **NO PLAYER MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE GAME IF HE ARRIVES AFTER HALF TIME.**

Section 4 - SUBSTITUTES

4(a) A maximum of five (5) player substitutions are permitted in Premier games during the 90 minutes and unlimited at halftime. Unlimited substitutions may be used in all other Divisions.

4(b) The player substituted for shall be permitted to take further part in the game. A player cannot be substituted for another player who is sent off (red card) the field by the referee.

4(c) Substitutions can only be made during a stoppage of play and with the permission of the referee, it does not have to be on your team's possession. The referee shall signal to the substitute to enter the field of play. The player must report directly to the referee or assistant referee. If required (Premier), a substitution slip showing

the team name as well as the names and numbers of the players entering and leaving the game must be presented to the referee.

Section 5 - PERMITS

5(a) Youth players who play in a cup competition are cup tied to that team for the remainder of the cup competition. Youth permits are available in the **Permits & Forms** section. A youth permit is only to be used for the game as indicated on the permit. Youth permits must be handed to the referee at the same time as team lists.

5(b) A senior amateur player registered to a team within a club may sign an intra-club single game permit to play for his club in a higher division of the League for League games only. Not allowed across same level/division. Clubs may use a maximum of seven (7) players on inter-club single game permits during any league game. Players must follow normal transfer rules to play for a lower division team within the club. Inter-club single game permits are to be handed to the referee at the same time as team lists. Masters age players registered to open premier can only play for the highest level of masters on permit. (currently Masters 1)

5 (c) Under-21 teams are allowed to play a maximum of two overage players (part of the 7 total) per game, on permit, so long as those two players are registered with another senior amateur team of the same club. These single game permits must be handed to the referee at the same time as the team lists. These permits are valid for league games only.

5(d) A player who is sent off (Red Card) while playing on an inter-club single game permit shall be suspended from his original team as well. He is suspended from all further play (for any team) until his suspension is served. He is ineligible for play for the entire weekend (for all teams and games) on the final game of his suspension.

5(e) A suspended player is ineligible to use an intra-club single game permit.

Section 6 - TRANSFERS

6(a) All transfers of senior amateur players in the League shall be completed in accordance with the regulations issued by the B.C. Soccer Association. (Transfer forms are to be sent to the FVSL Registrar e-mail at registrar@fraservalleysoccer.com not BC Soccer. When transferring from another league ALL signatures must be on the transfer request, including the league registrar.

6(b) The League Registrar shall process all transfers up until the transfer deadline. This deadline is 15 January of each year. To be eligible to play, a player moving on transfer to a new team must be registered (24) hours prior to a league match or a cup match limited to FVSL teams. To be eligible for a Provincial Cup match, a player's transfer must be completed seven (7) days prior to match day. Transfer forms are available in the **Permits & Forms** section of the website.

6(c) All senior amateur players shall be entitled to the benefits of transfer regulations as follows:

- i - two transfers during a playing season within the jurisdiction of the BCSA.
- ii - a player, once transferred, cannot be transferred back to the team for which he was registered until a period of thirty (30) days has elapsed.

6(d) All internal league transfers are subject to a transfer fee of \$15. Transfers from another league are \$20, make sure the league registrar has signed as well as the coach and player. Fee is attached to your team account and is set annually. No fee should be forwarded to BCSA.

Section 7 - DISCIPLINE

7(a) Discipline procedures for the League shall be in accordance with the guidelines published by the BCSA.

7(b) In all cases, the respondent shall have the right to appear when the case is heard and offer a full answer or defence to any charges against him. Should the respondent be unable to attend the scheduled hearing he may, instead, send a letter to the secretary (Executive Director) of the Discipline Committee (e-mail: admin@fraservalleysoccer.com) stating his inability to attend and giving his answer or defence. Any appeal of a decision of the Discipline Committee is to be directed to the BCSA.

7(c) Players or team officials reported for misconduct may be allowed to continue to participate in all soccer activities until their case is dealt with, except:

- i - players sent off the field of play (red card) will be automatically suspended for one (1) game, and
- ii - players receiving a third caution (yellow card), a fifth caution, and all subsequent cautions in the current playing season will be suspended for at least one (1) game and fined a sum as indicated in the League Rules and Regulations. Do not sit out unless you see a suspension on the discipline list.

Team will be notified by the discipline committee when a player must serve his suspension for accumulated cautions via the suspended list on the FVSL website. (Official list is updated by Noon each Friday)

7(d) Players or team officials reported for violent conduct or for assault on a game official shall stand suspended from all soccer activities until their case is dealt with.

7(e) All cases of players sent off (red card) the field of play as well as all players and team officials reported for misconduct shall be dealt with within ten (10) days of the incident. Failure to report either in person or by mail and/or e-mail will cause the respondent to remain suspended until the case is heard.

7(f) The discipline of youth players playing under a youth permit shall be referred for disciplinary action to the BCSA.

Section 8 - PROTESTS

8(a) All protests of matches must be in writing and filed in triplicate with the League Executive Director within forty-eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the game in question. The protest must contain the particulars and grounds on which the protest(s) are founded and the sum of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) must accompany the protest. If protest is not sustained, this fee shall be forfeited.

