



Fraser Valley Soccer League



November 8, 2019

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

There is new leader alone atop the **Umbro Premier League**, however, several of the usual suspects hot on their heels. This season the race for the title looks set to be one of the most competitive in recent memory and that competitiveness appears likely to trickle down to the battle for Provincial Cup berths as well. Even the fight at the bottom of the table seems as though it will be nip and tuck all year as well. Who sits where at the minute? Our [UPLReview](#) knows all!

Similarly, **Division 1** also has a new leader with **Langley United B** climbing to the top of the table following their 4-2 win over **Abbotsford United U21**. Hattrick hero **Brody Thomas** led the way for Langley in what was a busy weekend for Thomas as he also scored in the win for their UPL side. Their ascent to the top of the table was made possible when former leaders **Port Moody Piranhas** gave up goals to four different **Coastal FC B** scorers without any reply in a 4-0 loss. That loss sunk Piranhas down to third place as **Chilliwack FC** also vaulted over them after collecting the points following **Langley FC** forfeiting their match this week. At the other end of the table, **Juba FC** made it back to back wins as they narrowly edged last place **North Surrey Mustangs** 3-2, leaving the Mustangs still looking for their first points of the season. Elsewhere good runs of form for last season's heavyweights **North Delta SC NEWWAY**, who had won five straight matches, and **TWU Spartans B**, who had only a loss to North Delta over their previous six games, were brought to an end after 2-1 and 2-0 losses to **Port Moody Gunners B** and **TSS FC Rovers II** respectively. **Nico Pietramala** did the damage with both goals for the Gunners while TSS got contributions from **Henry Cromack** and **Kosta Fotiou**.

In **Division 2** it is as you were in 2A with **Abbotsford United B** maintaining their lead atop the table after they beat last place **Surrey United SC Elite U21** 5-0; **Justin Sekhon** had a hattrick for Abby in that one. **Mission SC A** remain their closest challengers, still sitting two points back following a 3-2 win over **Langely City FC**. There was a slight change just below those two, however, with **Westcoast FC United** getting a pair of goals from **Adrian Moriconi** to beat **Aldergrove United Lightning** 3-0 and overtake them for third place. Over in 2B though there are new leaders once more with **Surrey United SC** now ruling the roost. **Krisztian Turcsanyi** had a brace in a 4-1 win over **WRU Vault FC** that moved United into first place when the incumbent top two sides, **Langley United Dynamo** and **Langley United Dragons U21**, both dropped points. Dynamo were beaten by defending champions **Abbotsford SA Red Devils** 2-1, a result that moves the Red Devils into second place, while Dragons were held two a 2-2 draw by **Whalley Wakanda FC A**. At the bottom there was a first win of the season for promoted side **SAFC Hawks** with **Ty Morice** and **Matthew Killick** scoring while **Jaskaran Singh Sohal** registered his second clean sheet of the campaign in a 2-0 win over **TSS FC Rovers III U21**.

Our Match of the Week from **Division 3** fully lived up to its name as **Tri City FC** now top the 3A standings after their 4-3 win over **Langley United Impact**. A double from leading scorer **Jeremy Amberg** was not enough for the Impact as four different Tri City players were on target to give them a huge three points. In another match up between top side in that group, **Westcoast FC Rowdies** and **Langley United Highlanders** could not find a way to goal and had to settle for a 0-0 draw while the other side in the promotion mix, **Westcoast FC Juventus**, suffered a shock loss to **PoCo FC Rockets**, 3-2, which sees Juve drop to fifth having already played a game more than all of their aforementioned rivals. While 3A remains packed at the top, 3B is finally starting to space itself out. At the top wins for **BCT Punjab FC** and recently relegated **Fraser Valley Blue Devils** gave those sides a bit of breathing room in the title fight. **Mandip Singh** netted the crucial tally for Punjab and **Jagjeet Singh Batth** recorded his third shutout of the season in their 1-0 win over clubmates **BCT Westside United**. For Blue Devils it was goals from **Justin Lodge** and **Brandon Ned** that did the trick in their 2-1 defeat of **Ladner FC** which keeps them within touching distance of Punjab as they seek to go straight back up to Div. 2.

