



Fraser Valley Soccer League



December 25, 2019

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

An action packed week in the Umbro Premier League saw six matches played and 40 goals scored! Not one, but two big wins for Port Moody launched them right back into the title discussion, but Coastal also won both of their matches to maintain control of the table. After a strong start it is crunch time for Abbotsford, as they will need to continue to pick up points while the teams around them play their games in hand. With six more matches on the schedule this week, the table is set to look plenty different by the time the FVSL takes its winter break after this round of fixtures.

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

CCB Azad 1-6 Surrey United Firefighters – Friday 8:45pm; Newton Athletic Park #4

A clever free kick by **Tom Lowndes** got Surrey United off to the perfect start this week as he passed the ball into the far side of the net while CCB were still setting up a wall. United would not have much time to admire their quick thinking though, as straight from the ensuing kickoff CCB marched down the park and **Gurshawn Garcha** got on the end of a cross to tie things back up. CCB built on this momentum and carried the play for the rest of the first half with Surrey becoming frustrated. However, after a CCB freekick was cleared, **Ethan Claiborne-Collins** went in alone and made no mistake to restore the lead for the Firefighters just before halftime. This seemed to spark Surrey back to life and straightaway in the second half **Tyler Henderson** nodded home from a corner kick to give the visitors control of the match. CCB had a strong penalty shout that would have given them a chance to make it just a one goal deficit part way through the half, but the referee judged it to be a good tackle by the Surrey defender. United would add three late goals, the first by **Josh Miles** followed by a tally from **Manpal Brar** and finally **Raq Amijee** in injury time to give them a comprehensive victory. **Brennan Naiker** played well in the loss for CCB while Surrey youth call up **Manmeet Jhutti** deserves praise for his performance on the night.

SAFC Red Bulls 2-6 Abbotsford United – Friday 8:45pm; Cloverdale Athletic Park #1

If they want to stay in the title race Abbotsford know that they will need pick up results against the teams below them in the table and they did just that with a solid first half display against Red Bulls. It began just over five minutes in when **Reece Branion** turned home a cross from **Dan Goodey** before Goodey again proved the service for **Roshan Gosal** to score just over ten minutes later. Gosal would add his second of the night ten minutes before the break when **Connor Robillard** found him with a lovely set up. Robillard then got his own name on the scoresheet when **Connor O'Neil** picked him out a few minutes later and there was still time for O'Neill to register a further assist before the interval when he and brother **Colton O'Neill** conjured up some sibling magic that Colton finished off with a deft chip over the SAFC keeper. In the second half SAFC refocused and came out with a better approach, they did concede another goal though, when Abbotsford's **Ben Shumbusho** set up **Manveer Dhillon** who deferred to Colton who tapped in his second of the right. However, SAFC were seeing more of the ball and this opened up a pair of counter attack opportunities that bore late consolation goals for **Thomas Kargbo** and **Mikael Mainella**. Mainella was called upon to play up front with Red Bulls missing two of their most potent offense threats in **Emmanuel Ekeh** and **Brad Heffey** due to suspension. Kargbo played well anchoring the midfield in the second half along with partner **Hamadoun Issabre**, while defender **Brandon Nair** turned in his usual standard of performance at the back. For Abbotsford, manager Alan Alderson was "pleased with our sharp and focused start after our disappointing result mid-week."



Fraser Valley Soccer League



Coastal FC 4-1 Langley United – Saturday 4pm; South Surrey Athletic Park #10

After a six match unbeaten run that saw them climb into the title race, Langley were dealt a hammer blow by the same team that handed them their previous loss. This match with Coastal was its usual tight affair until Coastal broke things open in the second half. The home side were clinical with their finishing, taking their chances well. Influential wingers Isaac Kyei and Jake Starheim both scored while Sean Northcote had a brace. Langley did get a goal from Chad De Boer and Connor Hildebrant, as usual, put in a top performance in midfield, but it was not enough to continue United's good run of form.

Vancouver United SC 0-7 Port Moody Gunners – Saturday 6:15pm; Hjorth Turf #1

Two early mistakes from Vancouver United had them behind the eight ball in double quick time to Port Moody. The Gunners were seeking maximum points from their two matches this weekend to help them climb back into the title race as they look to defend their UPL crown. Depleted by injuries, United gifted Port Moody an early lead via a goalkeeping error and a poor square ball from a fullback. From that point on it was all Gunners in this one. **Rajvir Bains** did his level best at the back for United the whole game, but was left frustrated by the limited support he received from midfield. **Alex Cahaus** also played well despite the lopsided loss. When it came to the actual goal scoring for Port Moody, **Graeme Meers** broke out with a hattrick effort and **Cole Almond** added a brace. **Vaughn Andrews** also chipped in with a goal and **Dale Long** continued to provide offense from the back. Though he did not score himself, **Jaxson Bain** was influential all game for the Gunners and **Miguel Hof** recorded the clean sheet.

