

5 DISTRICT LEAGUE FOR GIRLS



Official Operating Rules for 2006/2007



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5 District League for Girls

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Welcome:

The 5 District League for Girls accepts affiliation of competitive girls divisional teams from the following Coastal Districts:

1. Center Fraser Valley Girls District
2. South District Girls
3. Vancouver / Richmond Girls District
4. North Shore District
5. North District Girls

Each year the league has 625+ teams in 51+ schedules. This is a significant number of teams and the smooth operation of the league requires that you understand the rules. As a coach you must be aware of several guides and rules that govern activities off the field of play:

1. Your Club Bylaws, Constitution and Policies
2. Your Districts Bylaws, Constitution and Policies
3. The Leagues Bylaws, Constitution and Policies and Operating Rules
4. BC Soccer's Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and Regulations

On the field the rules are governed by FIFA and by rule variations, such as game length, ball size and number of substitutions as published in BC Soccer's Rules and Regulations.

Have a good year and above all remember this is a kids sport played for the enjoyment of the kids.

Rights of the League to override rules

The league reserves the right to override rules and guidelines where exceptional circumstances exist.

Changes from 2005/2006

Important Dates

- 3.4.1 Scheduling make-up games - amendments
- 4.5 Forfeits
- 5.2 playing times for U16 reduced to 40 minute halves
playing times for U14 reduced to 35 minute halves
- 5.10 Size 5 balls to be used for U13-U18 games
- 5.16 Technical Area has been added - addition

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Risk Management

Each District is responsible for ensuring that BCSA Rule 22 – Risk Management, is adhered to. The League expects all team officials to complete the risk management process before they are issued with BCSA ID card for the 2006/2007 season by their District.

CSA States: *“One team official must be the same gender as the team.”*

Important Dates for the 2006/2007 Season

Date	Event
June 30	Team Affiliation day
Sept 10	League Start
Oct 9-11	Thanksgiving Break – League promotion/demotion review
Nov 13	Preliminary round for IDC
Dec 17	Last league game before Christmas
Jan 7	First League game after Christmas
Mar 4	Final League game
Mar 19-23	Spring Break
Mar 25	IDC – 5 District League Cup Finals
Mar 26	School Opens after Spring Break
April 1	Coastal Classic
Apr 6	Good Friday
Apr 8	Easter

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1. LEAGUE OPERATING INFORMATION

1.1. *Mandate*

- 1) To manage league play for affiliated girls competitive teams from associated Districts in the Coastal area.
- 2) To ensure each division and level provides for competitive play.
- 3) To manage league cup play
- 4) To manage additional cup play as determined by the League governors

1.2 *Volunteers*

All positions of the League are filled by volunteers. Almost all volunteers perform duties with their Districts, Clubs and teams. These people form the volunteer backbone of amateur youth soccer.

The League also relies on volunteers to act as statistics collectors. Collectors usually have no more than 3 league schedules to take care of. If you are willing to act as a statistics collector please tell your District League Representative by August 15.

Besides collecting game scores, stats takers may also be asked to follow up on a score by the league, provide answers to simple questions by coaches (or direct coaches to speak with their District League Representatives).

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2. LEAGUE SCHEDULES

Over 55 schedules are generated each season and it is not unusual, during the first two weeks of play, to have 1 or more revisions published. The scheduler puts in a lot of time and tries to balance the schedules as much as possible. It is not possible to do this for 13 and 14 team leagues and as a result some teams will have more games or byes than other teams.

Schedules are of a fixed length which may result in unbalanced schedules.

2.1. *Affiliating teams*

Districts are asked to provide the scheduler with a list of teams and contacts by June 30. The earlier and more complete the data is, the earlier the schedule will be published.

The team information required is:

- Team Name (do not leave this blank or a name will be assigned by the scheduler)
- Age Division (U12 – U18)
- Level of play (Silver B, Silver A, Gold)
- Strength of team (Strong, Average, Weak) – Used for league tiering
- # of returning players
- Primary contact name and number (does not need to be Coach or manager)
- Secondary contact name and number - (does not need to be Coach or manager)
- Home/Away pairings (i.e. which teams will share home and away on the same field and time) (Please refer to special instructions on home/away pairings)
- Special instructions for placement (i.e. two teams from same Club not on same schedule). There is no promise that these requests will be accommodated.
- Email address (optional) - (does not need to be Coach or manager)

Requests for changes to published information must be directed to your District's 5 District League Rep. Each year multiple schedule revisions are published because of the many changes to team names and contact info. The League has set the following deadlines for changes for the 2007 season:

2.1.1 **Deadlines for submitting changes to information on schedules**

- a) Team Names – Last Sunday in August – changes submitted after that will be not be published until Thanksgiving.
- b) Contact name, phone numbers – Last Sunday in August

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2.1.2 Home/Away Pairings

Teams that share a field and time slot are said to be paired. That means that when one team is home the other will be away. The League allows Clubs/Districts to declare which teams are paired. To ensure that your requests for pairing can be accommodated they must be submitted by June 30. In addition there are some rules that must be adhered to :

- a) Metro teams cannot be paired with a 5District team
- b) U12 Gold and U13 Gold cannot be paired with other 5District Teams
- c) U12 Gold and U13 Gold can be paired with each other.

The league scheduler reserves the right to assign pairings where needed.

2.2. Distribution of teams

Teams are distributed across the schedules in one of two ways

Tiered – Standings from the previous year and information provided by Clubs/Districts on team strength are used to rank teams. Schedules that are tiered end in a number

Geographic –Schedules are formed by geographic proximity. Those schedules that end in a Letter are geographically formed.

2.2.1 Requests by Club

A Club may request, through their District, to place teams in certain groups or with or not with certain teams. These instructions must be received by June 30 to be considered, such requests will be accommodated where possible.

2.2.2 Requests by District

The District may request that all teams in the District in a certain level be placed in specific groups. Usually this means that all teams from a District will be in the same group. This may include teams that play on Saturdays.

2.2.3. By League Scheduler

The League scheduler attempts to balance numerous requests and may not be able to accommodate them all.

