

VIA EMAIL

May 30, 2018

Attention: BC Soccer Member Adult Leagues

Care of: President and/or Administrator

From: BC Soccer

Re: Adult Leagues International Transfer Certificate (ITC) & Provincial Transfer Certificate (PTC)

Given the unfortunate events that occurred during the Adult Provincial Cup Semi Finals, International Transfer Certificates (ITCs) and the treatment of players requiring ITCs has received new light.

Adult Leagues must register all players that participate in any programming (including training) put on by their organization or affiliated club/members. **To register with BC Soccer (via an Adult League/affiliated club) an individual must be eligible to register.**

Internationally, [FIFA Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players](#) “lay down global and binding rules concerning the status of players, their eligibility to participate in organised football (soccer), and their transfer between clubs belonging to different associations”.

While the intention may be primarily to govern the professional game and to ensure professional players manage the move to amateur, it applies equally in practice to the professional and amateur game.

As it relates to adults, if a player has registered to play sanctioned soccer within the last 30 months in another country, they must complete an ITC to become eligible to register for sanctioned soccer in Canada/BC.

FIFA’s Regulations on the Status and Transfer of Players state:

4 Termination of activity

- 1. Professionals who end their careers upon expiry of their contracts and amateurs who terminate their activity shall remain registered at the association of their last club for a period of 30 months.*
- 2. This period begins on the day the player made his last appearance for the club in an official match.*

9 International Transfer Certificate

- 1. Players registered at one association may only be registered at a new association once the latter has received an International Transfer Certificate (hereinafter: ITC) from the former association.*

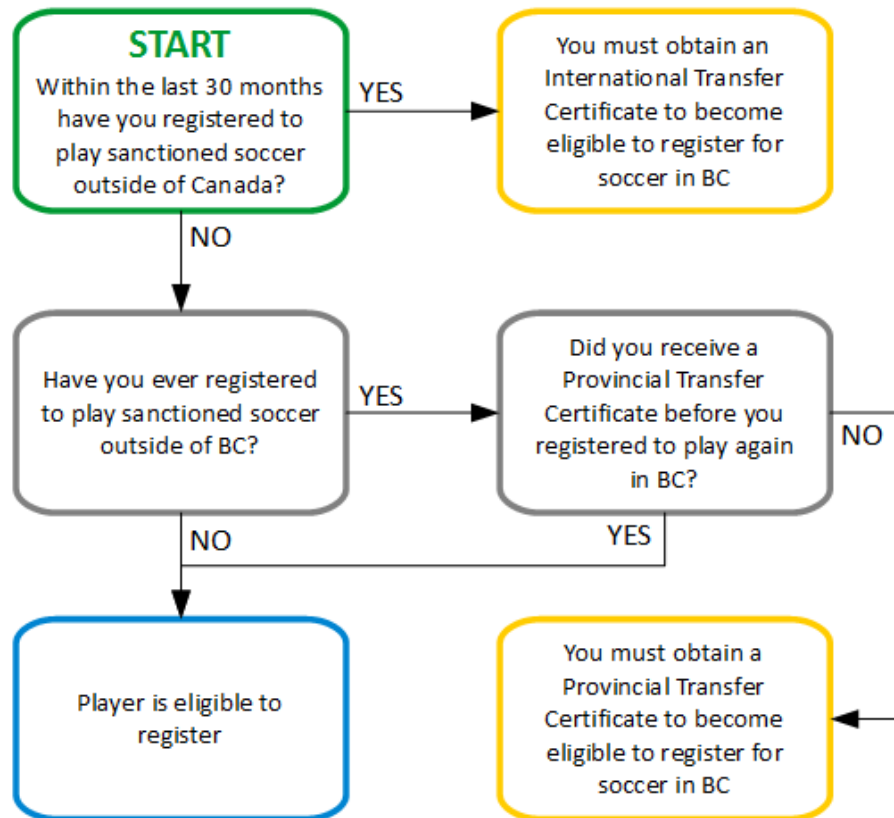
Moving into the 2018-2019 Registration Year, this means that even if a player registered to play in BC for this past 2017-2018 season, if they were registered in another country within 30 months, they would still need to complete an ITC if they have not already done so.

