

BCPFA AGM Package

Fiscal Year 2023

Annual General Meeting
August 11th, 2024

2024 AGM AGENDA

BC Provincial Football Association
AGM Agenda
Saturday, August 11, 2024 @ 10 am
Executive Inn, Coquitlam & Via ZOOM

1. Call Meeting to Order:

2. Introductions:

- 2.1: Voting Delegates
- 2.2: Guests and Observers

3. Quorum

- 3.1 Establishment of Quorum

4. Adoption of Agenda:

- 4.1 Additions or changes

5. Approval of 2023 AGM Minutes:

- 5.1 Business arising from 2023 Minutes

6. BC Lions Report

7. Organizational Reports:

- 7.1 President's Report
- 7.2 Treasurer's Report
- 7.3 Vice President Report
- 7.4 Executive Director Report
- 7.5 Football Operations Manager's Report
- 7.6 Communication Manager Report

8. Member Directors Reports

- 8.1 U23 Committee
- 8.2 U19 Committee
- 8.3 Officials Committee

9. Election of Directors

- 9.1 Officers
- 9.2 Member Directors

10. Adjournment

Presidents Report

The past 18 months have been busy across our football community, and I wish to thank all the league and club volunteers for their efforts to help build a healthy football community in British Columbia.

Growing Football in BC

For the second year in a row, we have affiliated additional clubs. Since our last AGM, the BCPFA has accepted the newly formed Penticton Minor Football Club as members and welcomed back the Ladysmith Minor Football Club to our association. We will continue our efforts to expand minor football across the province. This year we welcomed a new adult flag football league to our affiliation. The British Columbia Adult Flag Football League (BCAFFL) had a truly amazing first year and we excited to include them in the 2024 Provincial Flag Football Championships. A huge thank you to Drew Kightley and the rest of his volunteers for their efforts.

Hosting

Over the past 12 months the BCPFA has once again hosted the Provincial Flag and Provincial Tackle Championships. The organizing team once again delivered incredible events that showcased our very talented athletes. I wish to extend my deepest appreciation to all the volunteers who helped make these events such a great success. The BCPFA also hosted the 2024 Senior National Flag Championships in Kamloops. This event welcomed adult flag teams from across Canada to British Columbia and demonstrated once again that the City of Kamloops is truly the Tournament Capital of Canada. I wish to extend my gratitude Melisa Dyck for all your help in delivering a successful championship.

Looking Forward

The BCPFA will continue in our efforts to make football a safe and growing sport. We fully recognize that growing a safe and fun sport requires a team effort with all stakeholders working on common goals. With this in mind, the BCPFA will be updating our current strategic plan to help provide all our stakeholders with a unified vision for the growth and development of football in British Columbia.

Board and Staff

I would like to also recognise the efforts of our board members and staff. The 2023/24 period has seen our association offer more programs and host even more events. Their collective efforts have been invaluable both on and off the field.

Kevin Parks
President

Executive Director Report – Keith Ryan

The BCPFA has had much to celebrate since the forming of our new provincial association in 2017. Our association has passed many critical milestones. This includes being recognised as the official provincial body for the sport of football by the Government of BC, being accepted as Football Canada’s provincial member, and more recently welcoming our minor football clubs as direct members of the BCPFA. However, we have much work to do if the sport of football is to reach its full potential in British Columbia.

Capacity for Growth

With approximately 5000 registered players across both flag and tackle, British Columbia has one of the lowest football participation rates of all the provinces. In addition, there are a great many communities in BC who have no opportunities for children to play minor football. This includes communities such as Squamish, Merritt, Whistler, Prince Rupert and Nelson.

Coaching Standards/Coaching Development

With few exceptions, the sport of football across Canada lacks a progressive approach to developing new and existing coaches. This has a direct impact on the playing experience of our participants. There are historic reasons for why the sport of football lacks a dynamic approach to developing coaches. Not least of which is a lack of investment and leadership from both Football Canada and the previous provincial association in BC. The past 3 years has seen the BCPFA steadily improve its delivery of coach certifications and provide additional coach development opportunities. Our association will continue to invest more funding to support the development of all coaches. However, the development of coaches is a collective responsibility, and we will be looking to all our clubs and Football Canada to take a more progressive approach to this issue.

Flag Referee Development

The past 2 years have seen Football Canada make substantial improvements to the delivery of flag referee certifications. This includes an online portal for the delivery of flag certification content. In February 2024, an in-person flag officials’ certification was delivered to over 40 participants as part of our inaugural coach conference held at Simon Fraser University. Looking forward, the BCPFA will be investing more resources into the development of flag officials. This will help ensure the clubs, leagues and our own provincial championships are officiated by well-trained referees.

