



BCCSL – Cup format for the 2021-22 season

For the 2021-22 season, the BCCSL board has revised the Coastal Cup qualifying and playoff format, and also refined the BCCSL's League Championship that took place over the last couple seasons, now formally called the 'League Cup' to mirror the 'Coastal Cup' and 'Provincial Cup' monikers. The reasons and rationale behind these changes are:

- The BCCSL manages the Coastal Cup competition, and without the Island's inclusion this year, we had an opportunity to further enhance the competition. This was done by creating a better connection to league play, along with removing the previous qualifying spots from district playoffs creating less confusion overall
- The last couple of seasons, the old League Championship format of round robin groups was often compromised by weather issues and field closures in January and early February. Creating a competition that connected league standings to a cup playoff format made more sense from a flow through perspective

HIGHLIGHTS OF CHANGES TO COASTAL A AND B CUP QUALIFYING

- For this season, these age groups fit into A and B Cup, and these are the groups that are playing for Provincial A or B Cup qualifying:
 - U13 Div 1 and U14 to U18 Metro – Coastal Cup (A) / Provincial Cup (A)
 - U13 Div 2 and U14 to U18 Div 1 – Coastal Cup (B) / Provincial Cup (B)
- For U13 Div 1, and all U14-U18 Metro divisions, ALL standings will be based on points per game (PPG) from the beginning of league play in September through to the end of the season with the last scheduled weekend of league games being on the February 25-27 weekend.
- For all U13 Div 2, and U14-U18 Div 1 teams, ALL standings will be based on points per game (PPG) from the October 15-17 weekend through to the end of the season. Starting the standings after Thanksgiving for these age groups was necessary due to the number of divisions that had teams move in/out due to the re-tiering process.
- Using PPG means if teams end up playing less/more games than others due to byes or field closures in winter, all teams can still be ranked in final standings by comparing to others with a different number of games played using PPG which will determine the maximum of 16 teams that qualify for A or B Cup.
- All divisions will have pre-set dates:
 - Round of 16 on March 4-6
 - Quarterfinals (8) on April 1-3
 - Semifinals (4) on April 8-10
 - Coastal Cup Final (2) on April 23-24
- In each division, the top 4 teams will be seeded, with a draw to fill the spots overall

- Teams qualifying for the Provincial Cup will be:
 - Coastal Cup Gold (winner)
 - Coastal Cup Silver (finalist)
 - Coastal Cup Bronze (winner of the 3rd place game between losing semi-finalists)
 - If there's a 4th Provincial Cup spot awarded to the BCCSL, this will come via:
 - 4th placed team from Coastal Cup playoffs (loser in bronze medal game)
- This overall plan includes the removal of District Cup as a qualifying entry to Coastal Cup. Districts can still operate their own District Cup outside of this new Coastal Cup/BCCSL competition structure
- There will be no challenges between divisions. A team that enters a level of play, unless re-tiered by the league based on results, will play in the Coastal Cup in their division

HIGHLIGHTS OF CHANGES TO LEAGUE CUP QUALIFYING

- Divisions that have a route to the BCCSL League Cup, and won't play in the Coastal/Provincial A or B Cup:
 - U13 Division 3
 - U14-U18 Division 2 and 3
- For all League Cup teams listed below, ALL standings will be based on points per game (PPG) from the October 15-17 weekend through to the end of the season. Starting the standings after Thanksgiving was necessary due to the number of divisions that had teams move in/out due to the re-tiering process. Using PPG means if teams end up playing less/more games than others due to byes or field closures in winter, all teams can still be ranked in final standings by comparing to others using PPG
- All teams play a full slate of league games, giving all teams a larger number of regular league games than we did in the past with the old League Cup round robin format. This means teams play slightly later than a "normal" season, as cup play goes into March/April
- Based on standings, all teams then get placed in a play-in game, round of 16 or quarter-final round depending on the size of their group, with single elimination playoffs
- In each division, the top 4 teams will be seeded into cup play, with a draw to fill the spots overall

PRE-SET DATES OF PLAY:

- Play-in weekend (for larger group teams if required) on February 11-13
- Round of 16 on February 25-27
- Quarterfinals (8) on March 4-6
- Semifinals (4) on April 1-3
- League Championship Final (2) on April 9-10

This [linked document](#) has all of the BCCSL groups listed and shows their qualifying format and pathway through the competition.