



BC Soccer Premier League U13 (2009) Evaluation & Selection FAQ's

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1. Introduction

a. Purpose

This document has been designed to provide players and parents with further information on the evaluation and selection of players for the BCSPL within the U13 (2009) birth year. Please find below information on the overview and background to the league as well as valuable answers to frequently asked questions regarding evaluations and selections.

b. BCSPL Overview

The BCSPL is a standards-based development environment for female and male players aged U13 to U18 and is positioned as the highest level of youth community soccer within BC.

The purpose of the league is to bring together identified players from the BC Soccer membership into training and game environments that supports the players overall development, as well as providing further opportunities for identification into higher levels of play including, Provincial Programming, University, Professional/National teams programming and progressing into adult community soccer.

To achieve this BC Soccer and the BCSPL commits to four key responsibilities to player identification and development within the Province of British Columbia. These include.

Four Key Responsibilities

1. To promote a Player First Approach.
2. To support the Canada Soccer's, Long-Term Player Development Principles.
3. To provide Clear and Recognized Pathways for players to be identified, developed and supported within.
4. To support and enhance all Technical standards within the BCSPL.

The BCSPL environment has also been designed to support the development of coaches and referees, who are required to attain a minimum level of certification to ensure standards are in place. This is complimented with ongoing technical support provided through the BCSPL Clubs, BC Soccer and Canada Soccer.

It is important to note that participating Clubs in the BCSPL have met the Canada Soccer National Youth Club Licence requirements, covering administration, governance, infrastructure and technical. This requirement is in addition to gaining BC Soccer Board of Directors' approval for participation. Furthermore, participating Clubs in the BCSPL must also abide by BCSPL league rules and regulations. This provides assurance that the BCSPL Clubs are compliant with quality standards and are operating at the highest level of youth community soccer within BC and Canada.

1. Introduction

c. BCSPL Background

To better understand how the BCSPL came to fruition and its evolution over the past nine years the timeline below draws attention to key dates during the existence of the BCSPL.

2011

The BCSPL was created following a directive from Canada Soccer to the Provincial Associations to develop and introduce high performance youth leagues. Canada Soccer's intention with the direction was to create standards-based youth leagues to support the provincial development pathways at the U13 to U18 ages. Within British Columbia, a Request for Proposal process was established and, in partnership with the Vancouver Whitecaps FC, eight founding BCSPL franchise clubs were selected.

2011 to 2014

A league representative Board of Governors was established to oversee BCSPL operations. From 2011 to 2014, BC Soccer supported league operations primarily through a review of technical delivery and providing technical recommendations based on good practices specific to player and coach development.

2016 to 2019

In accordance with BC Soccer's 2016-2019 Strategic Plan, the BCSPL Club Licence (introduced in 2017), initially designed to set out the minimum technical standards to which franchise clubs were required to adhere. The Licence also identified areas for clubs to improve and was a mechanism for BC Soccer to potentially remove a franchise club that did not meet the requirements, thus creating the ability for a Member Organization outside the BCSPL to apply to join and participate in the BCSPL.

Furthermore, BC Soccer took a more active role in supporting the BCSPL, specifically working with the BCSPL President and leadership group to better align the governance model and the operation of the BCSPL transition from an independently operated society to a BC Soccer program.

2019

In 2018, the Canada Soccer Club Licensing Program was launched. The highest level within that program is the National Youth Club Licence designation (NYCL). One of the requirements of the NYCL is that holders participate in the highest level of youth play in each province; in BC, that is considered to be the BCSPL. With this in mind BC Soccer dissolved their BCSPL Club Licence, moving key technical requirements in the BCSPL league rules and regulations as well as retooling further resource and support into a BCSPL Technical Service Plan introduced in 2019.

2020 to 2021

As of September 2020, the BCSPL has expanded from 8 founding franchise member clubs to 11 BCSPL Clubs in 2020, and 13 for 2021.

