



# **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

## **(as revised May 30, 2018)**

### **Section 1 – Governance**

- 1.1. The VMSL is a registered not-for-profit entity under the BC Society Act.
- 1.2. All competition in the league is governed by the VMSL Board of Directors.
- 1.3. The VMSL operates under its own Constitution and Bylaws, as well as pursuant to the BC Soccer Association's.

### **Competition Rules and Regulations**

- 1.4. Discipline will be applied according to the VMSL Discipline Policies and Procedures.

### **Section 2 – League Fee**

- 2.1. The Board of Directors shall establish the Annual Membership fees, subject to approval of the membership at the Annual General Meeting. The fees shall be payable at a date fixed by the Board of Directors.

#### **League Fees**

- (a) VMSL Team Registration fee \$350.00
- (b) BCSA Team Registration fee \$50.00
- (c) Player registration fee \$50.00
- (d) Player transfer fee \$20.00
- (f) Fields fees will be charged according to a team's fields usage
- (g) Performance bond for new team \$500.00

Bonds for clubs existing as of the rule change in 2013 are grandfathered at the existing rate of \$250.00 per team. The bond may be increased by the Board of Directors for teams, who, by their conduct, show a disregard for the Laws of the Game, the Bylaws, and/or the Rules and Regulations of the VMSL.

### **Section 3 – Competition Prize Tokens and Provincial / National Competition Subsidies**

- 3.1. Divisional competition prize money may be established and funded by the clubs within each division and shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The VMSL will match premier division prize money funded by the clubs.



3.2. The VMSL will match the BCSA travel grants (currently \$500 per trip) that VMSL teams in provincial cup play receive for travel to Vancouver Island.

3.3. The VMSL will match the BCSA travel grants (currently \$1000) that VMSL teams in national championship play receive for travel outside of BC.

## **Section 4 – Schedule**

4.1. The VMSL Board of Directors shall be responsible for the scheduling of all VMSL games.

4.2. The VMSL Board of Directors shall appoint all game officials.

4.3. In the event that a match cannot continue through to full regulation time due to inclement weather or extenuating circumstances, it will resume within the next 24 hours (or some other date/time agreed upon by the competing teams and the VMSL) starting at the same minute that the match was originally suspended and with the same score, accumulation of cards (if there were any) and the same players that were listed on the teams' rosters and were present at the game at the time it was suspended. The VMSL Board of Directors shall have discretionary powers to decide whether unfinished games are to be replayed or the game declared officially completed.

4.4. The VMSL Board of Directors may institute temporary rules to deal with interrupted schedules, determining which games must be played, where and under what conditions, and how points are to be awarded.

4.5. Any team responsible for defaulting or cancelling a game will be charged with all the expenses incurred in preparation for such game as per Section 8.e. of the VMSL rules and Regulations. The Board of Directors shall have the power to suspend or expel any member club who has defaulted and/or forfeited 3 or more games in one regular season.

4.6. To change a scheduled match, the following process must be followed:

(a) Any team wishing to change or postpone a scheduled VMSL home game must apply in writing to the VMSL President explaining the reasons and/or circumstances of the change.

(b) Any team wishing to change or postpone a scheduled VMSL away game must apply in writing to the VMSL President explaining the reasons and/or circumstances of the change. An agreement of acceptance from the opposing club / team will be required before changes are made.

(c) A new date and field must be provided and no changes will be accepted within 14 days of a match, except under special circumstances, i.e., weather, National Championships, and health related issues.

(d) Approved match changes with new dates are subject to a fee of \$25.00 to the club initiating the change.

(e) Time changes within 14 days may only be allowed upon approval of the VMSL Executive.



4.8. The standing of teams resigning or removed from the VMSL before completion of the schedule will be expunged from the record as follows:

- (a) If a resignation or removal occurs prior to the completion of the first round of the schedule, all results involving that team will be expunged from the league record.
- (b) If a resignation or removal occurs prior to the completion of second round of schedule, only the second round results will be expunged.
- (c) The same formula shall apply for any subsequent rounds.

4.9. Points shall be awarded on the basis of three (3) points for a win, one (1) point for a draw and zero (0) point for a loss.

**4.10. In the event of inclement weather, teams must:**

- (a) Be in attendance and prepared to play at the scheduled field and wait for the decision of the referee as to whether the ground is in playable condition or not, unless previously advised to the contrary by the Scheduling Secretary.
- (b) Be prepared to play if, within 24 hours, the game is changed to a venue, day and/or time different than the original schedule.

