

VIA EMAIL

July 28, 2021

Attention: BC Soccer Members and Affiliated Clubs
From: Gabriel Assis, Director of Operations
Subject: Reminder on recent amendments to BC Soccer's Bylaws

BC Soccer continues to support membership with the on-going process of alignment to the Bylaws recently approved by BC Soccer's Full Members at the AGM in November 2020. At this time, we are providing a final reminder ahead of the July, 31st deadline. The information below is a follow up to information [provided on June 10](#).

BC Soccer's Bylaws

As approved by BC Soccer's Full Members at the AGM in November 2020:

3.4 Obligations of Membership

(b) Voting Members of the Society have the following obligations:

ii. To have a process in place for accepting new club and/or organizations as members¹ with full benefits that is free from conflict of interest² (Required latest July 31, 2021).

i. Youth District Associations shall only affiliate youth clubs which are registered with the province of British Columbia as a society, sole proprietor, partnership or incorporation³

ii. Youth District Associations may have a process for a limited membership optional ONLY to the applying club if that club only intends to provide supplementary training.

Impacts on BC Soccer's Youth District Members

1. Youth Districts are required to have a process in place to accept new clubs/organizations as members with full benefits.

Youth Districts may use BC Soccer's [New Club Membership Application Template Package](#) as a resource to complete their application processes. Applications must also adhere to the [Standards for New Club Membership](#).

2. The application process must be free from conflict of interest.

This means that the members of the Membership Committee/Panel that reviews new club applications must be free from conflict of interest (e.g. they can't also be a director, employee or affiliated to one of the Youth District's member clubs).

This also means that some Youth Districts will need to alter their membership structure. A Youth District that operates programming like a club cannot reasonably have an application process to accept new clubs as members that is free from conflict of interest if it is itself also a club (e.g. operating potentially competing programming).

3. For-Profit Organizations may apply to become members of Youth Districts and receive full benefits of membership.

For-Profit organizations (e.g. academies), once accepted as members, may register players with BC Soccer and participate in league programming and Provincial Cup competitions. As of January 10, 2022, BC Soccer will no longer offer the for-profit or non-profit categories of associate membership; this means that any of the current associate members in these categories that wish to remain part of BC Soccer’s membership structure will need to apply through the Youth District that operates within their geographical area to become a member.

Timelines

Youth Districts are required to submit their New Club Applications to BC Soccer by July 31, 2021 at the latest. This also means that any newly created Youth Districts need to complete and submit a [Full Member Application](#) to BC Soccer by this date, complete with a copy of the new Youth District’s Constitution & Bylaws and Rules & Regulations. Failure to comply with BC Soccer’s bylaws could lead to a review of your organization’s standing with BC Soccer.

A reminder to all members and associate clubs, the following timelines, agreed back on July 2020 are currently in place:

On or before July 31, 2021

- All Youth District Associations must provide their new Club Membership Application to BC Soccer’s Membership Committee.

On or before August 31, 2021

- BC Soccer’s Membership Committee to review Youth District Members’ New Club Membership Application and provide feedback.

On or before September 1, 2021

- All Youth District Associations’ application process will open, and applications will be accepted until October 31, 2021.

On or before January 10, 2022

- All Youth District Associations’ decisions regarding new member organization applications will be announced.
- Per BC Soccer’s bylaws the for-profit and non-profit associate member categories will be removed at this time.

On or before April 1, 2022

- New full members of Youth District Associations in the **Interior Region** may initiate operations to commence play for the **2022 Spring/Summer season starting April 2022**; or defer the start to a maximum of one playing season.

On or before September 1, 2022

- New full members of Youth District Associations in the **Coastal Region** may initiate operations to commence play for the **2022 Fall/Winter season starting September 2022**; or defer the start to a maximum of one playing season.

For further questions, please contact [Nicole Laird](#), Manager of Member Services.