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2.3. Start of League play

2.3.1. Accommodating Cup play

The schedule has several dates that have no league games scheduled and have the words "Cup". These are reserved for League and District Cup play. Teams that do not have a cup game should use the spare date to make up postponed games.

2.3.2. The schedule

The schedule usually starts on the first weekend after Labour Day and runs to the last weekend in February or first week of March.

2.3.3. Holiday Breaks

No League games are scheduled for the Thanksgiving weekend. If you are entering a tournament enter early.

We also have a 3 to 4 week break at Christmas. The League schedule starts in the first weekend after school recommences. All the volunteers, parent and players get to have some rest after 3 months of games.

2.3.4 Publishing League Schedules

The schedule, and other League information, is distributed to each District rep. The District League reps will then distribute to Clubs or direct to teams.

Schedules will also be published on <http://www.bcsoccercentral.com>

In the event that information on the web differs from information provided by District League Reps, the information provided by District League reps shall be used. It is therefore imperative that District League reps ensure that schedules and other information from the League be distributed in a timely fashion.

Several schedule changes may be published in the first few weeks of the season, please ensure that your opponent has the same information as you. When calling an opponent please ensure that you identify yourself and your team clearly.

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2.3.5 Requesting Changes

Gold and Silver A Teams are not permitted to change team names once the League starts. We expect these teams to be formed early and to have picked their team name early. Since Silver B teams are not completely formed until the Labour Day weekend, the League will permit a change of team name change if submitted by the first league playing date. These requests **MUST** be routed through your Club to ensure that the name on the League schedule is the same as the name registered with the BCSA. Clubs must then submit the change request to the League through the District League Representative and to BCSA through the District Registrar.

Under no circumstances are changes to be sent directly to the League Scheduler.

2.3.6 General queries

Questions regarding the schedule may be directed through your Stats collector or your District league rep. Under no circumstances are questions to be made directly to the League Scheduler.

2.3.7 Complaints

It is almost certain that complaints will be made about unbalanced schedules, distribution of teams, number of byes, too many games against top competition etc. Explanations of the reasons for certain scheduling anomalies are summarized on these pages. We ask that you read this document before you resort to the phone or email to get the answer you want. If you wish to make a complaint please put it in writing and deliver it to your District League Rep. Complaints will not be accepted from any other source or form.

2.4 End of League Play

2.4.1 Last date for reporting scores

The date of the last league game shall be the last date for submitting scores. An exception will be granted for the last game of the season if it is not played due to weather or is an approved postponement. Please refer to the schedule on Page 5 for this season's deadline.

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2.4.2 Determining League Winners

The league determines winners by total points regardless of games played. The League makes every effort to ensure that all teams in a schedule have an equal number of games. Where two teams are tied at the end of the season, games against each other may be considered. If this does not resolve a tie, the League may either schedule a playoff game or declare co-winners.

The League does not consider goals for or against to determine league winners.

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3. PRE-GAME PROCEDURES

3.1 Communications between teams

Due to the time of year and the constantly changing coastal weather, fields and times change on occasion. We ask that you make that extra effort to get all games played. The following guidelines were written with fair play in mind and with recognition that last minute changes can't always be accommodated by traveling teams.

Like all amateur sports, the soccer league, Clubs and team officials are all volunteers. The amount of time we have to resolve disputes between teams regarding game scheduling is minimal. We ask that you be flexible and work to resolve problems.

3.1.1 Etiquette of contact

Direct contact must be made with the coach, if a message must be left then call the alternate contact. If messages are left ask them to confirm that they received the message. Never assume that a message has been received.

3.1.2 Initial notification between teams

It is the home team's responsibility to call the away team. This notification should be done no later than the Wednesday before game day.

If the home team does not call the away team by Wednesday then the Away team should/must call the Home team.

Note the home team must tell the away team whether the field is grass, gravel or artificial turf.

Also ensure that the information on the colours of Jerseys is exchanged. It is the Home team's responsibility to change colours if there is a clash however the Away team may change jerseys if both coaches agree.

3.1.3 Notification of time changes

Notification of time changes must be relayed to the away coach by 12:00 noon on Saturday.

Both teams must make every effort to get games played. Please be flexible.

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3.1.4 Notification of Field changes

If the home team's grass field closes the away team must be notified immediately (see grass/grass, gravel/gravel rule.)

Home teams may move fields on game day. However the away team has the right to refuse the change if the game cannot be started within 1 hour of the original scheduled time. In that case the game must be scheduled to be played within 2 weeks.

3.2 *Grass/Grass, Gravel/Gravel rule*

If the away team is notified that the home team's field is gravel, the away team may invoke this rule. The away team must notify the home team that they are trying to arrange for a grass field. Once a field is assigned call the home team. This call must be made by 12:00 noon on the day before the scheduled game to move the game to the away team's field.

Similarly if neither team has a grass field and the home team does not have a field assigned, this rule may be invoked and the game played on a gravel field at the away team

For the purpose of determine good/better/best in terms of field surface use the following rated from best to worst.

3.2.1 Grass or In filled Artificial Turf

3.2.2 Astro Turf - (Livingstone, Hamber or Coquitlam Town Centre)

3.2.3 Sand/gravel

In any events, cooperation of coaches is required and every effort **MUST** be made to get the game played.

Assignment and payment of referees is the responsibility of the team who supplied the field.

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3.3 Postponing or canceling games

All games must be played as scheduled and cannot be cancelled or postponed because one team does not have sufficient players due to injury or illness. FIFA rules state that a game can be played with as few as 7 players on a team. The only time lack of players will be considered as a legitimate reason for postponing/rescheduling a game is:

3.3.1 If the players are attending a sanctioned school or church function and the team will have less than 9 players.

3.3.2 And a request is delivered, in writing, to the League through your District Rep 5 days prior to the game.

3.3.3. And the League approves the request.

NOTE: Permission to postpone or cancel games because a team is involved in a tournament is not a valid reason and shall NOT be considered by the League.

3.4 Making up games

Teams must make every effort to make up games that have been postponed, either by prior approval of the league or cancelled due to field conditions.

