



# Fraser Valley Soccer League



October 2, 2019

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

The second round of matches in the Soccer City Premier League Cup were completed this past weekend and, with only one more round of fixtures remaining to determine the semi-finalists, the competition is already down to brass tacks. After this week's action one team has progressed and one side has been eliminated, but the other six teams go in to the final round of games still with a chance to hoist the cup!

*Here's a recap of all of this week's action:*

## **Soccer City Premier League Cup – GROUP A**

### **Abbotsford United 2-6 Coastal FC – Saturday 6pm; Mouat Turf #3**

After being held to a scoreless draw in their first match against Langley, Abbotsford got off to a fast start in this one. Midfielder **Roshan Gosal** worked his customary magic before setting up **David Parfett** for the opener after just fifteen minutes and Parfett was on target for a second time less than ten minutes later after Abby caused a turnover by the Coastal defense. Things were looking good for the home side, but this was to be the last time they beat Coastal keeper **Andrew Kowan** on this night. Instead, after falling behind 2-0, Coastal roared to life and had things all square going into half time. The onslaught by the visitors continued into the second half and, by the time it was all over Coastal had romped to a 6-2 win on the back of a hattrick from **Jake Starheim** and the strong play of **Isaac Kyei**, who also had a goal. Coach **Shawn Parkes** called his own number and chipped in with a goal as well, with **Cameron Parkes** rounding out the scoring for Coastal. Afterwards, Abbotsford manager Alan Alderson had nothing but praise for his opponents, saying of Coastal they "didn't start out particularly sharp, but my goodness once they got going, they were relentless as a team and Jake and Isaac were both too much for us to handle on this night." On his own team's performance Alderson had a view of the positives noting that the match had been "a great opportunity for our younger players to be tested under fire" while adding that he was "pleased that we kept going and with the game all but over." Even in the loss **Tyson Hunter** showed great leadership in the middle of the park all game and **Tammer Byrne** was solid anchoring the defensive line. With the win Coastal are assured a place in the semi-finals while Abbotsford will know they must win and hope for some help next week if they are to have any hope of progressing.

### **Vancouver United SC 0-1 Langley FC – Saturday 6:15pm; Hjorth Turf #1**

Coming into this match Vancouver United would have know that they had to get something out of the match in order to keep their hopes of progressing in the SC Cup alive. They battled hard for the duration against Langley, but in the end a lone goal by Langley's **Brody Thomas** was the difference in this match. Langley posted their second clean sheet on the spin, this time with newly signed former Capilano Blues goalkeeper **Hudson Nelles** between the sticks, as they are the only team in the competition yet to concede a goal. If they can maintain that record after they final group stage fixture next week then they will be assured of a place in the semi-finals. **Benjamin Van Der Goes** was also influential in the win for Langley who can claim top spot in Group A with a win over free scoring Coastal next week, while, despite another strong performance from **Gurpreet Hundal**, Vancouver United will have to be content with playing the role of spoiler in their final SC Cup match against Abbotsford.



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## Soccer City Premier League Cup – GROUP B

### **SAFC Red Bulls 1-2 Surrey United Firefighters – Friday 8:45pm; Cloverdale Athletic Turf #1**

For the second week in a row Surrey United tangled with a new local rival as this time they “travelled” all the way from Field #2 to Field #1 at Cloverdale Athletic to take on SAFC Red Bulls. SAFC were undeniably bullish coming into this match as well, having overturned the defending SC Cup and UPL Champions Port Moody Gunners out at Trasolini last week. Last week’s two goal hero for SAFC, **Emmanuel Ekeh** remained hot and scored again this week as it is clear that he will surely be a threat for the Red Bulls all season long. However, this time his exploits were not enough to earn his side a result as a gutsy performance from a slightly deeper Firefighters side than was held to a draw a week ago by CCB. One of those back in the lineup and making their season debut was **Dave Adams** and he returned with the level of performance we became accustomed to seeing from him on a weekly basis last season. He would notch a goal in his first outing of the year as well as put in a top performance throughout the match, providing solid veteran leadership to a still young Surrey group. Speaking of youth, last week’s stand out youth performer for Untied, **Jovan Sidhu** was once more a factor, this time around he found the back of the net which would be enough to provide Surrey with a 2-1 win. For SAFC, **Brandon Nair** put in a solid shift in a losing cause, though things were compounded for SAFC when **Thomas Kargbo** was sent off, ruling him out for at least a week. Both of these teams will now need to refocus ahead of their final group stage matches as both sides are still in with a chance of progressing to the semi-finals.