CCB Azad 1-7 Port Moody Gunners – Sunday 6:15pm; Newton Athletic Park #2

It was a quick turnaround for Port Moody as they came back on Sunday to make up their match with CCB that was postponed due to SC Cup play. Fortunately for the Gunners, it was as though they never stopped playing from the night before with the goals continuing to pour out. They were up comfortably by four goals at the break and went on to score three further times in the second half. Despite this, CCB keeper **Josh Banipal** made several sharp saves to prevent the score line from being even more lopsided. The goals also continued to flow for **Graeme Meers** who followed up his hattrick performance Saturday with a four goal outing on Sunday. That brings his total to twelve for the season and lifts him to the top of the UPL scoring charts. **Cole Almond** added another goal to go with the two he scored the day before and **Tyler Epp** banged in a brace. **Harman Aujla** pulled back a consolation for CCB to stop Port Moody recoding back to back shutouts, but it was the only minor blemish on a great weekend for the Gunners!

Coastal FC 4-1 Surrey United Firefighters – Tuesday 9:15pm; South Surrey Athletic Park #10

Another mid-week fixture gave Coastal a chance to consolidate their lead atop the UPL. Any game plan Surrey United may have come into this match with went out the window after just a quarter of an hour when **Prabh Sandhu** was sent off for denying an obvious goal scoring opportunity. **Sean Northcote** smashed in the ensuing freekick to put Coastal on the board. Though they were a man, down Surrey put in a strong effort in the first half, creating a number of chances, particularly via set piece deliveries from **Tom Lowndes**. This included a bullet header from youth callup and centreback **Adam Hajdecki**. Sadly for Firefighters, that effort struck the crossbar and led to a counterattack, ending with Coastal earning a penalty. **Jake Starheim** made no mistake to double the home side's lead right before half time. Surrey tried to keep taking the fight to Coastal, but their numerical inferiority was beginning to take its toll. **Isaac Kyei** took advantage on a fast break to make it a three goal lead, though Hajdecki would head home his first ever UPL goal off a corner to give Surrey some life. That would be as good as it would get for the visitors with Starheim rounding out Coastal's night with his second goal right before full time.



Fraser Valley Soccer League



Here's how the UPL Table looks after Week 11:

Umbro Premier (Fall) - Pool: A								
Team	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	GD	PTS
Coastal FC A	10	8	1	1	35	12	23	25
Abbotsford United A	11	8	0	3	47	16	31	24
Port Moody SC A	10	7	0	3	29	12	17	21
Langley United A	11	6	1	4	24	17	7	19
Surrey Utd Firefighters	9	5	1	3	21	15	6	16
SAFC Red Bulls	10	3	1	6	18	28	-10	10
CCB Azad	10	1	1	8	10	35	-25	4
Vancouver United SC	11	0	1	10	3	52	-49	1

BROWNS SOCIAL HOUSE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

BROWNS SOCIALHOUSE
restaurant . bar . socialize

A Proud sponsor of



Newport Village
Walnut Grove
Brentwood
Kitsilano



This week's Brown's Social House Player of the week is Graeme Meers from Port Moody Gunners. Meers had a hat trick for the Gunners on Saturday against Vancouver United and then turned around on Sunday and scored four goals in Port Moody's win over CCB Azad. His incredible seven goal weekend helped lock up six important points for the Gunners and also launched him to the top of the scoring charts as he looks to defend the Golden Boot he won as the UPL's top scorer last season.

Congratulations Graeme, you've won a \$25 gift card to Brown's Social House!



THIS WEEK'S UPL SCHEDULE:

Thu 12/12/2019 9:00PM	Port Moody Gunners vs. SAFC Red Bulls	Trasolini Turf
Fri 12/13/2019 8:45PM	Surrey United vs. Vancouver United SC	Cloverdale Ath. #2
Fri 12/13/2019 9:00PM	Langley United vs. Abbotsford United	Yorkson Turf
Sat 12/07/2019 4:00PM	Coastal FC vs. CCB Azad	South Surrey Ath. #10
Wed 12/18/2019 8:00PM	Surrey United vs. Port Moody Gunners	Cloverdale Ath. #2
Wed 12/18/2019 8:00PM	CCB Azad vs. SAFC Red Bulls	Newton Ath. #1

There are plenty more make up games on the schedule this week as the league tries to get all the teams caught up after the Soccer City Cup resulted in some teams playing more UPL fixtures than others back at the beginning of the season. Port Moody have two matches again this week and if they can come



Fraser Valley Soccer League



away with six point like they did last week they will either catch or surpass Abbotsford, depending on Abby's result against Langley. The Gunners could even find themselves top of the table if Coastal fail to take maximum points out of their match with CCB the way they did last time those two teams met and CCB raised some eyebrows around the league by holding the vaunted Coastal offense in a scoreless draw. Coastal will still have a game in hand, regardless of how this weekend's results go, after their match with Surrey United was frozen out a few weeks back. Surrey also play two matches this week and will need maximum points or else they will risk losing touch with the rest of the top teams. The aforementioned match between Langley and Abbotsford really stands out on the schedule though. If Abbotsford can take all three points the UPL could essentially be a three team race by the time the FVSL takes its winter break. Of course, not all of these teams can take maximum points, to we will just have to wait an see how exactly one final exciting week of UPL action shakes out before the holidays!

Send NEWS to media@fraservalleysoccer.com

And for more information on the FVSL go to fraservalleysoccer.com



Fraser Valley Soccer League