3.4.1 Rules for scheduling make up games

a) The home team has 2 weeks to arrange for a game to be played on a date before the end of the reporting period. Refer to 3.4.2 for definition of end of reporting periods.

b) There is no restrictions on which day of the week can be used. If playing a week night game under lights reasonable consideration for travel time is required.

c) The home team is to offer the away team the choice of 3 dates of play.

d) The away team must agree to one of those dates. Should the away team not accept any of the dates the home team shall provide the relevant information related to the lack of agreement to their District's 5D league rep who will present it to the League Board of governors for disposition of the game.

e) If the Home team is unable to arrange a field to play on within 2 weeks of the original scheduled date then the away team will have the right to schedule the make-up game. The Away team will follow the same process of offering the Home team the choice of 3 dates.

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3.4.2 Disposition of games not-played

Each year a considerable number of games are not played. In order to encourage teams to get these games played the League has implemented the following rules pertaining to games not played.

a) Points will not be awarded for any games Not-Played by the January restart of League play unless an agreement exists to play a postponed game in the 2nd half of the season. Such games will be removed from the schedule. This act by the League is not protest able.

b) Points will not be awarded for League games scheduled from January to the end of League play as stated in the schedule on page 5 that are not played by the end of the reporting period.

3.5 Carrying proper equipment

Not having proper equipment to play a game is not an excuse. In poor weather players should always carry:

- Footwear for grass and for gravel.
- Gloves

If you are playing on an in-filled artificial turf field, cleats with metal caps are not permitted. Sharp edges on the metal caps will cut the propylene fibers and shorten the life of the turf.

If the team is playing on Astroturf, there are three general shoe styles that are used depending on the weather. The goal is to wear the least amount of "bottom" possible: In **dry conditions**, very light bottoms are used. In **damp conditions**, a little more bottom (a thicker sole) is more appropriate. And in **wet conditions** the team switches to "Destroyers," shoes that have a lot of bottom (very thick soles).
<http://www.howstuffworks.com/fb-equip5.htm>

Any team that regularly practices on one of the special field types has an advantage over the away team. That is why it is called home field advantage.

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3.5.1 Players attire

The following is an excerpt from the FIFA laws of the Game.

Law 4 – The Players Equipment

Safety

A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself or another player (including any kind of jewelry).

In the past referees allowed players to put tape over jewelry even though the Law stated that jewelry must be removed. Starting with this season referees are being instructed to apply the rule as written. A referee is instructed to request that jewelry be removed before the player is allowed to enter the field of play. This is a matter of safety so please ensure that your players have ALL their jewelry removed before taking part in warm ups and games.

Refer to the LAWS of the GAME rule 4 for further details on this and other rules

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4. POST GAME PROCEDURES

4.1 Referees

The referee's responsibility to monitor activities does not end at the final whistle. If an infraction of the Laws of the Game occur, such as use of Foul or abusive language or physical abuse, the referee may issue warnings or a card to a player, team official or coach. This will be treated the same as any card issued during a game.

4.2 Hand Shakes

Hand shakes after each game is mandatory in soccer. Teams will participate in their cheers and then meet at mid-field. This is a sign of fair play.

The referee will monitor the handshakes and if a player or team official is seen acting in an unsportsmanlike manner, may issue an appropriate card.

NOTE: SPITTING on hands prior to shaking hands is not only unsporting but unhealthy. Referees still have the authority to caution or eject players and coaches after a game is completed.

4.3 Reporting game results

The statistics collector for each schedule is printed on the bottom of the schedule along with a phone number and email address. Either method may be used to communicate your scores on Sunday night. Both teams should do this. Statistics collectors will NOT call the teams. If a game is not reported it will be shown as "NP" or not played on the game by game detail page on the web.

The Stats collector needs to send in their score lists to the League by Monday morning to have them published on the web on Wednesday.

Do:

- ✓ If you are not sure of the score ask the ref after the game or confer with the opposing coach.
- ✓ Identify one person from your team with a cell phone to call in the score from the field immediately after the game.
- ✓ Both Teams must call in the score win or lose
- ✓ Both Teams must also report all cards shown or ejection (coaches or spectators) by the referee during a match. Please indicate which team/player that was issued the card or ejection. (If you are not able to get detailed information than summary information will do. i.e. Yellow card to GEU Storm)

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Don't

- ✗ Don't call stat collectors after 8:00 PM unless you have been permitted to do so.
- ✗ Don't call prior to 10:00 AM in the morning unless you have been permitted to do so.

Delays in reporting scores will result in delays in posting standings. If you want timely stats then the first step begins with you.

Please note that everyone involved with the League are volunteers and hold regular jobs and there may be a delay in posting stats from time to time. We strongly urge you to refrain from making complaints regarding the publishing of standings on the web.

As goal difference does not enter into the equation as to which team will win the division championships, the Stats Collectors within the Silver A and Silver B division can impose a goal differential for reporting scores on the web. The true final score should always be reported to the Stats Collector to ensure that if teams need to be reassigned that the league can react quickly.

Coaches are strongly encouraged not to run up the scores on opposing teams. Coaches and teams doing so will be reported to their District Officials for disciplinary action.

4.4 Protest filing

Protests must be filed with the League within 48 hours of the end of the game (*see rule 7 for details*). The written protest may be delivered to one of the District League representatives or to the League president or Vice President along with a cheque for \$100.

Details to be included with the protest are:

- ❖ Schedule name
- ❖ Both team names
- ❖ Date and time of game
- ❖ Location of game
- ❖ Referee number, where possible
- ❖ Grounds for the protest
 - Which Law was misinterpreted and how.
 - Ineligibility of player(s) – Not having cards is not, in itself, grounds for protest.
 - Breach of BCSEA or 5 District League Rules and Regulations
- ❖ Signature of a Team Official

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4.5 Forfeits

Under no circumstances may a referee declare a game a forfeit nor may a coach “claim” a forfeit. Only the League has the authority to declare a game forfeited. There are few valid justifications for awarding a forfeit. A few are:

- Team used an ineligible player (a player not registered to the team or a player under suspension)
- Insufficient players to start the game.
- Last minute cancellations by team due to insufficient players
- Failure of a team to show up for a game.
- Causing a game to be abandoned

Request for forfeit is done through a “Forfeiture Request Form” available in the appendix of these regulations. The form is to be completed and communicated (fax, email or mail) to the Stats Collector for your division. This must be done within 72 hours of the scheduled match game time. Once the “Forfeiture Request Form” officially received by the Stats Collector, the League will review the request and determine an official response to the request.