4.11. Admission fees:

- (a) In a regular VMSL game played in an enclosed park for which an admission is charged, the home team will retain the net gate.
- (b) In regular VMSL games, which form part of a double header, and for which an admission fee is charged the net gate will be divided between the two home teams.
- (c) In regular VMSL games played on open parks the home team is entitled to take and retain the proceeds of any moneys collected.

## **Section 5 – Division Section Championship**

5.1. At the completion of the league schedule, the team with the most points shall be declared the Division Section Champion.

5.2. In the event of two teams having the same number of points, the Division Section Champion shall be determined by the result of a one game playoff.

The game will be played on neutral ground, with extra time periods, and a penalty kick series if necessary.



If the Championship playoff does not affect promotion (e.g. in the case where both teams are being promoted) and the Board of Directors feels that there is not sufficient time to complete the playoff, the formula in 5.3 will be used to break the tie.

5.3. In the event three or more teams are tied for first place a round-robin playoff will take place. Field and referee costs will be shared by the teams and the CAT system and ICP system and league suspensions will be in effect. If the Board of Directors feels that there is not sufficient time to complete the round-robin playoff, the following rules will be used to break the tie:

- (a) Total points in games played among tied teams.
- (b) Goal difference (goals for minus goals against) in games played among tied teams.
- (c) Goal average (goals for divided by goals against) in games played among tied teams.
- (d) Average goal difference in all games played.
- (e) Goal average in all games played.

If, after the round-robin playoff, two or more teams are still tied, the rules for breaking the tie will be the same as the ones above.

## **Section 6 – Promotion and Relegation and Vacancies**

6.1. At the end of each season, the VMSL shall promote and relegate teams as follows:

- (a) The two last place teams in the Premier Division will be relegated to Division 1.
- (b) The first and second place teams in Division 1 will be promoted to the Premier Division.
- (c) The last two teams in Division 1 will be relegated to Division 2.
- (d) The winner of each of the Division 2 sections will be promoted to Division 1.
- (e) Three teams from Division 2 will be relegated to Division 3 as follows:

i- The last place team in each Division 2 section will be relegated to Division 3.

ii- A one game playoff on a neutral ground shall take place between the two penultimate teams in each of the two Division 2 sections . In case of a tie, two 15 minute extra time periods will be played, followed by penalty kicks if needed. Field and referee costs as well as field set up will be shared by the teams and the CAT system and league suspensions will be in effect. The losing team will then be relegated to Division 3

(f) Three teams from Division 3 shall be promoted to Division 2. The procedure to identify the teams will vary, depending on the number of groups in Division 3.



(g) In all of the above cases, the placement of promoted or relegated teams into divisions with multiple sections will be decided by a random draw.

6.2. In the event of two teams having the same number of points at the end of the league schedule, and providing that this situation affects the promotion or relegation of teams, a one game playoff on a neutral ground shall take place. In case of a tie, two 15 minute extra time periods will be played, followed by penalty kicks if needed. Field and referee costs as well as field set up will be shared by the teams and the CAT system and league suspensions will be in effect.

Where three or more teams are affected, a round-robin tournament among the tied teams will take place and the tie breaking formula outlined in Section 5.3 of the Rules and Regulations will be used.

6.3. Vacancies (or open spots in a division) are filled every summer as part of the setting of a new divisional structure prior to the start of a new season. Vacancies in any Division, except the ones covered by Section 6.1 shall be filled as follows:

(a) The next place team by points standing in its respective division, regardless of section, shall be promoted, assuming that the teams have played an equal number of games. If the teams have not played an equal number of games, then the team with the highest points/games quotient (points divided by number of games played) shall fill the vacancy.

(b) Where two or more teams are tied in points per game standing, then the rules defined in Section 5.3 will be used to break the tie.

(c) If there are more than 2 vacancies to be filled in a division, the VMSL executive reserves the right to consult the directly affected parties. When one or two vacancies are to be filled, they will go to teams next in line per 6.3(a) and 6.3(b).

(d) Vacancies created by teams dropping out once the season has started or being expelled once the season has started will be left unfilled until the following season. In such cases the vacating team does not count as one of the teams to be relegated unless it has completed at least half of the season.