1. Introduction

d. BCSPL Clubs

As previously mentioned, it is important to note that participating Clubs in the BCSPL have met the Canada Soccer National Youth Club Licence requirements, covering administration, governance, infrastructure and technical. This requirement is in addition to gaining BC Soccer Board of Directors' approval for participation. Furthermore, participating Clubs in the BCSPL must also abide by BCSPL league rules and regulations.

Each year BC Soccer Member Organizations from outside the BCSPL can apply for Canada Soccer's National Youth Club Licence. As the licensing process involves several steps and is an in-depth review of organizational governance and operations, the approval of new licence holders requires time. As such, new applicants approved for participation in the BCSPL will not begin play until the year following their approval. For example, if a BC Soccer Member Organization applies in 2021, and meets all Canada Soccer and BC Soccer requirements identified above the earliest approval of that organization as a National Youth Club Licence holder would occur in 2022 and that BC Soccer Member Organization will be able to participate in the BCSPL beginning in September 2023.

As of September 2021, the BCSPL will consist of thirteen BCSPL Clubs, including one on Vancouver Island, one in the Okanagan and eleven in the Lower Mainland. For more information on the participating Clubs in the BCSPL, please see below.

BCSPL Clubs*	Location	Website
Coastal FC	Surrey	https://www.coastalfc.ca
Coquitlam Metro-Ford SC	Coquitlam	https://www.cmfsc.ca
Fraser Valley Premier	Langley	https://www.langleysoccer.ca/fraser-valley-premier/
Fusion FC	Richmond	https://www.fusionfc.ca
Langley United Soccer Association	Langley	https://www.lusa.ca
North Vancouver FC	North Vancouver	https://nvfc.ca
Mountain United FC	Burnaby	https://muvc.ca
Thompson Okanagan FC	Kelowna	http://tofc.ca/wp/
TSS Football Club	Richmond	https://www.tss.ca
Surrey FC	Surrey	https://www.surreyfc.com
Surrey United SC	Surrey	https://www.surreyunitedsoccer.com
Vancouver Island Wave powered by Pacific FC	Victoria	https://islandtrainingcentre.ca/vancouver-island-wave-program/
Vancouver United FC	Vancouver	https://vancouverunitedfc.com

*As of September 2021.

2. Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register my daughter/son for the BC SPL evaluations?

Each BC SPL club has established its own schedule and registration process for the evaluations. Please consult the club websites listed previously for further details.

When would I know if my daughter/son was successful in being selected to a BC SPL club?

Invitations to join a BC SPL club may be offered within the following timelines:

Up to February 15

- *Clubs can only offer spots to players that are currently registered in their club or a designated partner's program*
 - *In the situation where a player is registered in a U12 club but pays for supplemental training outside their club, their U12 team is considered where they are committed to in this period*
 - *A designated partner's program is where it is clearly stipulated in writing (i.e.: on a website) that a partnership exists between two clubs*
- *Expectation is that players are evaluated within their U12 team environments, and without "tryouts" taking place*

February 15, from 6pm onwards

- *Clubs can invite players from outside their club program to evaluations*
- *Clubs can offer roster spots to players from outside their club that have been identified within the player's U12 team environment*
- *Any roster spots offered must be accepted or rejected by the player within 72 hours from receiving the formal invite*

February 28

- *No evaluations can take place after this date*

March 1

- *All rosters should be finalized by this date*
 - *Please note: A member club is defined as where a player is officially registered with a BC Soccer club and appears on an official team roster.*
 - *Please note that due to geographical/region-specific requirements these dates are not in effect for the Thompson Okanagan FC and Vancouver Island Wave powered by Pacific FC member clubs and its partner clubs (regional based).*

How does COVID-19 affect the evaluation process?

BC SPL Clubs will have to abide by any BC Soccer Return to Play Guidelines that may be in effect during the evaluation dates mentioned above.

How will invitations to join a BC SPL club be communicated?