Note that the League may take up to 30 or more days to evaluate a forfeit request depending on the circumstances. The League will not entertain requests for forfeits of games Not-Played. Refer to Rule 3.4 Make-up games for determination of scores.

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5. RULES OF PLAY

5.1. All games shall be played under the By-laws and Rules and Regulations of the Association.

5.2. The duration of the games shall be as follows:

- U-18 2 equal halves of 45 minutes each
- U-17 2 equal halves of 45 minutes each
- U-16 2 equal halves of 40 minutes each
- U-15 2 equal halves of 40 minutes each
- U-14 2 equal halves of 35 minutes each
- U-13 2 equal halves of 35 minutes each
- U-12 2 equal halves of 30 minutes each

5.3. League games have traditionally been scheduled for Sunday however, in some situations; they may be scheduled for days other than Sunday when approved by the League.

5.4. Games may not be scheduled to start before 8:00am nor end after 8pm unless otherwise agreed to by both teams.

5.5. The home District or Club shall determine the venue and time of League games subject to 5.3 above.

5.6. In all instances, the team declared "home" team is responsible for ensuring the field is marked, nets and flags are in place and supplying the game ball.

5.7. In the event that the uniform colours of both teams are similar, the "home" team must change to uniform colours distinct from its opponents. The referee has the authority to determine if team colours are similar.

5.8. Any team failing to fulfill a scheduled league game without just cause will forfeit the game to its scheduled opponents. Note that forfeits are not automatic and must be approved by the League.

5.9. At game time only the Referee may declare the field unplayable. Coaches may not agree between themselves to play a game on a field that is closed by the referee. Also coaches may not agree to cancel a game where a Referee is present.

5.10. A regulation size five (5) soccer ball shall be used in all U18, U17, U16, U15 U14 and U13 division games. A regulation size four (4) soccer ball shall be used for U12 division games.

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5.11. All teams shall furnish a complete list of those **players properly registered to the team and eligible** for use in the game for which the list is to be submitted. The list shall be completed in duplicate, both copies of which shall be given to the referee at or before half time of the game. The team list shall bear the name of the team, date of the game, the name of the opposing team and the name of each player. The team list shall contain the name of players currently under suspension (with name crossed out) and therefore ineligible to take part in the game. The team list must contain the signature of a team official in charge of the team.

5.12. The number of Substitutions is not limited.

5.13. Substitutions shall be made only during the stoppage in play and with the referee's consent.

5.14. The League has the authority to order any game replayed, forfeited or played to a finish.

5.15. Photo Identification Cards for both players and team officials are required at the U12 – U18 age. It is incumbent on team officials to present the photo ID cards of the players and team officials to the referee prior to any league or cup games. A grace period shall be allowed until October 1 of the Coastal playing season. Team Officials not issued with validated BCSA photo ID cards are NOT permitted to coach or to manage. An exception will be made only when the person not able to present their BCSA photo ID has a letter of permission from the appointed District Registrar or designate.

5.16. Technical area

5.16.1. Location

The location of the **Technical Area or Coaching Area** is on one side of the field, that is opposite to the side of the field where spectators will be located. Players and Carded Team Officials are required to be in this area at all times during game play. Carded Team Officials are required to inform and insure that spectators of their team understand and conform to this requirement as the team is responsible for the conduct of their spectators.

5.16.2. Dimensions

The **Technical Area or Coaching Area** will be on the opposite side of the field from the spectators. The midfield corner of the areas shall start 5 meters from the halfway line and 3 meters from the touchline and extend 20 meters, parallel to the touchline, on either side of the halfway line. There shall be no back line. In the event that lines are not painted for the areas, each team is required to mark out this area with field cones so Team Officials, Players and Game Officials know where the technical area is. (see appendix E for diagram of field markings)

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5.16.3. Team Officials and Player Dress and Conduct in the Technical Area or Coaching Area

Team Officials and Players in the **Technical Area or Coaching Area** must at all time being wearing a colored bib that contrasts the colors of their uniforms, track suits or rain gear. Team Officials and Players are encourage cheering their team on or making positive comments about the play of the game but must do so behind the 2 meter distance from the field of play. Players must either be seated or stand in an orderly fashion for identification purposes and to avoid impending players taking Throw-ins.

5.16.4. Leaving the Technical Area or Coaching Area

Team Officials may leave the Technical Area or Coaching Area to tend to players requiring medical attention on the field at the direction of the Referee. Any player requiring attention on the field must be removed from the field as soon as it is safe as per FIFA's Additional Instructions for Referees, Assistant Referees and Fourth Officials "*Dealing With Injured Players*". Team Officials can leave the area to visit a changing room provided another Team Official has been informed.

Players may leave the area to visit a changing room provided they have communicated such with one of their Team Officials. It is recommended that any player leaving the area to visit a changing room is accompanied by another player for safety reasons or Team Official of the same gender

Team Officials and Players who need to leave the game early for personal reasons need to inform a Team Official. Players must be accompanied by their parent, legal guardian or guardian from the area immediately.

5.16.5. Players Warming Up

Players warming up to prepare for being substituted into the game or for staying warm can warm up in the area between their teams Technical Area or Coaching Area and the Corner Flag. While doing this, the player must be wearing a colored bib so they can be identified as an off field player. Also, they are required to not communicate or cheer to any of the players in the field of play and they must be at least 7 meters from the Corner Flag is there is a Corner Kick taking place.

5.16.6. Substituting from the Technical Area or Coaching Area

(To be used for Cup play only when 4th officials are used)

Players being substituted must be accompanied by a Team Official and stand at the Halfway Line where the Team Official will hail the Referee to request a substitution at the discretion of the Referee. Note that players being substituted must be in game strip ready to enter the Field of Play but still wearing a bib until the Referee permits the substitution. The substituting player(s) must not enter the Field of Play until the player coming off is in the Technical Area or Coaching

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Area and the player(s) have exchanged the bib(s) which is a visual aid for the Referee when many players are substituted at the same time.