6.4. Realignment within Divisions with multiple sections:

Teams remaining for the next season in a division that is broken into sections will be redistributed to newly formed sections based on their placement in the previous playing season. The process to redistribute the teams will be based on a draw after placing the teams into various pots for the purposes of the draw based on past season performance (i.e., a seeded lottery). Where two or more teams are tied in points standing and it affects which pot the teams go into, the formula outlined in section 5.3 shall apply. If teams do not re-register for the upcoming season, the teams in that section that were below the exiting teams generally move up in the section ranking. Each pot contains a number of teams divisible by the number of sections and as the teams are drawn from each pot they are placed into the sections in rotation.



6.4.1 Realignment of Division 2. The pots to be drawn into the two Division 2 sections are constructed as follows:

- Pot A – the relegated teams from Division 1 (2 teams)
- Pot B – second, third and fourth place teams from each section (6 teams)
- Pot C – fifth, sixth and seventh place teams from each section (6 teams)
- Pot D – eighth, ninth and tenth place teams from each section (6 teams)
- Pot E – the winner of the Division 2 relegation playoff and the three teams promoted from Division 3 (4 teams).

6.4.2 Realignment of Division 3. The pots to be drawn into the three Division 3 sections are constructed as follows:

- Pot A – the relegated teams from Division 2 (3 teams)
- Pot B – second, third and fourth place teams from each section (9 teams)
- Pot C – fifth, sixth and seventh place teams from each section (9 teams)
- Pot D – eighth, ninth and tenth place teams from each section (9 teams)
- Pot E – eleventh and twelfth place teams from each section and/or all new teams to the league. (6 teams)  
If required the lowest ranked one or two teams from Pot D will be moved to Pot E to make Pot D and E divisible by the number of sections)

If space remains, new teams registering for the league late and after the main draw will be assigned to the Division 3 sections via one or more supplemental random draws.

## **Section 7 – Clubs/Teams Responsibilities**

The rules and regulations set forth in this Section are to be administered and enforced by the VMSL Board of Directors. Infractions may result in such disciplinary action as may be considered necessary.

7.1. Clubs failing to send a representative to any VMSL meeting will be subject to a twenty-five (\$25) dollar fine.

7.2. Every club is responsible to the VMSL for the actions of its teams, players, officials and supporters and is to take all necessary precautions to prevent behaviour that may bring the game into disrepute.

7.3. Any club, team, or individual who induces or attempts to induce a registered player of another club in the VMSL to leave his club without first giving seven (7) days' notice in writing to the club for which the player is registered, shall be deemed guilty of misconduct and be dealt with as per BCSA Rule 6 - Poaching.



7.4. All decisions and reports of the Board of Directors, or any business transacted at any meeting may be published at the discretion of the Board of Directors whether such publication shall or shall not reflect on the character or conduct of any club, player or spectator, and in the event of such publication, every club, player or spectator concerned or referred to therein shall be deemed to have assented to such publication.

7.5. Each club must, at least two weeks before the commencement of the season and in a form approved by the VMSL, submit a complete list of its officers together with the club mailing and email addresses and phone numbers to the VMSL Board of Directors. Any changes to this list must be communicated in writing or via electronic submission to the VMSL office immediately.

7.6. Any club wishing to change its name must apply to the VMSL for permission to do so.

7.7. Every team must have available two sets of jerseys of substantially different colours.

7.8. If, in the opinion of the referee, a conflict of jersey colours exists, it is the responsibility of the away team to change jerseys.

7.9. Each player must have an easily identifiable number displayed on his jersey that corresponds with the number on the team list. The same number must not be allotted to more than one player in any game.

7.10. Each club is responsible for seeing that the players are properly dressed and equipped and is expected to do everything possible to make the game as attractive as possible for the spectators.

7.11. Team lists must be game-specific VMSL system-generated roster sheets properly printed on an 8.5 x 11 inch sheet showing duplicate rosters for the referee and your opposition. The list shall be printed legibly and shall state the numbers and full names of all eligible players that the team intends to use in the game. Players not listed on the team list will be considered ineligible for the game.

(a) Both copies of the team list shall be handed to the referee at least ten (10) minutes prior to the commencement of the game.

(b) The referee shall sign both copies of the team list. He will retain one copy and, prior to the commencement of the game; give each team a copy of the other team's list.