The top five sides in **Masters 1** all picked up wins, with two goals from **Venny Atwell** ensuring that league leaders **Port Moody Rangers** maintained their perfect record in a 5-0 win over **Abbotsford NATG Arsenal**. Right



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behind them are the unbeaten **Chilliwack Rapids** who saw off last place **Westcoast FC Milan** by the score of 4-0 with four different scorers getting in on the act. There were similar comprehensive wins for **Surrey United SC A**, 7-1 over **PoCo FC Dominion**, **Surrey United SC B**, 5-0 over **Guildford FC Pacific United**, and **North Delta SC Rangers A**, 7-1 over **Aldergrove Players A**. However, there was one upset to the teams in the top half with **Matt Neal-Smith** and **Carlos Santos** scoring to overcome an own goal and hand **North Delta SC Rangers B** a 2-1 loss.

We saw some goals come tumbling out of **Division 4** with **Latin Strikers** having both **Robinson Jimenez** and **Javier Jimenez** record hattricks in their 6-2 win over **Langley United Studs**. Meanwhile **Abdulrahman Alzarrad** scored three for **Whalley Wakanda B** to help his side register a 4-1 win over **Aldergrove United**. **Dylan McCrindle** scored a pair for 4A leaders **Port Moody Girzzlies** who were anything but foolish in a 5-0 win over **Westcoast FC Folly** to remain in top spot. Meanwhile, **Westcoast FC Misfits** will be hoping their new position in second place is a perfect fit after they managed to keep Golden Boot leader **Brent Durie** off the score sheet in a 3-1 win over **Sts'ailes Chiefs** to overtake the Chiefs in the standings. The second leading scorer in the division, **Jason Brand**, scored to close the gap on Durie, but it was in a losing cause with Brand's **North Delta SC United SJ** falling 3-1 to 4B leaders **Offside FC**. Finally, a shout out to **Michael Dha** in **Masters 2** who bagged himself a hattrick for **Hurricanes FC** in their 4-2 win over **South Surrey FC B**.

MATCHOFTHEWEEK

We back in Division 2B this week where the upstart Langley United Dragons U21 take on defending champions Abbotsford SA Red Devils. Both teams are trying to chase down first place Surrey United with Red Devils one point behind the leaders and Dragons two points back. Despite some early success, Dragon's manager Herv Bezjak is not getting carried away with his young team. "As a first year U21 men's team we are thrilled to be competitive in every match", he said, "with an average age of players under 18 we look forward to what the future holds for this group." It was a baptism by fire for the Dragons as they gave up a goal in the first minute of their first FVSL match. However, since then they have been the side breathing fire, so to speak, as they have turned heads with their performances.

In contrast, Red Devils are the consummate veterans of this level. As defending champions, they have been there and done that, and are now looking to repeat. Led by the offensive talent of David and Eric Vanderhoek, who have 14 goals between them already this season, and the goalkeeping of Nickolas Pemble Abbotsford are a formidable opponent for any side, never mind a young one new to the men's game. For Langley, their attack is lead by a family connection as well through twin siblings Say Eh Say and Htoo Eh Htoo along with older brother Tha Taw Eh who present a balanced threat going forward that has combined for 17 goals so far this year. The first meeting of the season between these two sides ended in a 2-2 draw with Red Devils caching in on a late equalizer. Bezjek knows it will not be an easy with Red Devils likely out to assert their superiority in the rematch. "We expect a very tough challenge as Abbotsford are a very skilled and balanced group," he noted, but while he respects his opponents Langley will certainly be having a go, adding that "Abbotsford has lots of talented players and to be successful we will have to be stronger in the defensive end of the field."

Langley United Dragons U21 vs. Abbotsford SA Red Devils goes Sunday night at Willoughby Turf #2; 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?

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