5.16.7. Technical Area or Coaching Area and Sending off Offences

Team Officials who are asked to leave the vicinity of the game must vacate the Technical Area or Coaching Area immediately. In the case of Players who are sent off they must leave the vicinity of the field of play and/or Technical Area or Coaching Area immediately and be escorted by a Team Official to their parent, legal guardian or guardian on the spectators side of the field.

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6. GAME OFFICIALS

6.1. Districts of the home team are responsible for ensuring that appropriate game officials are assigned to matches. Such responsibility may be delegated to individual Clubs or a Central scheduling agency.

6.2. A game official, not registered with BCSA, may not be assigned to referee a competitive level match. Except in emergency situations.

6.3. Assistant referees must be assigned to matches for the U16, U17 and U18 divisions. Failure to do so will lead to disciplinary action by the League.

6.4. In the event that a referee does not show up for a game, within 15 minutes of scheduled game time, the coaches may agree to play the game using parent referees. Each team should referee half the game or agree that one person should referee the entire game. If a coach does not agree to play the game it shall be postponed to a later date. Home field assignment moves to the away team's venue.

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7. GAME PROTESTS

7.1. A protest will only be considered on the grounds of misinterpretation of F.I.F.A. Laws of the Game, on the eligibility of players, or on breaches of Competition Rules & Regulations.

7.2. No protest relating to the grounds, goal posts, bars, or other appurtenances shall be entertained by the League.

7.3. In dealing with any protest, the League may take into consideration the possession by the protesting team of any prior knowledge, which, if properly used, might have obviated the protest.

7.4. Any team playing an ineligible player shall forfeit the game to its opponents, provided the protest is upheld.

7.5. An affiliated team may lodge a protest with the league arising out of any league or League cup game scheduled by the Girls 5 District league. Such protest must be in writing, stating the grounds upon which the protest is lodged.

7.6. A protest of any league game must be submitted within forty-eight (48) hours of the date of the match to which it relates. In the event that the protest is mailed, the post-mark shall be taken as the limiting date in all cases. If it is emailed the date it is sent shall be used. The League is not responsible for non-delivery of email notes. If an email note is not received by the league with 48 hours of the sending of the note, the protest MAY not be heard.

7.7. A copy of the protest shall be forwarded by the League having jurisdiction to the opposing team in 5 days of receipt.

7.8. The protest shall be signed by the team coach or manager as per the teams registration with the District or BCSA.

7.9. A protest fee must accompany the protest when filed with the League.

7.10. The fee (payable to the League) shall be determined and circulated by the League prior to August 15th annually, in advance of the forthcoming season.

7.11. In the event that a protest is upheld by League, the protest fee shall be refunded. In the event that the protest is denied, the protest fee shall be retained.

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7.12. A Protest Committee is required to provide to all parties affected by a decision, a written ruling which shall include the rationale for the decision and the associations appeal procedures, within (7) days of rendering the decision.

7.13. A decision of the league Cup Scheduling Committee on a protest arising from a League cup competition game played under the jurisdiction of the League shall be final and binding.

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Appendix A - Notes to coaches on FIFA Laws and discipline

The following items are for information only and are covered more completely in the BCSA Rules and Regulations, BCSA Discipline Policy and Guidelines, CSA Bylaws or FIFA Laws of the game.

Control of spectators

Every team, club, district, league or affiliated association is responsible to the Association for the actions of its players, officials and spectators and is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent spectators threatening or assaulting game officials and/or players before, during or at the conclusion of any sanctioned game.

Verbal abuse and insulting behaviour of game officials by a team, team officials or spectators is a breach of the BCSA Rule 11 - Discipline, and subject to disciplinary action.

If instructed to do so by a game official, the Team official must speak to the individual and request them to cease and desist. If the Team official refuses to follow the referees instructions or the misconduct continues, the referee has several options including abandoning the game.

See Part 13 of the BCSA Discipline Policies for more details

Team Official ejection

There is a misconception that a referee must show a yellow card to a team official as a warning, or a red card to eject the official. Cards are to be displayed to players only. A referee simply has to tell the Team official to leave the area or point away from the field. Also a referee does not have to give a team official a warning before an ejection. If in the opinion of the referee the team official is abusive, insulting or continues to question calls he/she may immediately eject the official from the sidelines.

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Meaning of Suspension

The referee must report to the appropriate authority any misconduct or misdemeanor on the part of spectators, team officials, players, named substitutes or other persons which take place either on the field of play or in its vicinity at anytime prior to, during or after the match in question so that appropriate action can be taken by the authority concerned.

1. It is understood that any registered player or team official who is sent from the field of play or reported for misconduct, shall automatically be suspended from participating in the following league match, league cup or Provincial Cup match of their team.

Interpretation: The next game whether league or cup game, whichever comes first.

- a) The rules regarding discipline do not differentiate between games that are completed or abandoned for any reason. Therefore, the penalty for being cautioned or expelled from a game remains the same regardless of the situation surrounding the games outcome.
 - b) Suspensions shall be served for a continuous period, or for consecutive games, except where there is a break in the competition, in which case the suspension may be:
 - i) Continued accordingly
 - ii) Continued during 'the active season'
 - c) Players or team officials shall not participate in any sanctioned soccer activity while under suspension which includes:
 - i) Acting as a game official;
 - ii) Coaching in any way, either verbally or by hand signals or assisting the team in any way;
 - iii) Shall not be in match strip while standing with team members during any match.
 - iv) Shall not participate in any exhibition match or tournament without the written permission of the discipline committee that rendered the decision.
2. The suspension/s may carryover into any sanctioned activity, including tournament and exhibition matches, but shall not constitute the serving of the suspension/s.
 3. Breaching the suspension shall result in a further suspension as determined by a discipline committee of the Association, District, League-in-Membership or Inter-district league.