*All invitations to join a BC SPL club will be in writing on official Club letterhead and come from the member club's technical director. *Please note NO verbal invitations will be communicated and should not be seen as official if received. In addition, no AGE GROUP coach is responsible for communicating any invitations to players as this will be the responsibility of the Club's Technical Director.*

2. Frequently Asked Questions

Are players allowed to attend multiple evaluations at other BCSPL clubs?

Yes, players can attend multiple evaluations at other BCSPL Clubs, but it is not encouraged if you are not serious about joining the club hosting the evaluations. Players attending multiple evaluations with BCSPL Clubs and the clubs hosting these evaluations must still abide by the timelines and processes presented above, including offering and accepting invitations to join the club. If players have attended multiple evaluations with BCSPL Clubs, they can only offer invitations to players to join the club under the previous presented guidelines and timelines.

What can I expect at the BCSPL club evaluations?

All evaluations must be conducted within an environment which provides for the health and safety of the players participating and should follow the following guidelines.

- 1. Maximum number of players within each session to provide a responsible environment for evaluations.*
- 2. Responsible player to coach ratio as it relates to the evaluators and assessors.*
- 3. Provide technical and match playing environments to assess player age-specific competencies.*
- 4. Provide access to information regarding the overall process from beginning to end.*

How many players may be on a BCSPL team at this age group?

The official roster of players may not exceed eighteen (18) players at this level of play.

What are some of the selection protocols I should be aware of if my daughter/son is participating in the evaluations?

It is the goal of the BCSPL to promote a responsible and positive experience within the evaluation process. The following are NOT acceptable practices within this process and if you encounter any of these practices you are advised to report them to Matt Holbrook, BCSPL League General Manager at matt@bcspl.ca

- 1. BCSPL Club Coaching staff uses pressure tactics to convince you to join their club*
- 2. BCSPL Club Coach or TD only makes verbal offers, and doesn't provide a written offer to join the club*

What are potential consequences if a BCSPL Club Technical Director or Coach violated recognized protocols and any official rules or policies within the evaluation process?

Any technical director or member of a BCSPL club coaching staff who is deemed to have contravened the above guidelines may be subject to disciplinary action.

This disciplinary action may take the form of but is not limited to the following.*

- BCSPL Club internal action.*
- BCSPL suspension, fine or other recognized action.*

** Standard BC Soccer Premier League / BC Soccer discipline procedures will be in effect.*

For further information please go to the official website of BC Soccer at,

www.bcsoccer.net

Or the official website of the BC Soccer Premier League at

www.bcspl.ca

3. Appendix

a. Recommended Player Evaluation Process

BC Soccer recommends all member clubs commit to supporting and promoting a responsible, ongoing, progressive evaluation and assessment process as it relates to player identification, selection and placement. This would include the removal of the reference and promotion of the “TRY OUT” mentality within their club and team atmosphere.

Evaluation camps may be used to supplement ongoing evaluation of players in their club environment who are not already members of the BCSPL club. These evaluation camps should be held throughout the season to aid in selection and the placement of players for ongoing programming and as it relates to the following year's program and/or teams.

In addition to the ongoing evaluation and assessment of players there are four (4) recommendations from BC Soccer for the evaluation, selection and placement of players.

Match Play and Training Environments

- This provides the coaching staff the opportunity to evaluate and assess players in environments which present appropriate dilemma and problem-solving requirements within the technical, tactical, physical and emotional categories.
- It provides opportunities for coaches to receive an overall understanding of the player(s) within realistic and longer-term environments.

Open

- These sessions should be open to any players who desire an opportunity to demonstrate their ability to participate within the proposed age group.
- A maximum number of players should be set at each session to provide for a more responsible evaluation process.

Invitation Only

- A maximum number of players should be set at each session to provide for a more responsible evaluation process.

Evaluation and Assessment Criteria

- All evaluations and assessments should be conducted under the direction and guidance of the technical lead and supported by experienced and trained coaches within the community stream of development.
- In addition, evaluations and assessments should be implemented using a universal system which identifies player's competencies over a period of time and in multiple environments.