



VANCOUVER ATHLETIC FC

President's Report for 2012-2013

This was the first season for the combined clubs of Douglas Park SC, Grandview Legion FC and Vancouver Girls Sc to operate as a combined entity, offering soccer to over 1500 players in Vancouver, thus continuing our 57 year tradition of soccer in Vancouver. The combined Boards worked hard to provide a better soccer experience for our players while maintaining the individuality of our respective House League chapters. As the season approached its mid-point we easily gained the majority vote required to formally merge the clubs to form Vancouver Athletic FC. Going forward we will operate as one entity with combined soccer for our U11-U18 players and will continue to run local chapters of our House League to enable young players to develop within their neighbourhoods.

The Board consisted of the members of all the combined Clubs which provided the continuity from the previous Clubs while allowing input into how the new Club will operate.

Our U11 teams were the first teams to be fully combined as VAFC and were also the first to wear our new club wear. We will be looking into supplying more age groups with our new kit during the upcoming season.

Our development this year covered all age groups within the club as our Head Coach/Technical Director held sessions for all House League aged teams and was on the field for all of our divisional teams.

We filled the very important role of Club Administrator in January. This role is the first touch point with the club and is very important in maintaining consistency, managing many of the logistics associated with running a Club as well as effectively using our pool of volunteers.

Our referee roster was very deep this past season with 92 referees available to officiate our House League, our U11/U12 games and to Assistant Referee for our U16-U18 teams. We added 20 new referees to our roster for small-sided games and continued to offer development opportunities for our more experienced referees.

Looking forward to next season, we aren't expecting any cost increases from VYSA or BC Soccer, however there will be slight increases to the fees paid to referees.



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Some of the challenges that we faced over the past year are as follows:

- Garden Park is still not playable from November through to March so effectively the House League moves to gravel about 8 weeks into the season.
- We continue to need new volunteers for the many roles at the Club as we see our numbers continue to grow.

Notable successes this season were:

Boys:

- U17/18 Blue Rangers – were Gold 2 League Champions, and will be representing Vancouver in the Provincial Championships
- U18 Storm were Silver 1 League Champions
- U13 Rangers were Gold League runners-up
- U13 Hurricanes were Silver 1 League Runners-up

Girls:

- U18 Pumas were Coastal Classic Cup finalists
- U15 Roadrunners remain in the Coastal B Cup, currently advancing to the semi-final stage.
- U13 Dragons were Coastal Classic Cup finalists

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Players, Parents, Managers, Coaches, the Legion Sports Committee and Office staff, the Soccer Committee members, our Administrator, Head Coach and the Executive for giving of their time, effort, and passion for continuing to keep this club in the forefront of Youth Soccer, not only in Vancouver but beyond.

Rob Sambrook, Co-President Vancouver Athletic FC

Karen MacDonald, Co-President Vancouver Athletic FC