Administration

The BCPFA will be switching to a new registration platform for 2025. To support this change, onboarding and training for the new TeamLinkt platform will commence in September and October. The new platform has zero admin fees and the standard credit card processing fees. Also, clubs will no longer have to collect fees and then pay an invoice from the BCPFA. Instead the fees for both our organization and Football Canada will be deposited directly with each respective organization.

Vice President Finance – Janis Clark

In 2024, the BCPFA completed a full audit of our financial operations. This is a substantial undertaking for an organization with limited operational resources and substantial programs/events. Completing a full audit is yet another important milestone in the advancement and growth of our organization. More specifically, it reassures all our stakeholders and funding partners that we operate to the highest financial standards. We are unaware of any other football society in British Columbia completing a full audit of their financial operations.

Our financial footprint continues to grow each year, and we expect our revenues to exceed \$1m in 2024. This represents a tripling in our financial operations over 5 years

Fee Increase 2025

The BCPFA will be implementing a \$10 fee increase for 2025 to address the high costs of hosting the provincial championships as well as increases in other operating costs.

Background

Under the previous membership structure which had clubs affiliating through the BC Community Football, each player paid the following fees:

2021 Player Fees

BCCFA Fee	\$20
BCPFA Membership Fee	\$13
BCPFA Insurance Fee	\$10
Football Canada Fee	\$15
Total	\$58

2024 Player Fees

BCPFA Membership Fee	\$13
BCPFA Insurance Fee	\$10
BCPFA Coach Levy	\$5
Football Canada Fee	\$15
Total	\$43

The above chart demonstrates that families have paid \$15 less for each player registered with the BCPFA than under the previous membership structure.

For 2025, the fee structure will be as follows:

BCPFA Membership Fee	\$13
BCPFA Competition Fee	\$10
BCPFA Insurance Fee	\$10
BCPFA Coach Levy	\$5
Football Canada Fee	\$15
Total	\$53

Football Operations – Cory Philpot

Team BC ID camps started in January as coaches travelled across the province looking for athletes to compete for Team BC. Cory, Janet and Jaymee took the lead on planning and implementation of the Team BC tackle selections process.

There were 2 camps on the Island, 2 in the Interior and 3 on the Lower Mainland. Players identified were eligible to come to a Call Back camp to finalize a group of players moving forward to Main Camp. Team BC rosters were then selected from the top performers at Main Camp.

The format was different from previous years and there was a lot of positive feedback. Plans are currently underway to make it even better for next year including field booking, coach recruitment, structure, and relationship building with stakeholders.

Both U16 and U17 teams medaled, and we are proud of their accomplishments. Our U18 team didn't have the results we hoped for, but we are working on building our program for next year.

Events for younger athletes have taken us to the Island and South of the Border. This upcoming year, we will have more opportunities to develop these up-and-coming players.

Looking forward to enhancing on our programming and helping build football in BC.

19U Report – Jason Gillis

It's been a great year of football for the U19 division. All the zones represented have seen growth at all ages. Congratulations to all the teams that won championships over this past year and good luck to our teams representing BC at the upcoming flag national championships in Brampton ON in August. Best of luck to all teams in BC as we start the fall tackle season, and we look forward to seeing who makes to the Provincial Championships in November.

BC Adult Flag Football League Report - Drew Kightley

In February of 2024 we saw the birth of the newly formed Adult Flag Football League here in BC. This league was and is designed differently to all other options in BC as we are the only sanctioned adult flag football league in BC under the PSO (BCPFA). Our goal was to create and design a league that had a pathway for both our youth players in BC but also our adults in BC.

This league see's three separate divisions designed and played from March to June and again from September to November. We offer men's 5v5, women's 5v5 and through the spring coed 7v7 which in fall 2024 will turn into 5v5. In partnership with the BCPFA we were able to give this season a pathway to provincials and then ultimately having 5 teams participate in Nationals.

As we progressed through the season lots of learnings took place and lots of overall ideas and improvements that can be made as we move forward into 2025 and beyond. In July of 2024 we hosted our first ever International Open at South Surrey Athletic Park. This tournament saw teams from across Canada and the USA come together and compete. The main goal of this tournament is to give all our BC players more exposure to the international side of the game and also give them the chance to create, form and plan for upcoming seasons, travel and overall experience that the game offers.

For fall of 2024 we have made the decisions to stay the course and offer games on Sundays, keeping us playing all year on Sundays and allowing for planning earlier and quicker, also allowing teams and players to play in multiple other versions of the game.

Plans are in motion now for 2025 for scheduling and growth of the game. Our goal for 2025 is to see a min of 20% increase in teams and registration. We have split the divisions into Elite and Rec allowing for more opportunities for more people to play and have fun. We hope that with the help from the BCPFA we will see this growth and have more graduating players seeing there is an option and pathway here in BC to Nationals and beyond.