Domestically, Canada Soccer requires players to complete a Provincial Transfer Certificate if they have ever registered in one province/territory and then move to register to play soccer in another province/territory. Unlike FIFA, Canada Soccer has no 30-month termination of activity regulation.

As a member of BC Soccer, it is the responsibility of the Adult League registering players to establish whether a player requires an ITC or a PTC. At their discretion, a League may delegate this responsibility to their members.

It is important that players fill out their own registration forms as they best know their previous playing/registration history.

It is recommended that any adult registration form/process ask questions that will let a player know whether he/she is eligible to register, needs to obtain an International Transfer Certificate, or needs to obtain a Provincial Transfer Certificate:



When a Provincial Transfer Certificate or International Transfer Certificate is required, the certificate (or in some cases a provisional certificate) must be received in order for the player to be eligible to register.

The ITC and PTC processes begin with the club/team that the player would like to register with. The appropriate form needs to be completed and submitted to BC Soccer who will facilitate the release of the player from the last province/territorial/national body for which the player was registered. Seeking the release of a player from their previous association before submitting the forms will not speed up the process.

The forms, and more information about International Transfer Certificate Procedures can be found on BC Soccer's website: <https://bcsoccer.net/documents-forms>

Teams/Clubs/Leagues that are found to have played an ineligible player can be subject to considerable sanction. The team may forfeit all games in which the ineligible player was on the team roster; whether that player played in the game or not. There is no limit on how far back the forfeits might go. Additionally, the player, coach, team or club could be subject to indeterminate suspension or fine. Knowingly playing an ineligible player may bridge several areas of misconduct and be subject to multiple and progressive sanction.

Below are the relevant BC Soccer and Canada Soccer rules that govern player registration eligibility and provincial/international movement.

BC Soccer RULE 5 – PLAYER REGISTRATION

- f) Any player or official not registered with BC Soccer shall be determined to be ineligible to participate in league and cup competition under the jurisdiction of BC Soccer and not eligible for any benefit from membership in BC Soccer.*
- g) Failure to register all players by any district, league or affiliated association shall result in a directive from the Board leading to the expulsion and/or suspension of that district, league or affiliated association from BC Soccer. Such suspension or expulsion shall not commence for 10 working days from the date that the directive is delivered in writing to the district, league or affiliated association and shall remain in effect until the matter has been rectified to the satisfaction of the Board.*

Youth

- v) A youth age player shall be recognized as a registered player of BC Soccer once BC Soccer or designate validates the youth's application for membership, providing the applicant has met all eligibility requirements.*

Canada Soccer rule 5.13 Registration of Amateur Players

- 1. *Restriction of Players*
 - i. All other amateur players must register with Canada Soccer through their Provincial/Territorial Association.*

Canada Soccer rule 6.3 Amateur Players – Out-of-Province Requests

- a) After registering with one club, a player may not play with another club (in a different Provincial/Territorial Association) in the same season unless the registered player requests a transfer to another club by giving notice in writing to his or her club at least seven days before transferring. The Club shall then submit the transfer request to the Secretary of the Provincial/Territorial Association for approval. The transfer will take immediate effect upon approval by the Provincial/Territorial Association.*
- e) When a transfer request is approved by the Provincial/Territorial Association, an Inter-Provincial Transfer Certificate will be issued to the new Provincial/Territorial Association.*
- f) A player obtaining an approved transfer may re-register with the new club in the following seasons regardless of residency requirements.*

BC Soccer hopes this notice provides some clarity on the requirements of ITCs and PTCs. BC Soccer looks forward to working with the adult leagues to ensure proactive addressing of players with the need for an ITC or PTC to ensure that all players on team are in fact eligible to play.

Kind regards,

BC Soccer