### **CCB Azad 2-7 Port Moody Gunners – Friday 6:15pm; Newton Turf #4**

Following a surprise loss to newly promoted SAFC Red Bulls in their first match of the season, UPL and SC Cup Champions Port Moody Gunners were looking for an immediate response against another side new to the top level of the FVSL in CCB Azad. It certainly did not start out the way Port Moody would have wanted as they quickly found themselves behind when **Armaan Hundal** had CCB in the lead just past the ten minute mark. With their chance to defend their SC Cup title suddenly very much in the balance, Port Moody showed the response of champions when **Jordan Marini** smashed in a brilliant volley minutes after the Gunners fell behind to level things back up. Before half time, Port Moody captain **Kevin Comeau** pounced on a rebound from a corner kick to turn the match fully around going into the break. In the second half new man **Dale Long** notched his second goal in as many matches when he was able to find the ball in a scramble to extend the lead to two goals. If Port Moody thought they were home and clear at this point, CCB had other ideas. This time it was the home side’s turn to poke home from a scrambled corner kick, as Hundal again popped up to half the deficit. However, after coming on at half time and making his return from a minor injury that kept him out of the line up for the first match of the competition, last season’s UPL Golden Boot winner, **Graeme Meers** had the chance to line up a free kick. Showing that he was sporting no ill effects from said injury, he hammered it home to restored Port Moody’s two goal lead and this time it was the death knell for CCB. The UPL new boys seemed to lose their legs over the final half hour, which is always a dangerous situation to be in when Meers is on the park, and he duly obliged by helping himself to a hatrick and serving notice to the rest of the league that he fully intends to put in a good defense of hit scoring title. **Ethan Ast** also chipped in with a goal to round out the scoring for the Gunners. Despite the loss, it was another solid performance at the back for CCB by **Ernesto Arteaga**. CCB Azad go into the final round of matches knowing that only a win against SAFC will give them a chance to qualify. Port Moody could use a win in their final match as well, although a draw would not eliminate them for certain until the result of the other match is known.



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| SOCCER CITY PREMIER LEAGUE CUP |        |        |    |                          |        |        |    |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|----|--------------------------|--------|--------|----|
| Group A                        |        |        |    | Group B                  |        |        |    |
| Team                           | Record | Points | GD | Team                     | Record | Points | GD |
| Coastal FC                     | 2-0-0  | 6      | 8  | Surrey Utd. Firefighters | 1-1-0  | 4      | 1  |
| Langley United                 | 1-1-0  | 4      | 1  | Port Moody Gunners       | 1-0-1  | 3      | 4  |
| Abbotsford United              | 0-1-1  | 1      | -4 | SAFC Red Bulls           | 1-0-1  | 3      | 0  |
| Vancouver United SC            | 0-0-2  | 0      | -5 | CCB Azad                 | 0-1-1  | 1      | -5 |

## SOCCER CITY PREMIER LEAGUE CUP – GROUP STAGE MATCHDAY 3:

### Group A

Sat 09/20/2019 4:00PM

**Coastal FC vs. Langley United**

South Surrey Ath. #10

Sat 09/20/2019 6:15PM

**Vancouver United SC vs. Abbotsford United**

Hjorth Turf #1

### Group B

Fri 09/19/2019 8:45PM

**SAFC Red Bulls vs. CCB Azad**

Cloverdale Ath. #1

Sat 09/20/2019 4:00PM

**Port Moody Gunners vs. Surrey Utd Firefighters**

Trasolini Turf

As we enter the final round of group play in the SC Cup, Coastal have already advanced and can top the group with a win or draw in their final match against Langley. A draw in that one would ensure Langley progress as well, while a win would see them leap frog Coastal and take first place. However, a loss to Coastal, who have been in top form so far in this competition, would then open the door for Abbotsford. After their head-to-head 0-0 draw with Langley in their first game, a win would leave them in a position to pull level with Langley, should they lose to Coastal, leaving goal difference to determine who will advance. Only a win will do for Abby though, and likely a significant one at that, as any type of result for already eliminated Vancouver United would see them play spoiler to any hopes Abbotsford may harbor.

On the other side of the draw, Group B is still wide open. The current top two, Port Moody and Surrey, with Port Moody needing a win to ensure they advance, as a loss would see them drop to third, regardless of the outcome of CCB's match with SAFC. A win for Surrey would see them top the group, while a draw would leave them in a position to advance, however, it would give SAFC a chance to finish ahead of them with a win over CCB. CCB themselves know that only a win will do if they are to have any chance to progress and, even then, they would still need the other results to go their way. With so many possibilities, and such drama early in the season, it is sure to be a fascinating weekend!

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