7.12. The home team must make available two (2) high quality soccer balls from a list of approved balls published by the VMSL.

7.13. Each home team must provide the following (according to the Laws of the Game):

(a) The field must be properly marked to the referee's satisfaction.

(b) Regulation size corner flags properly and securely placed.



(c) Goal nets in satisfactory condition and properly hung.

(d) Fields shall be booked for not less than 2 hours for a regular League games and not less than 2:30 hours for a Cup games where overtime is a possibility.

7.14. In all VMSL league games, it is the home team's responsibility to pay the referee and the assistant referees prior to the commencement of the second half of the game. In games without assistant referees, the teams are responsible for providing one linesman each to call throw-ins.

7.15. For all games, other than scheduled regular league games, the referee and assistant referee fees are to be shared equally by both teams. For cup games and playoff games at neutral venues, field fees are to be shared equally by both teams.

## **Section 8 – Club / Team Fines**

Clubs / Teams found guilty of committing the following offences will be fined as follows:

### **8.a. Team fails to appear for a scheduled game**

**Penalty:** Minimum **\$150.00** fine, plus cost of game official(s), if less than one week's notice, (\$70/80) and Field cost, for away teams, (\$75 +)- 3-0 result will be given to the opponent.

### **8.b. Use of ineligible player**

1) First Offence-Penalty; **\$200.00** fine, stripped of any points acquired in the game and a further deduction of three (3) points.- 3-0 result will be given to the opponent.

2) Second Offence- Penalty; **\$400.00** fine, stripped of any points acquired in the game and a further deduction of six (6) points. – 3-0 result will be given to the opponent.

3) Third offence- Penalty: the team shall be expelled from the VMSL, and its bond forfeited.

4) Cup games- Penalty; **\$200.00** fine and expulsion from further cup competition.

5) Use of a player that has served their player suspension but has not paid the associated player suspension fine: \$20 per game eligible to play while fine outstanding (on top of original fine)

### **8.c. Forgery of Player's Signature on Registration form**

Note: in the context of the re-registration of players in an online registration system who have already been accepted into the league (and are not required to provide a signed registration confirmation each season), this penalty and fine applies to the re-registering of a player in the VMSL without the player's consent.

**Penalty:** Minimum **\$200.00** fine.





**8.d. Team fails to commence a game or withdraws from the game after it has started unless so directed by the Referee**

Penalty: Minimum **\$150.00** fine, plus cost of game official(s) (\$70/80) and Field cost (\$75+) - 3-0 result will be given to the opponent.

**8.e. Defaulting, forfeiting or cancelling a game**

**Penalty: \$150.00** fine, plus cost of game official(s) (\$70/80 each) and Field cost (\$75+) - 3-0 result will be given to the opponent.

**8.f. Delay of start of game**

Penalty: Minimum \$25.00 fine.

**8.g. Failure to pay referee(s) before start of second half**

Penalty: Minimum \$25.00 fine.

**8.h. Insufficient or unacceptable uniforms**

Penalty: Minimum \$25.00 fine.

**8.i. Team fails to,**

- 1) Mark field properly; **Penalty:** Minimum \$25.00 fine.
- 2) Supply appropriate goal nets; **Penalty:** Minimum \$25.00 fine.
- 3) Supply appropriate corner flags; **Penalty:** Minimum \$25.00 fine.
- 4) Supply match ball and/or spare match ball; **Penalty:** Minimum \$25.00 fine.
- 5) Provide team lists before kickoff; **Penalty:** Minimum \$50.00 fine
- 6) Provide identification cards before kickoff; **Penalty:** Minimum \$50.00 fine
- 7) Supply substitution slips; **Penalty:** Minimum \$50.00 fine

**8.j. Team or teams held to be at fault for abandonment of a game**

**Penalty:** Minimum **\$150.00** fine plus game officials fees/s (\$70/80) and Field cost (\$75 +) - 3-0 result will be given to the opponent.

