



# Fraser Valley Soccer League



November 30, 2018

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

## **LEAGUEBULLETIN:**

*The league experienced a record number of red cards this past week (27 in total), many of which were for abusive language directed towards officials. The league wishes to once more remind players and team staff that abuse of our referees WILL NOT BE TOLERATED. The referees were given a mandate to crack down on any abuse that they are receiving in games and the league fully supports them in this endeavor. Those sanctioned will face multiple game suspensions. Also, it is important to note that players or team staff who commit a second red card offense after already having been sent off (ie abuse of an official) will receive a **SECOND** red card. This red card will not be shown to the offending party at the time, but will be included in the referee's report and will be disciplined accordingly.*

*The league thanks you for your ongoing attention to this matter and for your efforts in ensuring that we maintain a respectful environment for all parties who work together to allow us to operate a fun, competitive league on a weekly basis.*

It was a week of top fixtures in the **Umbro Premier League** as the importance of each game ratchets up into the second half of the season. There was a marquee matchup as two title challengers clashed. At the other end of the table valuable points were up for grabs in the relegation battle. Plus there was a spectacular late comeback that you have to read to believe. All these stories and more can be found in our [UPL Review!](#)

In **Division 1** the defending champions have returned to the top as **North Delta SC** are once more in first place after spending a few weeks chasing **Westcoast FC United**. The two teams went head to head last weekend and North Delta came away with the points in a 2-1 win thanks to goals from **Ryan Braich** and **Nikko Williams**; Golden Boot leader **Connor Hoekstra** had the lone reply for Westcoast. Hard charging **TWU Spartans B** continued their blazing pursuit of the top two as well this week, their winning streak now sits at six, edging **Coastal FC B** 3-2. **Brennan Slawter** had a brace in the win and TWU now sit just three points back of first place North Delta, with Westcoast sandwiched in between. At the other end of the table **Surrey United Elite U21** continue to have the dubious distinction of being one of four remaining teams across the FVSL without a point to their name. Their latest set back was a 3-1 loss to **SAFC Red Bulls**. The win was much needed for SAFC as they snapped a four game losing streak; **Hamadoun Issabre** had his first two goals of the season in that one.

League leaders **Aldergrove United Lightning** were held to a 1-1 draw by **Mission SC A** in **Division 2A**. It seems like Aldergrove just were not up for this one on the day as it took a blinder of a strike from **Paul Kuik** to rescue a point. After fending off second place **Abbotsford United B** the previous week in a 0-0 draw, Abby would not miss their opportunity this week to pull level with Aldy atop the table. They knocked off local rivals **Fraser Valley Blue Devils** 2-1 in spicy affair that definitely felt like a derby as both sides had a payer sent off late when tempers boiled over. The loss leaves Blue Devils in last place in a very competitive relegation battle. In **Division 2B** former leaders **Surrey United SC** finally put another win on the board after three weeks as a **Tyler Walters** hat trick helped lead them to a 4-0 rout of **Chilliwack FC Reserves**. It was not enough to get them back into first place however, as **Abbotsford SA Red Devils** were able to grind out a 3-2 win over struggling **Temple United FC**. Division 2 leading goal scorer, **David Vanderhoek**, scored and now has nine goals this year.

It was a great week for first place **SAFC Hawks** in **Division 3A** who beat **Guildford FC Blues** 3-2 and saw nearest challengers **Westcoast FC Strikers** drop points in a 2-2 with derby rivals **Westcoast FC Celtic** that also produced a pair of red cards and a further six cautions. That gives SAFC now an eight point lead atop the 3A table. Meanwhile in **Division 3B** the dream is over. There will be no perfect seasons in the FVSL this year as first place **Langley City FC** dropped their first points of the campaign in a 3-2 loss to **North Delta SC Titans**.



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Local rivals **Langley United Impact** took their opportunity to close the gap at the top to just three points after a 5-1 win over **Ladner FC**. **Cameron McDonald** had a brace while Division 3 co-leading goal scorer **Paul Atwell** also scored in that match. Hovering just behind are **North Delta SC 91s** who kept pace knocking off rivals **North Delta SC Royals** 3-1. **Randle Spence** took the match ball home as he had all three tallies for the 91s.

Our Match of the Week produced a hard-fought 1-1 stalemate between **North Delta SC Rangers** and **Port Moody Rangers** in **Masters Premier**. **Kevan Gaul** now stands alone as the division goal scoring leader as he is up to eight for the year. However, his marker this week was cancelled out by a **Jeff Rogers** tally. **Delta United** and **Temple United FC A** also finished deadlocked at 1-1 but it was a much scrappier affair and had both sides finish with ten men. The big winners of the weekend, both on the score sheet and by virtue of pulling away in the standings, were first place **Surrey United SC A** who thumped **South Surrey FC** 6-0. **Sean Crocker** and **Keegan Munn** had braces in the win that sees Surrey open a three point lead at the top.

There were no 0-0 score lines this week across the FVSL, though there was a strange anomaly of very few multi-goal scorers. Fortunately, we can always rely on **Division 4** for a couple of offensive outbursts. This week there were hat tricks for **Lukas Koppers** for **Fraser Valley Athletic** in their 5-0 win over **North Delta SC United SJ** as well as **Eddie Verones** for **Port Moody Grizzlies**, who beat rivals **Port Moody Lions** in the battle of the apex predators. Finally, a shout-out to **Offside FC** in 4B who recorded their first win of the season, beating **Latinos FC** 2-1. It was a back and forth match with both goalkeepers making saves and each side missing a potential game winning penalty. In the end **Deep Toor** would pot the winner ten minutes from time and, in the words of manager Amardeep Pawar, "Offside FC definitely looked like a team that is finally clicking."

## **MATCHOFTHEWEEK**

It's back to Division 1 this week where things are getting very tight at the top of the table. This week second place Westcoast FC United host the red hot third place TWU Spartans B who sit just a point behind them. Last week Westcoast came into the weekend in first place, but their loss to North Delta SC saw them leapfrogged by North Delta. Now TWU are also in a position to pass Westcoast with a win. Spartans Coach Taylor Johnson says his side is geared up for another crack at Westcoast, who beat them 2-1 early in the season. "We have grown a lot as a team and have seen individual players really step up as the season has progressed." It is this sort of improvement that has Johnson and his side within touching distance at the top of the league. He is also aware that his side is one of the form teams throughout the FVSL. "We have had a really good run of form lately, winning our last six matches and will look to carry that momentum into Saturday's game."

TWU's recent run of wins is also showing up on the stats sheet as they now have three players closing in on the top of the goal scoring charts. Johnson notes that the upturn in performance from Pedro Duarte has been key to the Spartans resurgence after a slow start along with players like Eric Aujla, Andrew Samuel and Jackson Thompson. It will be a tough challenge against Westcoast this week however, in particular trying to contain Golden Boot leader Connor Hoekstra and his 15 goals through 11 games. Both teams have plenty to play for which means this should hopefully produce one of the matches of the season, never mind just the week!

***Westcoast FC United vs. TWU Spartans B goes Saturday night at Pitt Meadows Secondary; kickoff is at 6pm.***

*Got a player whose performance you think deserves a mention? Was your team part of an epic game worth highlighting? Do you have some cool pictures of your team in action?*

Send NEWS to [media@fraservalleysoccer.com](mailto:media@fraservalleysoccer.com)

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