

CONSTITUTION

NAME

The name of this organization shall be **BC Government Employees Coed Soccer Society**, also referred to as **Government Summer League** hereinafter referred as the “League”.

PURPOSES

The League shall have the following purposes:

- (a) To promote, develop and administer the game of soccer at the Adult League level.
- (b) To maintain membership in good standing with the British Columbia Soccer Association, hereinafter referred to as BC Soccer, and adhere to the Constitution, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations thereof.
- (c) To represent and act on behalf of its Members and assist them to develop and effectively administer soccer programs.
- (d) To operate without purpose of pecuniary gain to any of its members and to use any surplus of the League solely for the purpose of the League and the promotion of its objectives.

BYLAWS

PART I MEMBERSHIP

1. Every member must uphold the constitution and comply with these bylaws and with League Rules.
2. All members must sign a League Liability Waiver to be permitted to play.
3. The League reserves the right to deny membership, to suspend or to expel a player from the League:
 - a. All existing players are included in this League. When signing team members, teams shall first recruit from persons employed in the public sector. Public sector shall be interpreted as all levels of government, including crown corporations, public agencies and publicly funded educational institutions (*not students*). This also includes former or retired public sector employees or former employees whose functions have been privatized or transferred. The League requires that team needing additional players' first use the League Player Pool, and then family members. These last two options must meet the League's criteria for male and female players. Teams shall maintain a majority of their players from the public sector.
 - b. No player shall be under the age of 16 as of April 1 of each year.
 - c. Managers shall certify to the League that all players have no outstanding suspensions or prohibitions from other league or elsewhere within FIFA.
 - d. ALL players must sign and Managers must retain League Liability Waivers. Any player not signing the League Liability Waiver will not be permitted to play.
 - e. No team shall create selection criteria that would discriminate on the basis of skill/ability level, age, color, race or sexual orientation.

- f. Eligibility criteria and disciplinary actions apply to both league and tournament play.

Women:

- g. From April 1, 2007, an existing female player whose LIWSA league team is promoted from Division 1 to Premier shall be eligible to play, provided that she has played two or more years in this League. No team shall sign Premier League players without previous experience in this League. No active players from Metro, High Performance, Y-Leagues, Intercollegiate or professional, professional development league or equivalent (W-League, PDL, BC Premier League) are eligible to play in this League.

Men:

- h. From April 1, 2007 a male player's winter league Division 3 team is promoted to Division 2, that player shall continue to play in the League provided that he has played two or more years in the League. No active players from VISL Division 1, 2 (with the above promotion exception), Metro, Y-League, High Performance, Intercollegiate, any professional or professional development league or equivalent (USL, PDL, BC Premier League) are eligible to play in this League

Existing Members

- 4. All existing players at the time of this constitution are members.

PART 2 - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS AND GENERAL MEETINGS

Board of Directors Meeting

- 5. The Board of Directors shall meet whenever the President deems it necessary, or if directed to do so by a majority of the Board of Directors, but in any case, shall meet at least once every six months during its term of office.
- 6. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, two shall constitute a quorum for the purpose of transacting business.

Annual General Meeting

7. The Annual General Meeting of the League shall be held at least once every calendar year and not more than fifteen months after the holding of the last preceding Annual General Meeting.
8. Notice of Meeting: The secretary shall give fourteen (14) days' notice in writing or by email or facsimile of each General Meeting to all members of the League entitled to attend such meetings and shall specify the place, day, and hour of the meeting, and in the case of special business, the general nature of that business. Such notice shall include the Agenda, which shall be as detailed as possible.
9. Each active member shall be entitled to have one vote.
10. A General meeting shall be convened by the President at the request of 10% of the members.
11. Thirty (30) days' notice must be given of any such Special General Meeting.
12. Only the business set out in the resolution calling a General Meeting shall be dealt with at the meeting, except where there is unanimous consent of the President and those present to include additional resolutions.

PART 3 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

13. The business of the League shall be conducted by a Board of Directors who are not entitled to remuneration, except travel expenses. The Board of this League shall consist of:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Registrar (ex-officio)
 - f. Past President ex-officio)

g. Head Referee (ex-officio)

h. Risk Management Officer (ex-officio)

PART 4 ELECTION OF OFFICERS

14. Elections shall be by secret ballot unless the position is filled by acclamation.

15. Elections shall be held in this order:

- a. President
- b. Vice President
- c. Secretary
- d. Treasurer

16. Elections take place at the Annual General Meeting.

17. The Board shall appoint an individual as a Director to fill any vacancy created. A Director so appointed fills the vacancy until the next Annual General Meeting of the Association.