8(b) The League Executive Director shall send one copy of the protest to the team against whom the protest was lodged.

8(c) In dealing with any protest, the Discipline Committee may take into consideration the possession by the protesting team of any information which, if properly used, might have prevented the protest.

8(d) Any team proven by protest to have used an ineligible or suspended player in a game shall be subject to a fine, disciplinary action, or both and shall forfeit the points from that game and may be expelled from the League for the balance of the season.

8(e) Notwithstanding any protest, a team proven to have used an ineligible or suspended player shall be subject to a fine, disciplinary action, or both, and shall forfeit the points from that game and may be expelled from the League for the balance of the season.

Section 9 - APPEALS

Appeals on decisions of the League shall be made to the British Columbia Soccer Association (BCSA).

Section 10 - FINES & DEFAULT OF PAYMENT

10(a) The Treasurer may deduct the amount of any unpaid fine or expense from the bond or performance guarantee of a member team and transfer that amount into the general revenue of the League.

10(b) The treasurer may transfer the amount of any forfeited bond or performance guarantee into the general revenue of the League.

10(c) Any member team in default of payment of any fee, bond, performance guarantee, fine, or expense may:

- i - be suspended by resolution of the executive and may be restored to good standing on payment of all fees, performance guarantee, fines or expenses in arrears together with such reinstatement fee as may be fixed by such resolution of the executive, or
- ii - be dismissed from the League.

10(d) Any team owing monies in excess of their bond will not be scheduled any further games.

Section 11 - HONORARIA

Honoraria for League services may be provided for the following positions:

President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Director and Discipline Committee.

Section 12 – SENIOR CUP COMPETITIONS

12(a) All senior cup competitions in the Fraser Valley Soccer League shall be held in accordance with the senior cup competition rules of the BCSA.

12(b) All senior competitive teams in the Fraser Valley Soccer League registered on an "A" form shall be eligible to enter a competition for the *Pakenham Cup*.

12(c) All senior teams in the Fraser Valley Soccer League, excluding the Premier, Division ONE, Masters and U-21 teams, shall be eligible to enter a competition for the *Garry Knight Presidents Cup*.

12(d) Teams may enter only one FVSL Cup competition that leads to Provincial Cup competition.

12(e) All entries for senior cup competitions must be in the hands of the Executive Director by the date set by the Executive.

12(f) The Fraser Valley Soccer League shall recognize, only as a guideline, the following limitations as set forth in writing to the League by Arthur G. Pakenham in May, 1972 for the Pakenham Cup competition:

- i - all teams in the Fraser Valley Soccer League, registered on an :A: form are eligible.
- ii - the Final must be played in Mission City, and
- iii - the captain of the winning team (or the coach) sign an affidavit to the effect that the cup will be returned to the Mayor's office in Mission City prior to the following year's final game.

12(g) Notwithstanding the intent of any limitations, the Executive of the Fraser Valley Soccer League, subject to the senior cup competition rules of the British Columbia Soccer Association, shall:

- i - take whatever steps necessary to preserve and maintain the traditions and dignities of the Pakenham Cup as a "closed cup" competition, and
- ii - decide the venue for all games in the Pakenham Cup Competition, including the final game, and
- iii - have the power to frame contemporary rules for the Pakenham Cup Competition to meet contemporary situations.

12(h) The Pakenham Cup shall remain the property of the Fraser Valley Soccer League. Any use of the name, insignia or designs of the cup without the express permission of the League shall be prohibited.

12(i) The Executive shall decide the venue for all Garry Knight Presidents Cup Competition games.

12(j) The Executive shall have the power to change the venue of the final game of the Pakenham Cup or the President's Cup when, due to circumstances, conditions at the traditional site are not of an acceptable or suitable standard for the game.

12(k) Referee fees for all cup games shall be split equally between both teams.

12(l) The Pakenham Cup shall be designated as Provincial Cup qualifying, whereby the Champion will qualify. Additional Provincial Cup berths will be awarded to Premier Division teams as determined by League standings.

12(m) The Masters Division Challenge Cup shall be designated as Provincial Cup qualifying, whereby the Champion will qualify. Additional Provincial Cup berths will be awarded as determined by League standings.

12(n) The Under-21 Division Challenge Cup shall be designated as Provincial Cup qualifying, whereby the Champion will qualify. Additional Provincial Cup berths will be awarded as determined by League standings.

12(o) Teams to qualify for the Keith Miller B Cup shall be the Garry Knight Presidents Cup winner plus the highest place teams in Division 2.

12(p) The cups and trophies of the Fraser Valley Soccer League shall be presented at the designated time and place to the winning teams and other recipients, who shall, in accepting custody and, as a condition of their acceptance of such cups and trophies, guarantee their return in good condition to the Executive Director or appointee of the League upon request.

12(q) Should a cup or trophy be lost, damaged, destroyed or have any other accident occur to it while it is in a team's or other recipient's custody, they shall be responsible for paying to the League the cost of its recovery and / or repair or replacement.

