



Action Bulletin

Bulletin #	AB_2021-03
Date	October 13, 2021
To	Full Members, Associate Members, and affiliated clubs
CC	Board of Directors, Staff
From	Jason Elligott, Executive Director
Subject	Safe Sport Update and New Universal BC Code of Conduct

In May 2020, BC Soccer released its [Response to the Safe Sport Program Assessment Report](#) which identified how the association was actioning against the independent recommendations. BC Soccer is pleased to update the members and affiliated clubs that five of the ten (#1, 2, 4, 5 & 8) recommendations have been fully achieved, with three (#3, 7 & 9) having made good progress on and the remaining two (#6 & 10) under review.

BC Soccer believes that everyone involved in soccer has the right to participate in safe and inclusive environments free of abuse, harassment, discrimination, and to enjoy the sport at whatever level or capacity they participate in. The welfare of everyone involved in soccer is the foremost consideration and in particular, the protection of children in the sport is the responsibility of everyone involved.

As part of this commitment, BC Soccer's staff and board have completed [Commit to Kids training](#) and encourage all those involved in soccer within our members, and beyond, to do the same.

BC Soccer has also aligned to the [Canada Soccer's "Safe Sport Roster"](#), including committing to the [Responsible Coaching Movement Pledge](#), and implementing rules requiring:

"Team officials of any youth team shall consist of a minimum of one member of the same gender as the players on the team. This team official must be present on the bench and in the changing rooms.

All interactions between a team official and an individual player must take place within earshot and in view of other individual (team officials, players, parents, match officials and/or association officials).

All directors and every volunteer, employee, or contractor of BC Soccer or an affiliated BC Soccer organization aged 19 years or older must have a clear and/or completed Criminal Record Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check or Enhanced Police Information Check on file in accordance with BC Soccer's Criminal Record Check Policy. See the "Risk Management – Criminal Record Checks" tab below for more details."

New British Columbia Universal Code of Conduct

As communicated in the [Response to the Safe Sport Program Assessment Report](#), BC Soccer, represented by its Executive Director, has been an active member of ViaSport's Safe Sport Committee. The focus of the committee has been the development of a [BC Universal Code of Conduct](#) for the Sport Sector, which has now been approved by ViaSport's Board of Directors. As part of our commitment to ensuring sport is safe, BC Soccer is supplementing its current Code of Conduct and Policies with language that further aligns with the new B.C. Universal Code of Conduct.

Updated BC Soccer Code is [available here](#).

Being that all members and affiliated organizations of BC Soccer must comply with the bylaws, rules, regulations, policies, and directives, organizations are encouraged to review the details within the [BC Universal Code of Conduct](#) and update all applicable policies accordingly.

For more detailed information, please visit [BC Soccer's Safe Sport page](#).

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