**8.k. If requested by referee – lack of spectator control by team official(s) including failure to address the referee**



**Penalty:** Minimum \$50.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition.

8.l. Harassment of referee, persistent criticism of the referee or disputing calls of the referee by team officials and/or players,

**Penalty:** Minimum \$50.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition.

8.m. If requested by referee – failure to identify spectator(s) responsible for misconduct towards a referee or assistant referee;

**Penalty:** Minimum \$50.00 fine and may be suspended from further participation in the competition.

8.n. Player/team official, while under suspension and attending a game as a spectator, behaves in a manner that brings the game into disrepute,

**Penalty:** Minimum \$100.00 fine and suspended from attendance at the game sites.

8.o. Team fails to send a representative to the VMSL Annual General Meeting and/or a pre-competition meeting,

**Penalty:** Minimum \$25.00 fine.

8.p. Team fails to fulfill Provincial and/or Club National commitment,

**Penalty:** Minimum \$100.00, plus the BCSA and CSA fines that are assessed to VMSL.

## **Section 9 – Players**

9.1. All players to be eligible to take part in VMSL games must be registered in a form approved by the BCSA, and filed by the VMSL with the BCSA Registrar.

9.2. A player shall be eligible to take part in any VMSL game from the date of registration completion with the VMSL / BCSA providing he has a valid VMSL identification card or special permit issued by the VMSL and is not suspended.

9.3. A player under suspension by the VMSL or BCSA is an ineligible player and may not participate in a VMSL game. (See Section 11 for more detail.)

9.4. It is the team's responsibility to use and protect a player's identification card. A player who fails to produce a valid identification card or a special permit issued by the VMSL is deemed to be an ineligible player.



9.5. Players transferring from one team to another are subject to BCSA Rule 7 - Transfer of Players.

All player transfers must be filed with and approved by the VMSL.

1. When transferring to another team, a BC Soccer transfer form must be completed and releasing and accepting clubs signatures obtained before being submitted to the VMSL (in digital or hard copy) along with the current transfer fee.
2. A player is entitled to a transfer provided he has complied with all the provincial, district or league rules and regulations and is not indebted to the current team, district or league.
3. A player is entitled to a transfer as hereinafter provided, by January 15th of the current year for the coastal/winter-playing season, except as provided below, and by June 30th of the current year for the interior/summer-playing season, except as provided below.
4. A player shall not be allowed to transfer during the team's playing season without the consent of the team for which the player is registered. Such consent must not to be unreasonably withheld if the player is not indebted to the current team.
5. A player currently under suspension and seeking a transfer is not eligible to play until the suspension has been served with his current team.
6. Once a team plays its first league game in the current playing season any player movement thereafter would be subject to the transfer regulations.

9.6. Any player playing under more than one name, and/or for more than one BCSA affiliated team, shall be immediately suspended for the balance of the season at a minimum.

In addition, his club will be liable for a minimum one hundred dollar (\$100.00) fine. Any subsequent infringement of this regulation by the club will render the club liable to expulsion from the VMSL.

9.7. Only eligible players' names may appear on the team list. Identification cards for all players on the current team list must be presented to the referee, together with the team list, before the commencement of the game.

9.8. To be current and acceptable, every identification card must indicate:

- (a) Name in full.
- (b) Current team playing for.
- (c) A passport size photograph of true likeness of player.
- (d) Annual authentication by the VMSL.

9.9. A youth player playing in the VMSL on permit must provide to the referee a current BCSA identification card issued by their youth soccer association.



9.10. An eligible player who is late for the kick-off may participate in the game upon presentation of his identification card to the referee, together with a substitution slip if required.

9.11. The referee will check the identification cards prior to the commencement of the game to verify the identity of each player. Any discrepancies must be reported to both teams prior to the commencement of the game and a detailed report submitted to the VMSL president within 24 hours.

9.12. Should the manager or coach insist on fielding a player without a valid identification card (or special permit issued by the VMSL), the referee must inform the opposing manager or coach and report the infraction to the VMSL within 24 hours. (A player without a valid identification card or special permit is an ineligible player. See VMSL Rule 8.b. for the ramifications of playing an ineligible player.)

9.13. Managers are responsible for ensuring that all identification card information is correct. Any discrepancies must be reported to the VMSL Board of Directors immediately.

9.14. Any player ejected from the game by the referee shall be reported to the Player Discipline Committee, within 48 hours.

9.15. The digital player identify card and the roster will be marked “suspended” until the player’s suspension has been served. If the associated fine (\$20.00 per game) has not been paid by the time the suspension is served, late fees accrue at \$20 per game.

9.16. Confirmation that the requisite number of games have been “sat out” by the player must be established prior to the player resuming playing.