BCFOA Report - Nigel Bushe

Our season ended with the all-star game at SFU in blizzard conditions. I think the players enjoyed the novelty of playing in the snow. A snowball fight between the benches broke out late in the game. Recruiting/interest is steady in the LMD and Interior. Still waiting on actual numbers.

Community Football

No issues to be reported. All went well for year one of a three-year contract with interior and Island community football. The community football championships took place in Langley. Despite the fog everything went well. Again, we reached out to the LMFRA and had several of their officials take part.

Lots of effort over the year with talks, messages and meetings to bring the LMFRA under our wing. Their executive refused to bring the proposal to their membership and in Dec of 2023 they declined our proposal. Jason Gillis reached out and brought the parties together again in early 2024. We provided a written proposal. The LMFRA countered with their own proposal which was basically status quo. We adjusted our proposal and pushed for them to take it to their membership and have a vote. One of their executive finally convinced them to take it to their membership. They set up a special meeting in June. I along with other BCFOA executive attended to for any questions they may have. They had about 16 people attend (including online) which they said was a quorum. Vote had only six in favour which were the LMFRA members that are also BCFOA members.

Moving forward I reached out to Jason Gillis to discuss the VMFL contract. We have come to an agreement, and we will be looking after them for the next 3 years. The BCFOA executive with consultation from Jason and BCFOA/LMFRA members put together a list of potential LMFRA officials to be invited to join us. The personal emails will be sent out over the weekend of July 27th. We have already had a couple LMFRA members approach us and have submitted their applications.

High School

A committee to look at High School vs Canadian mechanics made several recommendations. Those recommendations will be implemented for the upcoming season. This will assist greatly as we take on community games in the LMD. Several new recruits for High School have expressed an interest in also doing community ball. Even the ones that just want to do High school will be used for the tournaments in Aug to give them on field exposure. We also have several experienced High School officials that will be out for community ball this Fall.

BCFC

Throughout this past season there were numerous and regular discussions with the president of the BCFC and the BCFOA executive. We have a great working relationship with Tyler. We were also invited and attended the recent presidents meeting. We will be doing that again.

Getting officials for Prince George was still a challenge last year. Although we have become better planners in organizing getting people up there. This year already we are engaging people and getting flights well in advance. This helps the league keep their costs down. The Canadian Bowl was held in Langford on a rainy cold day. A great crowd was on hand but they did not get the results they hoped for with Saskatoon prevailing. No issues from our perspective

Our new contract with BCFC has us returning to more 7 person crews. The last couple of years we reduced the number of officials from seven to six after the CFL pulled their funding for the 7th person. We also included an observer position for the games. This helps us with education and for game management should there be any problems. We utilized our BCFOA education funds, so evaluations were done on a very limited basis. That will continue for this year.

U Sport

Can West is now centralized for all game assignments and game fee billing. Local associations will assign support crews, identify officials for the panel and appoint the game supervisor.

Lots of extra games here in BC with UBC going all the way to the Vanier. First time since the 1990s that UBC has hosted the Mitchell Bowl. Brendan Dolan from Calgary was appointed as the new RIC for CanWest earlier this year.

BCPFA

As part of an ongoing agreement the BCPFA provides yearly funding for Provincial education that we track separately. This covers travel and expenses for our educators to deliver officiating level clinics. Again they were able to supplement with additional funds when the Football Canada money did not come through. We are hoping that money can come to us for 2024. We have budgeted our education programs for this year. If we do not receive that money many plans will have to be cancelled.

CFOA

Each year a committee made up of the CFOA executives request RIC applications for the Canada Cup (U18) the U16 and women's championships. This is done at the request of Football Canada as these events are funded in part by them. The rest of the funding comes from the PSO.

Bill Reynolds was selected as the RIC for the U16 in Regina. Unfortunately, he was unable to get their due to Westjet last minute cancellations. Tracy Paluzzi was selected as the RIC for the women's championships in Moncton. Congrats to both and thank you on behalf of the association for proudly representing us.

The CFOA on behalf of Football Canada requested additional officials for the World Junior Championships in Edmonton. One additional official from each province was selected.

Officials had to commit to the ten days and had to have championship experience at the CJFL and Usport levels.

Football Canada

The Officiating task force final draft report was given to the CFOA about a month ago. The report has wide sweeping changes on how officials are governed. The report has countless issues. The report recommended that all training be standardized across the country. This is confusing since FC just paid to have all the manuals updated and made available on line. That has been a joint project with the CFOA.