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4. Individuals having served their one game suspension shall be eligible to play or act as team officials ***until their case is dealt with***, unless otherwise advised or indicated in these guidelines pursuant to Rule 11 paragraph “m” iii).
5. A Discipline Hearing Committee may:
 - a) Pursuant to Rule 11, paragraph “b”, a Discipline Committee may reprimand, suspend, fine and/or bond (with or without suspension) with the exception; any player under the age of 18 at the time of registration, may not be assessed a fine.
 - b) May set timelines for payment of fines or bonds, and may set further terms of punishment for non-compliance.

Automatic Game Suspensions:

1. A player or team official sent from the field of play for misconduct or who engages in conduct for which the penalty under FIFA Laws of the Game would be expulsion from the field or game, ***shall be suspended without hearing and without appeal, from the following League or Cup game.***** The player or team official, having served the one game suspension shall be eligible to resume play, coach, manage or officiate unless additional penalty has been assessed by the players home District discipline committee . The one game suspension shall be carried from one season to the next if not served prior to the completion of the season in which it was issued.
2. A player who accumulates three (3) official cautions (Yellow cards) within a period of one playing season shall be automatically suspended without hearing and without appeal from the player’s following League or Cup game. After having served the one game suspension, the player shall be eligible to resume play unless notified that further disciplinary action is being considered. The one game suspension shall be carried from one season to the next if not served prior to the completion of the season in which it was accumulated.

*****Interpretation:*** The *very next game whether league or cup competition, boys, girls, mens or women.*

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Entering the Field of Play:

Dealing with injured players

Referees must follow the instructions below when dealing with injured players:

- *Play is allowed to continue until the ball is out of play if player is, in his opinion, only slightly injured.*
- *Play is stopped is, in his opinion, a player is seriously injured*
- *After questioning the injured player, the referee authorizes one, or at most two team officials, to enter the field to ascertain the type of injury and to arrange the player's safe and swift removal from the field.*
- *The referee ensures an injured player is safely removed from the field.*
- *A player is not allowed to be treated on the field.*
- *Any player bleeding from a wound must leave the field of play. He may not return until the referee is satisfied that the bleeding is stopped.*
- *Any player with exposed blood on any part of their uniform or body must leave the field of play, injured or not, and cannot return until is removed or concealed..*
- *As soon as the referee has authorized the trainer or coach to enter the field, the player must leave the field, either on a stretcher or on foot. If a player does not comply he is cautioned for unsporting behaviour.*
- *An injured player may only return to the field after the match has restarted.*
- *An injured player may only re-enter the field from the touchline when the ball is in play. When the ball is out of play, the injured player may re-enter from any of the boundary lines.*
- *The referee alone is authorized to allow an injured player re-enter the field whether the ball is in play or not.*
- *If play has not otherwise been stopped for another reason, or if an injury suffered by a player is not the result of a breach of the Laws of the Game, the referee restarts play with a dropped ball.*
- *The referee allows for the full amount of time lost through injury to be played at the end of each period of play.*

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Exceptions

Exceptions to this ruling are made for:

- Injury to a goalkeeper
- When a goalkeeper and an outfield player have collided and need immediate attention.
- When a severe injury has occurred e.g. swallowed tongue, concussion, broken leg etc.

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Appendix B - Contacts

League

Chair	Pete Skinner
Vice Chair	
Secretary/Treasurer	Noreen Miles
Scheduler	Brian McIntosh
Protest Committee co-chairs	Craig Nichols & Gord Johnston
Coastal Classic Cup	Ken Wensink

Discipline:

North Shore	Chris appleby Appleby-@shaw.ca
North District	Gord Johnston - gord-john@shaw.ca
Central Fraser Valley	Steve Horvath - shorvath23310@shaw.ca
Vancouver Richmond	David Joseph - david@csmountingsystems.com
South District	

Directors/ District Reps:

North Shore Youth	Brian McIntosh Greg Blewett
North District Girls	Pete Skinner Noreen Miles Gord Johnson
Vancouver/Richmond	Steve Fleck Neil Humphery
Central Fraser Valley Girls	Steve Horvath
South District Girls	Steve Allen

Stats coordinators

U18	Pete and Marj Dragan
U17	Pete Skinner
U16	Greg Blewett
U14-U15	Rob and Mairi Lennox
U12-U13	Craig Nichols

And a host of volunteers

League Communications

Mail address: 24969 Marshal Ave, Maple Ridge, BC, V4R 1S4

Fax: 604-467-3945

Email: 5d_girls_league@telus.net

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Schedules and standings: <http://www.bcsoccercentral.com>

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Five Districts

Central Fraser Valley Girls (CFV)

Chair: Martin Prus
Ph: 604-504-0401
Fax:
Email:
Website:

Clubs:

Abbotsford Soccer Association	Langley Girls Soccer Association
Aldergrove Soccer	Langley United Youth Soccer Association
Chilliwack Youth Soccer Association	Mission Soccer Club

North District Girls (ND)

Chair: Pete Skinner
Fax: 604-476-0647
Email: ndgsa@telus.net
Website: <http://www.northdistrictgirlssoccer.ca>

Clubs:

Burnaby Girls Soccer Club	Port Coquitlam Football Club
Cliff Avenue Football Club	Port Moody Soccer Club
Coquitlam City Soccer Club	Pitt Meadows Soccer Club
North Coquitlam Soccer Club	Royal City Youth Soccer Club
Golden Ears United Soccer Club	

North Shore (NS)

Co Chairs: Jane Blaiklock
Fax:
Email:
Website: <http://www.northshoredistrictsoccer.com>

Clubs:

West Vancouver Soccer Club	Squamish Youth Soccer Association
North Shore Girls Soccer Club	Whistler Youth Soccer Association
Sunshine Coast Youth Soccer Association	

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South District Girls (SD)

Chair: Steve Allen
Fax:
Email: big_dog@telus.net
Website:

Clubs:

Guildford Athletic Club	Surrey Youth Soccer Association
Ladner Girls Soccer Club	Surrey United Soccer Club
Semiahmoo Girls Soccer Club	Tsawwassen Soccer Club
Sur-Del Girls Soccer	Whalley Soccer Club
Surrey Beavers Athletic Association Girls Soccer Club	