PART 5 DUTIES OF THE BOARD MEMBER

20. The President shall:

- a. Exercise supervision over the affairs of the League
- b. Preside at all meetings of the League and of the Board of Directors
- c. Be a signing officer of the League
- d. Prepare the agenda for all meetings of the Board
- e. In the event of tie vote, have a casting vote only

21. The Vice President shall assist the President in performing their duties, based on assignment from the President. The Vice President shall also act for the President in their absence or in the event of the office of President becomes vacant before the AGM.
22. The Secretary shall:
 - a. In the event of the President's absence, perform all the functions of the President
 - b. Give notice of all meetings to persons entitled thereto
 - c. Keep minutes of all such meetings
 - d. Handle all general correspondence and prepare annual reports
 - e. Keep records and documents of the Board, except those required to be kept by the Treasurer
23. The Treasurer shall:
 - a. keep a full and accurate account of receipts and disbursements in books belonging to the League
 - b. deposit all monies and other valuables in a chartered bank designated by the Board of Directors
 - c. be a signing officer of the Association
 - e. render a financial statement to the Board of Directors at the end of each quarter of the calendar year, and also at the Annual General Meeting
24. The Registrar shall:
 - a. keep all records and documents as required
 - b. maintain a register of Members
25. The Past President shall provide advice to the Board as requested and may perform special functions upon the request of the Board.

PART 6 FINANCES

26. The signing officers of the League shall be the President and Treasurer.
27. The fiscal year for the League shall be April 1st to March 31st each year.

PART 7 CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

28. No change or amendment shall be made in any part of the bylaws except at the Annual General Meeting or at a General meeting of the League.

Dated: August 1, 2017

RULES AND REGULATIONS

General

1. No sliding tackles or tackles from behind are permitted. No sliding to the ground within close proximity to another player is permitted. Such tackles, if considered intentional by the Referee, are yellow card offences. A red card may be issued based on the Referee's interpretation of the offending player's intent and aggressiveness. In addition, the Referee will award an indirect free kick if outside the penalty area or a penalty kick if inside the penalty area.

Exception: a goalkeeper is permitted to slide if there is **no** player involvement, such as sliding to prevent the ball from entering the goal.

2. If the Referee determines that a player to be overly aggressive, angry, emotional regarding the game, or undermining the intended spirit of the game, the Referee may at their discretion order the player off the pitch for a "cool down" period of whatever length the Referee determines. A substitute player is permitted as a replacement.
3. Women may protect their chest with crossed arms, if done in such a manner as to not redirect the ball.
4. If in the opinion of the Referee, men are using unduly aggressive play that prevent female players of their own or another team from playing the ball, will be penalized, with an indirect free kick and any other sanction the Referee may determine.
5. Excluding the goalkeeper, there will be 5 female player and 5 male players on the pitch for each team at all times. If a team has less than 5 female players available, then the following will apply:
 - a. Team managers can arrange to balance the number of women on the team, by loaning players between teams, after notifying the Referee;
 - b. If a team is unable to have the required number of female players, playing extra male players is **NOT** permitted.

6. When a team manager knows in advance of player shortage for a given game, they are permitted to use players from other team rosters not playing that day.
7. Only persons who are registered with a team may play in this League.
8. Each team **must** supply 2 corner flags and 10 cones for each game, to indicate the playing boundaries of the pitch. The Referee may fine teams (\$10) not supplying this equipment. Such violations shall be including in Game Reports.
9. Where possible teams are encouraged to provide a net for their goal.
10. Shin and ankle guard use is mandatory. Referees shall send off any player not using shin/ankle guards.
11. Players shall not use soccer boots equipped with metal-cleated studs. Referees shall send off any player using such equipment.
12. Goalkeepers may not handle pass backs or throw-ins with their hands.
13. In the event that the Referee determines that the each team colors are too similar, the HOME team will change the color of their jerseys or use pinnies.
14. If during a game, a player incurs a blood loss injury, or a release of blood occurs resulting from a medical condition, that player must immediately withdraw from the game until the loss of blood can be stopped. The game Referee must not allow the player to reenter the game until the flow of blood has been stopped to the Referee's satisfaction.
15. Any clothing worn by a player experiencing a loss of blood or other players whose clothing was also exposed to any blood, must replace that clothing before being permitted to enter or reenter the game.
16. Teams defaulting a game without the prior permission of the League will be responsible for the costs of field rental and referee fees.

Discipline

Discipline shall be conducted in accordance the BC Soccer Association Rules and Guidelines for Discipline.

The Discipline Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President and Head Referee. In the event of absence or conflict, the Past President will be assigned to this task.

Team Rosters

1. Each team must submit a complete roster to the League President (or designate) prior to the first league game. Teams not submitting rosters may be suspended and can be replaced by teams making application to the league. Only players appearing on the roster may participate in both league and tournament play. Additions to the rosters, after league play begins must be approved by the League President (or designate).
2. Team managers must provide two copies of their game rosters: one of the Officials and one to the opposing team, no later than halftime.

Scheduling

The Society will work with field providers to determine the best quality fields. All teams play each other once during the season. The Tournament schedule will be determined by the Society President (or designate) and may include make up games resulting from cancellations during League play or from scheduling overflow.

Games

1. Each game is 90 minutes in length (45 minutes per half), excluding any extra time that the Referee may add. All grass field games begin at 6:30PM sharp. Turf field times vary. The Referees will start their clocks at the designed time.
2. Each halftime shall be 10 minutes; teams change ends for the second half.

3. Teams may make unlimited substitutions during stoppages in play, to be approved by the Referee.
4. All games are played despite weather. Games will only be cancelled by the President, if requested by both teams. The field supplier may also cancel games. Cancelled games will be made up in the Tournament where possible.
5. Tournament games are 70 minutes in length (35 minutes per half), plus a 5-minute halftime.