



Excellence through Development

207-1097 Langford Parkway
Victoria, British Columbia, V9B 0A5
Phone: (250) 382-7489, Fax: (250) 382-7480
www.lowerislandsoccer.com

President: Mike Synnuck

2024-2025 LISA Player Pathway Structural Implementation Plan

June 7, 2024

Purpose:

The purpose of this document is to outline the seasonal implementation plan for the 2024-2025 season. UISA and LISA are looking to better align the Islands player pathway with Canada Soccer's Long Term Player Development pathway while building on the cooperative and successful partnerships between the two Districts and our Member Clubs. The plan focuses on the U14 – U18, “Competitive” and “Community” pathways of play.

Background:

LISA members identified a strategic initiative “to collaborate with partners to clearly define the pathway of player movement between tiers”. LISA has engaged with Integra Strategic Solutions to facilitate workshops and guide the conversations which have led to this plan.

Terminology

In an effort to better align with the CSA Player Pathway the following “Levels of Play” terms will be used:

Community Pathway – Formerly the “Tier 3” level of, providing club teams the opportunity to compete at the BCSA “B” Cup

Competitive Pathway – Formerly the “Tier 2” level of play, providing club teams the opportunity to compete at the BCSA “A” Cup and CSA National Youth Championships. The Spring “Competitive” pathway will be known as the “West Coast League”

Player Development Program (PDP) – Currently the “BCSPL” level of play, providing teams the opportunity to compete at the BCSA “Premier Cup” and CSA “PDP” Championship

Specific “League” names will be adopted for each division to move away from simply being called “Tier 2”, “Tier 3”, or “Tier 4”. For example, “West Coast League” will be used as the Spring Competitive pathway name.



Levels of Play Overview:

Island Competitive Pathway – “A” Cup (Tier 2), “West Coast League”,

Teams participating in the Competitive stream will participate in a two phased season comprising of an internal LISA league from September-December and the “West Coast League” competitive Spring season with interlocking UISA schedule and playdowns from February/March-June.

Fall “Developmental” Phase (September to December):

LISA U14 – U15 (NEW)

- Stand Alone internal LISA based Tier 2 divisions from September to December
 - Banded U14/U15 Age-Groups where necessary
- All club teams expected to declare for Provincial “A” Cup competition and participation in “West Coast League” in Spring

LISA U16, U17-U18 (Hybrid)

- Internal LISA based leagues from September to December
- Cup Declarations made December 1st – “A” or “B” Cup
 - “A” Cup declared teams join “West Coast League” Spring league
 - Cannot compete in LISA “B” Cup Playdowns, District Cup
 - “B” Cup declared teams continue with BC Cup Playdowns in January and February
- All “LISA Competitive Pathway” teams will be club based

Discussions ongoing with UISA regarding cross-divisional play, jamboree weekends, or interlocks.

Spring “Competitive” Phase (February to June):

“West Coast League”:

The “West Coast League” is a continuation of the existing competitive Spring Tier 2 Inter-District League with UISA and LISA. Requests have been made to lengthen the spring season by starting play earlier in the year (as early as February and working around Spring Break). All LISA teams will be club based and dictated by Team declarations from December.



LISA Community Pathway – “B” Cup (Tier 3)

Teams participating in the LISA Community pathway will participate in internal LISA Leagues from September – March. Discussions are ongoing with UISA and its member club to provide additional opportunities for cross-district play. This may include an “Island Cup”, Jamboree Weekends, or simple “Interlocking” weekends.

U14 – U15

- Stand Alone internal LISA based Tier 3 divisions from September to March
- All clubs expected to declare “B” Cup (or higher)
 - “B” Cup Playdowns in January/February
 - Season ends with DC finals prior to Spring Break

U16, U17-U18

- Internal LISA based leagues from September to December with all participating club based teams
- Cup Declarations made December 1st – “A” or “B” Cup
 - “A” Cup declared teams are committed to join the “West Coast League” Spring league
 - Cannot participate in “B” Cup Playdowns or LISA District Cup
 - “B” Cup declared teams participate in BC Cup Playdowns in January and February and DC finals prior to Spring Break
 - Island Representative qualifies for BCSA “B” Cup Provincials

LISA Community Pathway – “LISA Cup” (Tier 4/5)

LISA Community Stream participants play internally with LISA Tier 4/5 divisions from September – March. This level of play is unchanged from previous seasons.

U14-U18

- Internal LISA Based Tier 4 leagues from September to March
- Teams participate in “LISA Cup”
- Season concludes with DC prior to Spring Break

Minimum Standards:

LISA will introduce minimum standards based on the CSA Club Licensing program and minimum coaching requirements as set by BC Soccer. These minimum standards will be tiered to each specific level of play with a grandfathered approach.



Clubs must meet and maintain the set standards to be eligible for participation in the “West Coast League”.

LISA “Competitive Pathway”:

Minimum standards to be introduced for U14 and U15 club-based teams:

Club Requirement:

- Engaged with BCSA/CSA to begin “**MA/1**” process by August 15th
- Completed MA/1 distinction by Date **to be determined by LISA**

Head Coach Requirements:

- Minimum CSA “C” Diploma Certified
- NCCP Emergency Action Plan online module
- NCCP Making Headway in Soccer Concussion Module
- NCCP Rule of Two online module
- Criminal Record Check

- All Team Coaching staff must have minimum “Soccer for Life”

Other Considerations:

- Minimum Training requirements (training to game ratio)
- Minimum programming cost

LISA “Community Pathway” (Tier 3 + 4):

Club Requirement:

- Quality Soccer Provider

Head Coach Requirements:

- Minimum “Soccer for Life”
- NCCP Emergency Action Plan online module
- NCCP Making Headway in Soccer Concussion Module
- NCCP Rule of Two online module
- Criminal Record Check

Season Timeline:



Fall “Development” Phase Predicted Dates:

- Season Start – September 7th/8th
- Cup Declaration Date (BCSA Rule) – December 1st
- LISA Last weekend prior to Winter Break – December 14th/15th
- LISA Tier 3 Return to Play – January 11th/12th
- LISA “B” Cup Quarter Finals – January 18th/19th
- LISA “B” Cup Semi Finals – January 25th/26th
- LISA “B” Cup Finals – February 1st/2nd
- LISA District Cup Quarter Finals – February 8th/9th
- Family Day Weekend (No Cup Games) – February 15th/16th
- Island “B” Cup Finals – February 8th/9th or 22nd/23rd
- LISA District Cup Semi-Finals – February 22nd/23rd
- LISA District Cup Make-up weekend – March 1st/2nd
- LISA District Cup Finals – March

Spring “Competitive” Phase:

- Season Start – February 8th (or later)
- No league play on the following dates:
 - February 15th/16th (Family Day)
 - April 19th/20th (Easter)
 - May 17th/18th (Victoria Day)
- Attempt to schedule matches throughout March around tournaments and spring breaks.
- Last weekend of league play before playdowns either May 31st /June 1st or June 7th/8th
- “A” Cup Finals to be completed by June 14th/15th

Phased Approach:

LISA will look to phase in the “Competitive” pathway and minimum standards approach to the league structures begin with U14 and U15 for 2024-25 with the intention of adding U14-U16 in 2025-26, U14-U17 in 2026-27, and full implementation of U14-U18 by 2027-28.

LISA will review the minimum standards on an annual basis to ensure clubs are meeting BCSA and CSA Club competition requirements and ensure that clubs have ample opportunities to meet any changing requirements.