Vancouver/Richmond Girls (VRGSA)

Chair: John Falcos
FAX: 604-323-2673
Email: john.falcos@classiccuisinefoods.com
Web site: <http://www.vrgsa.ca/>

CLUBS:

Douglas Park Soccer Club	Kerrisdale Soccer Club
Dunbar Soccer Club	Marpole Soccer Club
Grandview Legion Soccer Club	Point Grey Soccer Association
Italian Canadian Sports Federation (ICSF)	Richmond Girls Soccer Association
Kensington Little Mountain Soccer Association	Vancouver Eastside Girls Soccer Association (VEGSA)
Killarney Youth Soccer Association	

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Appendix C – Schedule of Fines

Schedule of Fines and Performance Bonds

Offense	Penalty	Details
C1. Team found to be the cause of an Abandoned Game without just cause.	Loss of points and fine and/or posting of a performance bond	1 st Offense in one season – \$100 Fine and \$200 Performance Bond 2 nd offense in season - \$200 fine and \$400 performance bond
C2. Postponing a game without League Authorization	Loss of points for both teams and posting of performance bond	1 st Offense in one season – \$200 performance bond to each team 2 nd Offense in one season - \$200 fine and posting of \$400 performance bond
C3. Failure to be ready to play at scheduled game time without just cause.	Loss of points + costs and/or Performance bond.	All costs for game officials and field lining will be levied against the offending team.
C4. Forfeiture of game without just cause	Fine and possible performance bond	\$100 fine plus game official costs. League may also impose a performance bond of up to \$200. For each succeeding game forfeited the fine and performance bond shall double
C5. Failure to supply a qualified Referee		Each offense \$40 payable by District
C6. Failure to supply two Assistant Referees for U16 and up		Each offense \$20 for each Assistant Referee not provided. Payable by District
C7. Withdrawal of team once Schedule is distributed.		\$100 fine to District
C8. Failure to comply with deadlines to provide team affiliation information to League		To be determined

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Appendix D – Field markings

Regulation Soccer Field Dimensions

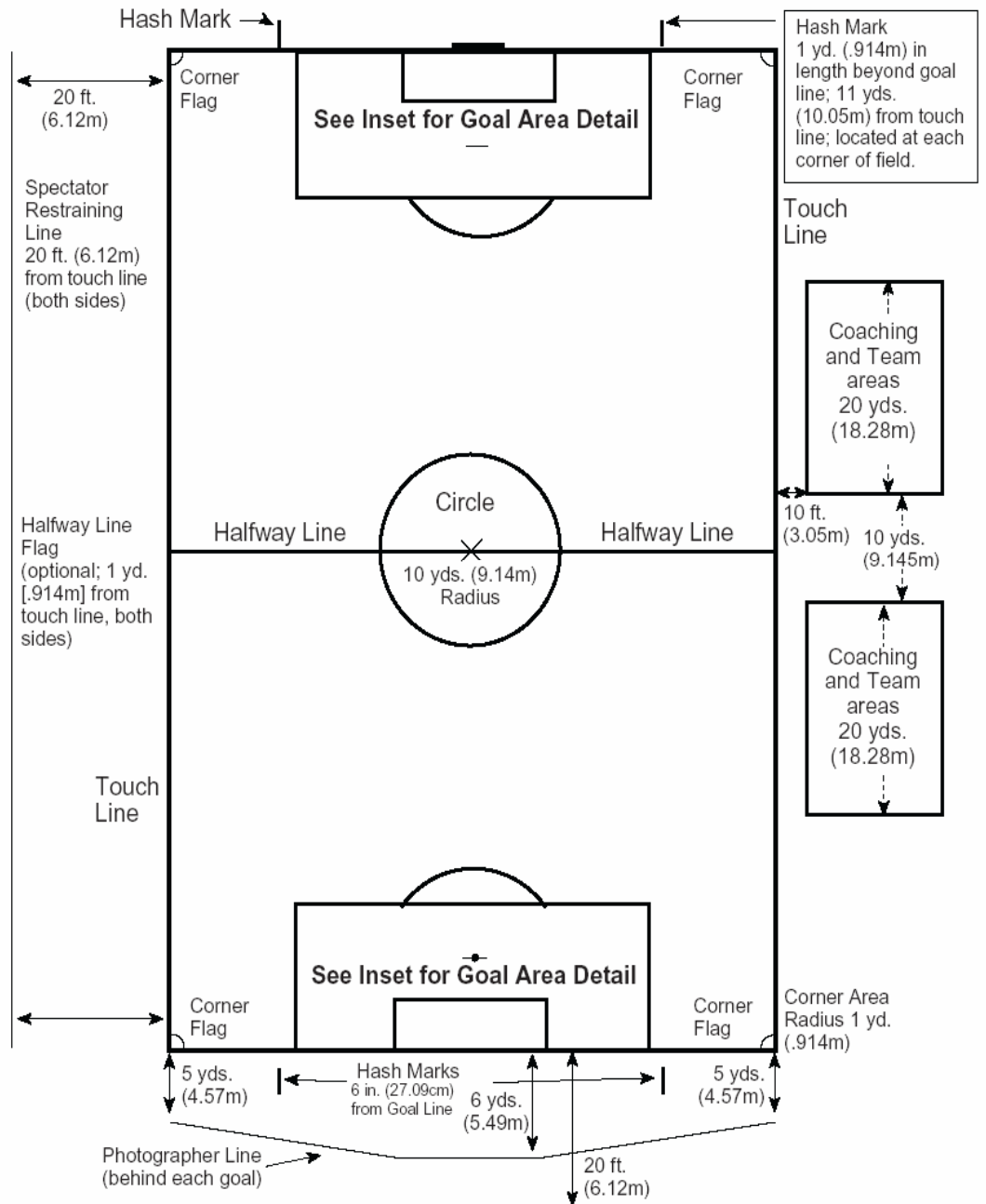
Note: This field diagram is provided as a courtesy service of Markers, Inc. If you have any question about this diagram, please contact your league office.