They called for the creation of an officiating commission to oversee all officials. Their responsibilities is exactly what the CFOA does now. The report called for greater involvement with IFAF. Other than this year, that usually involves only a couple of officials every one or two years. No benefit to Canadian officials. Different rules and mechanics. They called for a new data base for all officials. This goes against what was presented in Feb in Ottawa at the FC meetings. Another data base? Data that was used in the report was heavily weighted towards US and Australia statistics. The data does not reflect the reality here in Canada, despite all of our membership data being shared. We found out later that someone at FC had not opened our email.

The names listed on this Task Force shows only two officials. Daryl Baron the former RIC for Canwest. He was contacted and he knew nothing about this. Henry Chui the president of the CFOA was also named. He was only involved in the very first meeting and was never included after that. This is just a few issues that have been shared. The CFOA will be working on a response on behalf of all officials nationally.

The Canada Cup and U16 are the two biggest Football Canada events each year. Our representatives were Brad Dutchin for the U16 (Regina) and Jake Anderson for the Canada Cup (Regina). Despite issues at the Canada Cup both enjoyed their respective events and gained some valuable experience.

BC Lions 2023 Report – Jamie Taras

Amateur Football Coaching Clinic

On April 1, 2023, the Lions joined forces with High School Football to put on a coaching clinic for amateur football at Lord Tweedsmuir Secondary School.

Play With the Pros

- BC Lions players taught boys and girls the basics of football by having them participate in non-contact skills clinics.
- In 2023, the clinics involved over 450 kids between the ages of six and twelve.
- We held PWP clinics in Prince George, Kamloops and Surrey.

Punt, Pass & Kick

- Over 1,200 kids participated in this program in 2023.
- It was executed at 16 different associations.

The Punt, Pass & Kick finals were held on Saturday, Sept. 16th at BC Place.

Salute to Amateur Football

- On Sept. 16th, 2023 we invited all 2022 Amateur Football Championship teams to the game to be recognized.
- Recognized and invited Provincial Champions to the game. Donated over 1,500 game tickets to amateur football teams.
- Ten amateur football teams were invited to play on the field during the pre-game and halftime.
- Several Amateur Football Cheer Teams performed at the game.

50/50

- Net proceeds from all 50/50 draws at BC Lions home games as well as the playoff game are donated in support amateur football in BC.
- **\$50,896.57 to BCPFA in 2023 plus \$25,448.28 to be held in trust for scholarships**

Orange Friday Night Lights

- The BC Lions celebrated High School Football at a game on Oct. 27th between W.J. Mouat and G.W. Graham at Rotary Stadium in Abbotsford
- Bo Lokombo and members of the Uproar Dance Team joined in on the fun to make this a special experience for all involved.

BC High School Football Mentorship Program

New in 2023, the Lions teamed up with Surrey Schools and SaveOn Foods to send players out to three Surrey High schools (Lord Tweedsmuir, Earl Marriott and Sullivan Heights) to assist with practices over a four-week period.

Helmet Decals

The BC Lions worked with amateur football to distribute BC Lions decals to be worn on amateur football helmets across the province in recognition of our partnership.

BC Lions 2024 Amateur Football Initiatives

All of the 2023 initiatives will be continued

Coaches Clinic – April 13, 10am to 4pm at Centennial Highschool. In partnership with BCSSFA, all community coaches are welcome to attend, free of charge.

NEW Women's Flag – We will be hosting a clinic on April 29 in North Vancouver for women/girls ages 12 and up. We are also running a second clinic in Surrey on August 13.

BC Lions Game Dates featuring Amateur Football mini games –

- May 31 – Pre-Season – Pre-Game/Halftime
- Aug 18
- Sept 13 - vs Toronto – Pre-Game
- Oct 4th vs Calgary – Pre-Game
- Oct 19th vs MTL – Pre-Game/Halftime - Junior Uproar

Amateur Football Night – at our game on Saturday Oct. 19th, 4pm kickoff

Grey Cup Festival – We will have two mini-fields at the Convention Centre downtown and will be scheduling teams and activities for these fields during the Festival from Thursday November 16 through Saturday November 18 details TBD

PWP – May 18 in Kamloops and June 23 at our Surrey facility

Helmet Decals – We want you to continue to wear our BC Lions helmet decals if you need more decals let us know.

Amateur Football Ticketing Initiatives

2024 Quarterback Club – Starting at \$200 for a pair of season tickets

- Quarterback Club provides families registered in minor football throughout BC the opportunity to purchase a pair of season tickets for only \$200.00.
- They receive an opportunity to purchase Grey Cup tickets, a free youth ticket for a 2024 BC Lions regular season game, and on field experience, and a Quarterback Club patch.

Amateur Football Rebate program

- We will continue to offer this program in 2024 as a fundraiser for the clubs and cheer teams - \$5 back to your group for every group ticket purchased (Youth tickets are not eligible for the rebate)
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Youth tickets (17 and under) – All youth 17 and under can purchase a season ticket for as low as \$85.