



Fraser Valley Soccer League



September, 20, 2018

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

The intensity ratcheted up straight away in Week 2 of the Umbro Premier League as we saw no fewer than four red cards on Friday night! Saturday would prove to be a tamer affair discipline wise, but still saw plenty of goals scored and some sensational ones at that.

Here's a recap of all the action:

Chilliwack FC 1-1 Abbotsford United – Friday 8pm; Tzeachten Turf #1

Both these teams were coming off loses in Week 1 and surely saw this as a game to be targeting all three points. However, that plan might well have gone out the window in the second minute when Abbotsford had a man sent off and were forced to play the remainder of the game with only ten players. Despite their numerical disadvantage, it would be United who would take the lead in this one. **Roshan Gosal** would do the heavy lifting before slipping in **Colton O'Neill** to finish off the move and give Abbotsford a 1-0 lead. Gosal and O'Neill would then put in a shift running what seemed like miles, along with their teammates, in order to preserve the lead. As is often the case when you are playing down a man, Chilliwack would have their chances, but United goalkeeper **Mike Haladin** turned in one of his almost standard, top class performances to keep the home side at bay. It looked like Abby would hold on for all three points until a last-minute equalizer from **Trent Horne** spoiled the party and spared Chilliwack's blushes. Despite being devastated to concede late, Abbotsford manager Alan Alderson was proud of the performance his side put in to earn a draw after playing nearly the whole match with one less player. "I couldn't be prouder of the way our players battled and performed," he said "Despite being a man down we were incredibly pleased with the number and quality of chances we created and pleased with the way our defenders challenged and won so many duels." For the second week in a row Alderson and his side were unable to come away with the result they felt they deserved, but he remained positive looking forward: "Extremely proud of our group and excited to see what we will be able to accomplish this season."

Surrey United Firefighters 0-2 Langley United – Friday 8:45pm; Cloverdale Athletic Park #2

We told you to keep an eye on this one and, boy, was it worth watching. The first half was a battle and saw four cautions produced in what would be a precursor for later events as this rivalry heated up. Surrey was shading the early proceedings with Langley's **Andrew Hicks** called into action as the game reach the quarter hour mark, as he saved well from Surrey's **Josh Miles** in tight. Surrey would continue to press but could only hit the woodwork, while Langley may have had the best chance for either side in the opening exchanges via a **Connor Hildebrandt** free kick, but he too could only find the frame of the goal. Just before half time Langley would open the scoring, perhaps slightly against the run of play, via a tidy finish courtesy of **Josh Brown** from the edge of the area. Life would get difficult for Langley early in the second half as United would have **Colin Jones** sent off after receiving a second yellow card. Surrey's



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man advantage would last only five minutes however, as **Raqui Amijee** would be issued his marching orders for denying an obvious goalscoring opportunity. This one did not go over well with the Firefighter's camp as they thought that other players had a chance to prevent the goal threat but, nevertheless, it was now ten against ten. Buoyed by having the man power parity restored, Langley kicked on and took control of the game. Despite their dominance though, it would take until the final fifteen minutes for them to make the points safe. Josh Brown was the man once more as he collected his own rebound after Surrey keeper **Nuno Jesus**, who had been brilliant all game, stopped his initial attempt but was left helpless to deal with the follow up effort. The paperwork was not quite done in this one though, as there was still time left for **John Kasper**, who had been a standout performer for Surrey throughout the night, to be sent off with a straight red card for a challenge that referee deemed to be high a constitute serious foul play. It was a tough as nails performance for both teams, though Langley United manager Mike Wagner says not to read too much into all the cards that were handed out; "Although [there were] a number of cards, this was not a nasty game. Simply a very physical battle between two teams that have started to build a good little rivalry." A rivalry that Langley will no doubt relish in taking all the spoils from.