12(r) Any team that resigns or is dismissed from the League shall immediately return any cups or trophies belonging to the League.

12(s) The Pakenham Cup shall be presented to the winner of the Pakenham Cup Competition.

12(t) The Garry Knight Presidents Cup shall be presented to the winner of the President's Cup Competition.

12(u) The Executive shall decide the time and venue for all cup and trophy presentations.

Section 13 – EMBLEM

13(a) The emblem engraved on the Pakenham Cup shall be the official emblem of the League.

13(b) Whenever possible and practical, for purposes of identification, the official emblem or some representation of it, in whole or in part, shall appear on all the forms and documents of the League, including letterhead, team lists and substitution slips.

13(c) The official emblem, or some approved representation of it, shall be included, wherever practically possible, on any flag, banner, pennant, crest or insignia that is official to the Fraser Valley Soccer League.

13(d) Whenever practical and possible, some official crest or insignia shall be worn on the uniform of any team or representative who is officially representing the Fraser Valley Soccer League.

Section 14 – LEAGUE FEE SCHEDULES

1. FEE SCHEDULE - 2023-2024

(see also TEAM HANDBOOK)

LEAGUE FEES

- Division 1- 4, Masters & U21 **\$2025**
- Premier - **\$2475**
- Entry (Application) Fee for new team **\$75**
- Performance bond for new team **\$500**
- League Fees include the fees to register **15** players and the \$50 team registration with BCSA.
- **OTHER FEES**
- Player registration **\$65**
- Player transfer fee **\$15** IN HOUSE
- Player transfer fee **\$20** EXTERNAL
- Protest fee for league and cup games **\$100**

2. SCHEDULE OF FINES

- BCSA Rule - Any team receiving a combination of 5 misconducts in any one game receives a fine of **\$250**.
- Non-attendance at league meeting **\$100**
- Field inadequately lined **\$25**
- Improper or no corner flags **\$25**
- Improper or no goal nets **\$25**
- Poor condition or no FVSL mandated match ball **\$25**
- Improper, late or incomplete team lists **\$25**
- Incomplete uniforms, different colours, no numbers etc. **\$50 (as of August 2009)**
- Game forfeit **\$250 & 5-0 RESULT (as of March 2010)** & \$500 for Premier (as of 2022)
- Returned cheque (NSF) **\$100**
- Miss (late) team registration payment deadlines **\$50 Fine**
- Play a suspended player **\$200 Fine**, Loss of game (possible Deduction of 3+ points)
- Failure to properly notify League of unplayable field **\$150 Fine**, (\$50 traveling fee for opponents plus \$50 referee fee; an extra \$50 if a Premier game)
- No FVSL ID & Plays in Game, **\$50 Fine**.
- Play an ineligible player **\$100 Fine**, (Loss of game (Deduction of 3 pts?))
- No picture ID - Loss of Game (**\$100 Fine**, (Deduction of minimum 3 points? +))

3. SCHEDULE OF FINES - DISCIPLINE

Yellow Cards

- **CUP PLAY**
- 2 yellow cards - minimum 1 game suspension & **\$25 fine**
- 4 yellow cards - minimum 2 game suspension & **\$50 fine**
- **LEAGUE PLAY**
- 3 yellow cards - minimum 1 game suspension & **\$25 fine**
- 5 yellow cards - minimum 1 game suspension & **\$50 fine**
- 6 yellow cards - minimum 2 game suspension & **\$75 fine**
- 7 yellow cards - minimum 5 game suspension & **\$100 fine**
- **Red Cards**
- 1 red card - minimum 1 game suspension & **\$25 fine**
- 2 red cards - minimum 4 game suspension & **\$100 fine**
- 3 red cards - minimum 6 game suspension & **\$150 fine**

The League Discipline Committee may add any number of games (when deemed appropriate) to a suspension if:

- a) the severity of the incident(s) warrants further suspension
- b) the past history of suspensions to a player warrants further suspension

TEAM PENALTIES

Points shall be accumulated at the rate of **(1) one point** for each yellow card and **(3) three points** for each red card received during the course of the season (League and Cup play).

- Any team which receives more than 40 **penalty points** during a season will pay an automatic fine of **\$200** and must reapply for admission to the League for the next season.
- Over 45 points: an additional **\$100**
- Over 50 points: an additional **\$200**
- Any team which is fined for penalty points in consecutive years will have those fines assessed at double the rate previously mentioned.
- Team fines must pay the fine within **72 hours** of notification by the deadline given.

4. PRIZES & AWARDS 2023-2024

Premier Division Winner	Trophy & Medals
All other divisions	Trophy
Pakenham Cup, Winner	\$1,500 & Trophy/Medals
President's Cup Winner	\$200 & Trophy/Medals
Master's A and B Cup Winner	\$200 & Trophy/Medals
U-21 Cup Winner	\$200 & Trophy/Medals
Bradner Cup Winners	\$100 x 4 & Trophy
SC Premier League Cup Winner	\$1000 & Trophy & Medals