



Information Bulletin

Bulletin #	IB_2022-27
Date	July 6, 2022
To	Full Members, Associate Members, Life Members and affiliated clubs
CC	BC Soccer Board of Directors and Staff
From	Jason Elligott, Executive Director and Gayle Statton, President
Subject	Equitable voting structure discussion update and Canada Soccer letter

BC Soccer shares latest letter received from Canada Soccer relating to a more equitable voting structure for soccer in British Columbia.

Following the outcomes of the [BC Soccer Special General Meeting held on June 1st](#), and in the spirit of transparency and collaboration that has guided this entire process, BC Soccer provided a further update on the current situation via a video message from President, Gayle Statton and Executive Director, Jason Elligott. The video message brought increased awareness to the wider soccer community and was meant to ensure any potential immediate or future impacts were understood as a result of the June 1, 2022 SGM outcomes.

Based on the number of video views since posted on June 27 (close to 5,700), and the various discussions that have occurred since, it is clear that the message has reached the wider soccer community. We also appreciate the numerous members, stakeholders, and individuals within the soccer community that have reached out with positive comments about the approach taken. The feedback is that this has helped them better understand the existing governance and membership structure of soccer in BC and the voting directive from CSA.

We are sharing with you today that Canada Soccer has not reduced the timelines for BC Soccer to be compliant with their equitable voting structure directive. Accompanying this bulletin is the formal letter from Canada Soccer whereby they provide: *"...confirmation that if the required Bylaw amendments have not been approved by the conclusion of the 2022 BCSA Annual General Meeting, BCSA shall be in breach of its obligations of membership set out in Section 2.01D 1 a) of the Canada Soccer By-laws, and as a result, Canada Soccer shall take steps to immediately suspend BCSA as a Member Association of Canada Soccer, with all measures that suspension entails at the sole discretion of Canada Soccer."*

BC Soccer does not want to be in this position, and we are hopeful that the situation will be addressed before the November AGM so any potential suspension is not handed down from Canada Soccer. Importantly, right now, all soccer activities in BC are occurring as normal.

Again, in the spirit of transparency, accompanying this bulletin is the letter from Canada Soccer.

For further questions, please contact [Gabriel Assis, Director of Operations](#)

-End-



CANADA SOCCER

237 rue Metcalfe Street
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BY EMAIL

6 July 2022

President
British Columbia Soccer Association

Dear President,

We are in receipt of your 2 June 2022 letter which reported on the results of a Special Meeting of the Members of BCSA held virtually on 1 June 2022. The Special Meeting was called for the purpose of considering changes to the BCSA Bylaws, requested by Canada Soccer, that would make BCSA's voting structure fair and equitable in its conferral of votes on the Youth District Associations and the Adult Leagues of BCSA.

As you know, Canada Soccer requires that the member voting structure of all its Member Associations be based on the principles of fair and equitable balance of stakeholder representation — principles that are strict requirements set forth by Canada Soccer and its parent bodies, FIFA and Concacaf.

We understand from your report that at the 1 June 2022 Special Meeting of the Members of BCSA, the Members defeated the proposed amendments to the BCSA voting structure which is specified in the current BCSA Bylaws.

Canada Soccer is very disappointed by this outcome and reminds BCSA of our 23 September 2021 letter to the BCSA President, which states that the deadline for the completion of the required re-balancing of representation within BCSA is the 2022 BCSA Annual General Meeting. It is our hope that the required amendments to the BCSA Bylaws are completed in accordance with the timeline outlined above.

Please accept this letter as confirmation that if the required Bylaw amendments have not been approved by the conclusion of the 2022 BCSA Annual General Meeting, BCSA shall be in breach of its obligations of membership set out in Section 2.01D I a) of the Canada Soccer By-laws, and as a result, Canada Soccer shall take steps to immediately suspend BCSA as a Member Association of Canada Soccer, with all measures that suspension entails at the sole discretion of Canada Soccer. Canada Soccer has no desire to impose sanctions on its Member Associations or any League, Club or group unnecessarily. However, this particular situation within BCSA does not adhere to the principles of fair and equitable balance of stakeholder representation.

As always, if BCSA requires any further clarification of the above, please contact us.

Sincerely,

Dr. Nick Bontis
President

Cc : Earl Cochrane, General Secretary (Acting)
Charmaine Crooks, Vice President
Don Story, Chair, Governance Committee
Charlie Cuzzetto, Director
Concacaf