Temple Vancouver United FC 0-3 Port Moody Gunners; Saturday 6:15pm; Hjorth Road #1

A reality check for new boys Temple in this one. After they announced themselves with their opening fight back against champions Coastal FC, the Surrey side were pegged back decisively by FVSL and UPL veterans, Port Moody Gunners. Temple's manager Brad Dhillon acknowledged that his side "struggled on the pitch most of the game," though he is hoping to be able to chalk that up to what he referred to as "the absence of few key players." That being said, Dhillon was quick to give credit where credit was due, adding that the final result was "well deserved for Moody." The Gunners came out firing from the first whistle and **Mark Talisuna** got them on the board in style with an early candidate for goal of the season. After taking a layoff from **Josh Craig**, Talisuna hit a screamer from fully 35 yards out and left the Temple keeper rooted to the spot making it 1-0 just past the half hour mark. Talisuna would continue to boss the midfield the rest of the game, putting



Port Moody Gunner's Mark Talisuna takes on two Temple Players

in a top-drawer performance for the boys in red. Before half time Port Moody would double their lead off a corner when **Kevin Comeau** ventured forward from the back line to poke home during a scramble. Temple would press to get back into things with **Rajvir Bains** and Week 1 Brown's Social House Player of the Week **Jassa Sanghera** forcing Moody keeper **Michael Hof** into saves, but Hof would turn them away with all the rest to earn a first clean sheet of the season. **Vaughn Andrews** would round out the scoring for the Gunners, volleying home a **Graeme Meers** cross.



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Burnaby Firefighters 0-4 Coastal FC – Saturday 8pm; Burnaby Lake West #5

Coastal set about proving that Week 1, and dropping point to Temple, was just a minor blip for the defending champions. A trip to Burnaby to play the Firefighters Saturday evening proved to be the perfect tonic for the South Surrey side as it was back to regularly scheduled programming for the current title holders. Lead by talisman **Jake Starheim**, they cruised past Burnaby, winning this one comfortably. Starheim, who bagged 1 (adjusted after appeal) in Week 1, responded with a hat trick in this match and that would set the tone for the rest of his teammates. **Cameron Parkes** had the other tally for Coastal as they were able to use their deep bench in order to keep their pace and intensity high for 90 minutes, which would ultimately wear down the short-staffed Firefighters. Despite the loss, **Trevor Hallam** did his best to keep Burnaby going with his play throughout this match but, ultimately, the champions showed their pedigree and proved too much for the home team.

Here's how the table looks after Week 2:

Umbro Premier (Fall) - Pool: A								
Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Port Moody SC A	2	2	0	0	7	0	7	6
Langley United A	2	2	0	0	4	1	3	6
Coastal FC A	2	1	1	0	6	2	4	4
Surrey Utd Firefighters	2	1	0	1	2	3	-1	3
Abbotsford United A	2	0	1	1	2	3	-1	1
Temple VAN United FC	2	0	1	1	2	5	-3	1
Chilliwack FC	2	0	1	1	1	5	-4	1
Burnaby Firefighters	2	0	0	2	1	6	-5	0



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*Brown's POTW Winner for Week 1 - Jassa Sanghera
(Presented by Thomas Mills)*

The Brown's Social House Player of the Week for Week 2 is **Josh Brown** from Langley United. Josh kept his head while other around him were losing theirs and fired in two goals to lead Langley to a big win over rivals Surrey United. Congratulations Josh, you've won a \$25 gift card, courtesy of Brown's Social House.



THIS WEEK'S UPL SCHEDULE

Fri 9/21/2018 8:00PM	Chilliwack FC vs. Surrey Utd. Firefighters	Tzeachten Park #1
Sat 9/22/2018 4:00PM	Port Moody Gunners vs. Burnaby Firefighters	Trasolini Turf
Sat 9/22/2018 6:15PM	Coastal FC vs. Langley United	South Surrey Ath. #10
Sat 9/22/2018 7:00PM	Abbotsford United vs. Temple VAN United	Mouat H.S. #3

One to watch this week would be Langley United's visit to South Surrey for their match against Coastal FC. These two teams finished first and second place during the 2017/18 season, with Coastal hanging on down the stretch to claim the title. Coastal won two of the three meetings between the two teams last season but the side combined for sixteen goals in those games, so expect some entertainment in this one. Langley are off to a great start as one of only two teams to have won both their opening fixtures. Coastal, of course, were stunned by Temple on opening day and had to settle for a draw. The champs will not want to fall any further behind Langley as they look to repeat atop the UPL so expect them to come out firing.

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