## **Section 10 – Substitutes**

10.1. In all matches under the jurisdiction of the VMSL, with the exception of the Masters’ Divisions, each team is allowed to make a maximum of five substitutions during a total entire game, which includes extra time when played.

10.2. In the Division 3, CAT and U21 divisions, unlimited substitutions will be allowed at half time.

10.3. In the Masters Divisions unlimited substitutions will be allowed during the entire game.

10.4. Players substituted shall be permitted to take further part in a game, each change to be counted as a substitution.

10.5. With the exception of the Masters’ Divisions, and at half time, Division 3, U21 and CAT, a substitute player must present to the referee a valid substitution slip upon entering the field of play.



10.6. With the exception of the Masters' Divisions, and at half time, Division 3, U21 and CAT, a team proven to have made more than five (5) substitutions in a game shall be considered to have played an ineligible player.

The provisions of Article 6.5 of the By-Laws and Section 8.b of the Rules and Regulations shall apply.

## **Section 11 – Discipline Committees**

11.1. The Board of Directors shall form a Player Discipline Committee. Such committee shall consist of three (3) members, including a member of the VMSL Board of Directors who shall act as chairman of the committee.

- (a) The chairman shall only have a tie-breaking vote.
- (b) Attendance by any other person at committee meetings shall be by invitation only.
- (c) Player Discipline Meetings shall be held at a time and place as designated by the Board of Directors.

11.2. The Board of Directors shall form a Club Discipline Committee. Such committee shall consist of all members of the Board of Directors, including a member who shall act as Chairman of the committee.

- (a) The Club Discipline Committee Chairman shall only have a tie-breaking vote.
- (b) Attendance by any other person at committee meetings shall be by invitation only.
- (c) Club Discipline meetings shall be held at a time and place as designated by the Board of Directors.

11.3. Decisions made by the Player and Club Discipline Committees shall be based on the guidelines regarding discipline as declared in the Constitutions of the British Columbia Soccer Association and the Canadian Soccer Association respectively.

11.4. A suspended player in League play, with the exception of players suspended by BCSA, will be allowed to play in League Cup games.

11.5. A suspended player in League Cup play, with the exception of players suspended by BCSA, will be allowed to play in League games.

11.6. A player who accumulates three yellow cards in league play will be suspended for one game. A player who accumulates two more (five total) yellow cards in league play will be suspended for another game. A player who accumulates one more (six total) yellow cards in league play will be suspended until they appear before the Discipline Committee.



11.7. A player who accumulates three yellow cards in league cup play will be suspended for one cup game.

11.8. A player who is under suspension for a game that is defaulted, will be deemed to have served a suspension for that game, regardless of which team forfeited the game. 11.9. Accumulations of yellow cards in League play will not be carried over to Cup play and accumulation of yellow cards in Cup play will not be carried over to League play.

11.10. League suspensions (but not Cup suspensions) will apply to all VMSL playoff games related to relegation, promotion, divisional and sectional championship and league placement for Provincial Cup qualification.

11.11. Both League suspensions and Cup suspensions will be carried over from season to season.

## **Section 12 – Club Affiliated Team (CAT) System**

12.1. Clubs fielding more than one team in the VMSL may operate one or more Club Affiliated Team (CAT) systems within their club.

A CAT system is a collection of teams within a club with no more than one team from each age group – Under 21, Open, Over 35 and Over 45 that allows for unlimited player sharing subject to age restrictions.

12.2. Clubs may run more than one CAT system within their club but each must be a distinct CAT system with distinct name that cannot share any players with the other CAT system(s), except potentially through an Intra Club Permit per Section 13.

A club must declare, prior to the commencement of the VMSL season, which of its teams is to be part of their CAT system(s). Teams in a CAT system must all have the same name other than the A, U21, M-A or M-B designation depending on the age group the team is in. The only exception to this rule is that a unique extension can be added following the A, U21, M-A or M-B designation. If two or more clubs merge in order to form a CAT system, this must be declared prior to the commencement of the VMSL season.

The use of CAT players requires that the receiving team manager add, prior to the game via the league website, the required CAT players from their CAT system and to have these CAT players appear on the game-specific system-generated roster sheet and game-specific Digital Player ID cards. The system will only permit valid CAT players to be added to a roster.