Field Dimensions SECTION 1.

a. The field of play shall be rectangular, the width of which shall not exceed the length.
 b. The width shall not be more than 80 yards [73.15m] nor less than 65 yards [59.44m] and the length shall not be more than 120 yards [109.73m] nor less than 110 yards [100.58m]; however, fields of less than minimal dimensions may be used by prior written mutual consent of the competing institutions. The optimum size is 75 yards [68.58m] by 120 yards [109.73m].

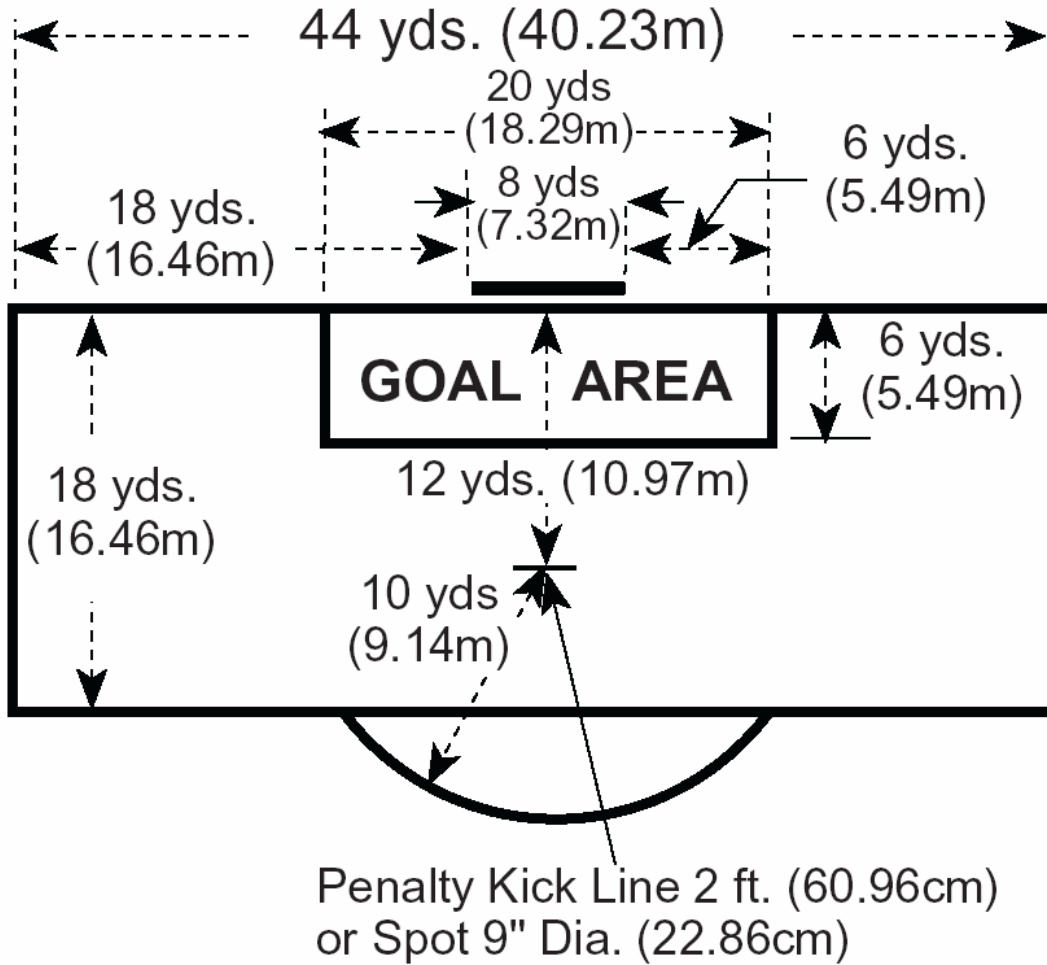
Facilities constructed after September 1995 must be a minimum of 70 yards [64.01m] in width by 115 yards [105.15m] in length.

Note: For marking purposes, the measurement of any line interfacing with any other line must be taken from the outside of the line to the outside of the other line.



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Goal Area Details



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Appendix E – Reference Material: School Calendar

DESIGNATION	2006/2007	2007/2008
Days in session	194	194
Minimum number of days of instruction	187	187
Maximum number of non-instructional days	6	6
Schools open	September 5	September 4
Thanksgiving Day	October 9	October 8
Remembrance Day	November 13	November 12
Schools close for winter vacation	Friday December 22	Friday December 21
Winter vacation period	December 25 - January 5	December 24- - January 4
Schools reopen after Winter vacation	Monday January 8	Monday January 7
Schools close for Spring vacation	Friday March 16	Friday March 14
Spring vacation period	March 19-23	March 17-21
Schools reopen after Spring vacation	Monday March 26	Wednesday March 26
Good Friday	April 6	March 21
Easter Monday	April 9	March 24
Victoria Day	May 21	May 19
Administrative day	Friday June 29	Friday June 27
Schools close	Friday June 29	Friday June 27

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Appendix F – Forfeiture Request Form

Date and time scheduled match: _____
If make-up game, please provide original week scheduled date:: _____
Game Officials Name and Number: _____
Field Location: _____

Home Team:
Club: _____ Nickname: _____
Head Coach: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Visiting Team:
Club: _____ Nickname: _____
Head Coach: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Team Requesting the Forfeit: Home: _____ Visiting: _____

Reason For Forfeit Request:

- _____ Team used an ineligible player (a player not registered to the team or a player under suspension)
- _____ Insufficient players to start the game.
- _____ Last minute cancellations by team due to insufficient players
- _____ Failure of a team to show up for a game.
- _____ Causing a game to be abandoned
- _____ Failure of the opposing team to accept rescheduled match dates and times in correspondence to section **3.4.1 Rules for scheduling make up games**. To claim this reason this form must be accompanied by copies of all communications showing that the procedure was followed.

Additional Comments: _____

OFFICIAL USE ONLY:	
Date Received: _____	Division _____
	Week Number _____
Opposing Team Contacted: _____	Date: _____
Comments: _____	
Game Official Contacted: _____	Date: _____
Comments: _____	
Forfeiture Decision:	
Accepted: _____	Declined: _____
Reason: _____	
Notification of Stats Collector: _____	Date: _____