



Fraser Valley Soccer League



October 31, 2019

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

It was back to the regular line up of four **Umbro Premier League** matches this week with plenty of story lines already beginning to emerge, even this early in the season. There is an upstart team at the top of the league and a perennial challenger mired down near the bottom, outside of the Provincial Cup places. You certainly cannot tell the teams the points do not matter yet, as temperatures were running high all across the division. To find out exactly who sits where and what has people talking this week, check out our [UPL Review](#).

The **Division 1** leading **Port Moody Piranhas** were able to maintain their spot atop the table by narrowly edging club rivals **Port Moody Gunners B** 2-1 thanks to goals from **Jack Livesey** and **Josh Rogers**. Piranhas are unbeaten on the year but the one other unbeaten side in the division, **Chilliwack FC**, lost ground on the leaders this week. **Nathaniel Turner** had a brace for **Coastal FC B** and Chilliwack were forced to settle for a 3-3 draw. This dropped them to third place when **Langley United B** had a field day in a 9-1 over **Langley FC**. There was a hatrick for **Noah Owen** in that game while **Brody Thomas**, who has also been scoring goals for Langley's UPL side, and **Ali Kazemi** both added braces. In a match that was a top of the table clash last season, but this year has a decidedly more mid-table flavor to it, two-time defending champions **North Delta SC NEWWAY** edged **TWU Spartans B** 3-2 to climb over TWU and into a three-way tie for fifth place. In truth, though, the top three sides have begun to distance themselves from the pack while, at the bottom, it is looking like a three team battle as well. In addition to Langley FC, **Juba FC** and **North Surrey Mustangs** are both struggling with both those sides losing 6-0 this week to **Abbotsford United U21** and **TSS FC Rovers II** respectively.

In **Division 2** there was a massive upset in the A group with last place **Westcoast Black Knights** stunning league leaders **Abbotsford United B** 3-2, handing Abby their first loss of the season. **Cory Darby** and **Daniel La Page** scored for the Knights along with **Michael McKay** as they put United's unbeaten record to the sword. Luckily for the defending champs, second place **Aldergrove United Lightning** could not take full advantage as they were forced to settle for a 0-0 with **PoCo FC Royals** when they could not solve Royal's goalie **Jayson Nicol**, meaning Abbotsford still hold a four point cushion at the top. For the Knights, their result lifted them off the bottom thanks to **Surrey United Elite U21** falling 3-0 at the hands of **Langley City FC**. Things are much tighter across in the B group where six points separate first from sixth. **Langley United Dynamo** remain on top after they won our Match of the Week 5-1 over **Whalley Wakanda FC A** with **Cam Whitters** scoring a hatrick. **David Vanderhoek** also scored three goals this weekend, but it was in a losing cause as **Abbotsford SA Red Devils** were beaten 5-3 by **Surrey United SC**. That win snapped a three match losing skid for Surrey and opened the door for **Langley United Dragons U21** to jump into second place with their 5-2 win over **TSS FC Rovers II**.

There was a big top of the table clash in **Division 3A** this weekend and it was recently relegated **Westcoast FC Rowdies** beating newly promoted **Westcoast FC Juventus** 1-0 to take over top spot as they look to make an immediate return to Division 2. **Langley United Impact**, who had a bye this week, and **Tri City FC**, who beat **Langley FC Benders** 3-2 courtesy of a **Mark Hardy** brace, also remain in contention at the top. In **Division 3B** it was league leaders **BCT Punjab FC** who had a bye this week, allowing the field to close the gap with them at the top of the table. Recently relegated **Fraser Valley Blue Devils** took full advantage of the opportunity, beating **North Delta SC Royals** 5-0 on the back of three goals from **Brandon Ned**. Also narrowing things at the top were **Ladner FC**, thanks to **Adam Bosch** providing the goal in a 1-0 win over **North Delta SC 91s**, and **Langley United C** who were 2-1 winners over **North Delta SC Titans** with **Nathan Dalh** scoring both goals in the victory.

After having the long weekend off, **Masters 1** were back on the pitch and first place **Port Moody Rangers** are now the lone remaining perfect side following their 7-0 thrashing of **Langley FC Heat** in which seven different goal scorers were on target. Chasers **Chilliwack Rapids** were held to a 1-1 draw by fellow contenders **Surrey United SC A** while **Surrey United SC B** held **North Delta SC Rangers A** to a 0-0, meaning that Port Moody were able to gain some separation from all four of the teams closest to them!



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A very competitive **Division 4** served up a surprise result when **Westcoast FC Dons** held co-leaders **St's Ailes Chiefs** to a 1-1 draw, even with Golden Boot leader **Brent Durie** scoring for the Chiefs. That result opened the door for **Port Moody Grizzlies** to move into top spot alone on the A side and they were far from in hibernation mode when they beat local rivals **PoCo FC Rangers** 4-1, with **Dylan McCrindle** scoring twice in the win. The modest output from Durie also allowed **Jason Brand** from **North Delta SC United SJ** to keep pace in the goal scoring race as he remains just four goals back after he notched in SJ's 7-2 sinking of **North Delta SC Pirates**. SJ and **WRU Cloverdale FC**, who beat **Abbotsford SA Phantom** 3-0, are in second place on the B side, four points back of leaders **Offside FC** after they stayed onside and beat **Latin Strikers** 2-1. Offside have played a game more than their two pursuers so this could well become quite the title race.

With the open age teams not putting up world beating goal tallies, we turn instead to **Masters 2** for our weekly dose of individual accolades. **Balwinder Singh Atwar** of **BCT Tigers** registered a hattrick in their 4-1 win over **White Rock United** to keep them on top of the table. However, it was **Bryan Noga** again stealing the spotlight for **Bradner Redshirts** as he banged in five goals in a 9-0 hammering of last place **Westcoast FC Chargers** to keep Bradner just a point back of Tigers. There were no such invigorating offensive outbursts in the **Over 45 Division**, but there is a similarly intriguing title race shaping up. **Coastal FC Alumni** beat club rivals **Coastal FC Rangers** 2-1 to move onto 16 points for the season, but second place **Aldergrove United Dragons** are just a point back after they beat **Westcoast FC Thunder** by the same score line. Things are well poised for a race (or limp) to the finish!

MATCHOFTHEWEEK

This week we check in on the promotion race at the top of Division 1 where second place Langley United B host third place Chilliwack FC as both sides try to catch up to the league leaders, Port Moody Piranhas. After coming down from the Umbro Premier League, Chilliwack FC have set right to their task of rebuilding their program. An undefeated record through seven weeks of the season has them in the hunt to win promotion at the first time of asking, however a couple of draws have them two points back of top spot at the moment. In fact they sit third as, despite having lost a match, this week's opponents Langley United B have crept one point ahead of them!

Both teams have relied on a potent offense to get them to these early lofty heights in the standings. For Langley Brody Thomas leads the team, and is currently joint top scorer in the division, with ten goals in seven matches. In fact, he has even more goals if you count the tallies he has registered for Langley's A team in the UPL and SC Cup! Chilliwack counter with a two headed strike force comprising Malcolm Stafford and Matthew Point who have eight and six goals respectively. The teams are also in safe hands at the back with Chilliwack's Jonathon Vugteveen and Langley's Taylor Weakes both have a pair of clean sheets to their names. This one looks like it should be fairly evenly matched on paper, so we shall see which team is able to find a way to create an edge on the pitch. With great attackers on both sides, hopefully there are plenty of goals for the fans to enjoy!

Langley United B vs. Chilliwack FC goes Saturday night at Willoughby Turf #1; 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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