12.3. Players registered on teams designated by a club to be within one of their CAT systems are eligible to play (in League games only) on certain applicable other teams designated to be part of that particular CAT system without a transfer. Players registered on teams not designated by a club to be within one of their CAT systems are not eligible to play on any other team in the league without a transfer or an intra-club permit (ICP).



12.4 Players are only eligible to compete in Cup competition for the team with which they are registered.

12.5. Players in the CAT system will serve any suspensions with the team with which they are registered. While they are serving a suspension with the team with which they are registered, they are not eligible to play for any other team in their CAT system.

### **Section 13 – Intra-Club Permits (ICP) – Call Ups**

13.1. All clubs with more than one team in the VMSL may use the Intra-Club Permit (ICP) system to call up players. ICPs are only used when a CAT relationship between the teams is not in place or is not allowed (such as with teams in the same age category).

An ICP allows a limited number of players from a lower level team within a club to play up with a higher level team within a club subject to age restrictions. For the purposes of an ICP, the hierarchy of levels is Premier, Division 1, Division 2, Division 3, Over 35 Premier, Over 35 Division 1, Over 35 Division 2, Over 45 Premier, Over 45 Division 1, Under 21.

13.2. No declaration prior to the commencement of the VMSL season is needed to use the ICP system.

The use of ICP players (or Call Ups) requires that the receiving team manager add, prior to the game via the league website, the required ICP players and to have these ICP players appear on the game-specific system-generated roster sheet and game-specific Digital Player ID cards. The system will only permit valid call ups to be added to a roster.

13.3 ICPs are only in effect for league games. (Playoff games for Promotion, Relegation, Division Championship and Provincial Cup Qualification are considered league games.) Players are only eligible to compete in Cup competition for the team with which they are registered.

13.4 Open and Over 35 teams calling up players from one or more lower level teams within their club are limited to a maximum total of 4 players per game. Over 45 Premier teams calling up players from an Over 45 Division 1 team within their club are limited to a maximum of 8 players per game. Under 21 teams calling up players from a Under 21B Division team within their club (if a Under 21B Division is in place) are limited to a maximum of 8 players per game. Under 21 teams cannot call up players from Open divisions even if the players are under 21.

13.5. Players will serve any suspensions with the team with which they are registered regardless of whether the suspension was a result of playing in a game on an ICP. While they are serving a suspension with the team with which they are registered, they are not eligible to play for any other team in their club via an ICP.

### **Section 14 – Premier Division**

14.1 The Premier Division shall be limited to one team per club.



## **Section 15 – Masters’ Divisions**

15.1 For the 2018-2019 season, players born in 1983 and older will be allowed to play in the Over 35 Divisions.

For the 2018-2019 season, players born in 1973 and older will be allowed to play in the Over 45 Divisions.

15.2 For 2018-19, each team in the Over 35 Divisions will be allowed to register 3 underage players. These players must be born in 1984, 1985 or 1986. These players will be allowed to participate in regular League play as well as Cup play. However, they will not be allowed to participate in the Over 35 Provincial Cup competition.

For 2018-19, each team in the Over 45 Divisions will be allowed to register up to 3 underage players born in 1974, 1975 or 1976. These players will be allowed to participate in regular League play as well as Cup play. However, they would not be allowed to participate in a potential new Over 45 Provincial Cup competition.

15.3 There will be 3 Over 35 Divisions: Premier Division, Division 1, Division 2, and 2 Over 45s Divisions, Premier Division and Division 1. The following promotion/relegation system will be in effect for both Over 35 Divisions and Over 45 Divisions: the two bottom teams from the Premier Division will be relegated to Division 1, while the two top teams from Division 1 will be promoted to the Premier Division. In Over 35 Divisions, the two bottom teams from Division 1 will be relegated to Division 2 and the two top teams from Division 2 will be promoted to Division 1.

Teams in Over 35 Premier and Division 1 are entitled to enter the Masters A Cup. Teams in Over 35 Division 2 and Over 45 Premier and Division 1 are entitled to enter the Masters B Cup.

## **Section 16 – Under 21 Division**

16.1 For the 2018-2019 season, players born in 1998 and younger will be allowed to play in the Under 21 Division.

16.2 Each Under 21 team will be allowed to use a maximum of 2 overage players, belonging to the club’s CAT system, in League games (as an exception to the general CAT rules).

16.3 Each Under 21 team will be allowed to use an unlimited number of players who are under 21 but registered with another team in their CAT system, in League games.