



Proposed Rule Changes

Rule 3-2 - Hierarchy of Competition Levels in U21 Divisions

Revision:

(1) Teams are required to play two seasons in the U21 division prior to moving to open divisional play. Teams will then be placed in a division where, in the assessment of the League, they are best suited to compete.

(1.1) Teams that wish to stay in the U21 division after the initial two-year minimum must meet the age criteria and apply to the League for this consideration.

Existing:

(1) U21 A, U21 B

(2) Teams are required to play two seasons in the U21 division prior to moving to open divisional play. Teams will then be placed in a division where, in the assessment of the League, they are best suited to compete.

(2.1) Teams that wish to stay in the U21 division after the initial two-year minimum must meet the age criteria and apply to the League for this consideration.

Logic: Removal of two-tier hierarchy within division in light of past participation when division had teams. Change is administrative at the moment as no teams currently in U21 division.

Rule 4-2 –Minimum Player Age Requirements

Revision:

(1) Premier, Selects A & B do not have a minimum age restriction. For Divisions 1-5 and U-21 players must be 16 years of age by December 31st of the current year.

Existing:

(1) Premier, Selects A & B do not have a minimum age restriction. For Divisions 1-5 and U-21 players must have turned 17 years of age by December 31st of the current year.

Logic: Reduced the eligible age from 17 to 16 to reduce age as a barrier to participation along with standardization of language regarding age across all division rules.

Rule 4-11 – Affiliated Team Permits

Addition:

- (3.4) No players may play on an Affiliated Team Permit within the same division in a League Cup game.

Logic: Maintain consistency of language across all player permit categories.

Rule 4-12 – Masters Division Players

Revision

(1) This division is restricted to players who must be 30 years of age and older by December 31st of the current year.

(4) Any new players joining a Masters team must be 30 before December 31st of the current year.

Existing:

(1) This division is restricted to players who will be 30 years of age and older by December 31st of the current year.

(4) Any new players joining a Masters team must turn 30 before December 31st of the current year.

Logic: Standardization of language regarding age across all division rules.

Rule 4-13 – Over 40's Division Players (with subsequent renumbering in this section)

Addition:

(1) This division is restricted to players who must be 40 years of age and older by December 31st of the current year.

(2) Teams applying to play in the Over 40's division must have at least 12 players who are 40 years of age or older.

(3) Teams applying to play in the Over 40's division are allowed to “grandfather” up to three (3) underage players when they first enter the Over 40's division but those players must be 37 or older by December 31st of the current year.

(4) Any new players joining an Over 40's team must be 40 before December 31st of the current year.

(5) Any grandfathered players under the age of 40 will be eligible to play in all League and League Cup matches but must adhere to BC Soccer Rules and Regulations for eligibility in any Masters Provincial Cup matches.

Logic: Due to creation of Over-40's division, addition of language which is consistent with other established divisions.