



## **Chairperson's Report – Andrea Laycock**

In my thirty years of being involved with Chilliwack FC, I can honestly say I've never seen a season quite like this one. While you will have seasons that things don't always go your way, this season has been exceptional in terms of the weather. As Mike mentions in his report we have lost 4 weekends of games and 7 weeks of training. It is our hope to have a meeting with the City of Chilliwack in the coming weeks to discuss snow removal options for the turf fields as the sit and watch it melt approach does not work for us. We thank everyone for their patience and understanding, as the second half of the season has struggled to get underway.

Once everything is said and done the Executive will see how much money we "saved" as a result of the winter storm and determine if a credit back to the players U11-U18 registering for the 2017-18 season is in order. While it is perceived that money is being saved, it is at that moment but the club does have to pay it out eventually when the season resumes and teams get back on the fields training and playing games.

From a club perspective, it has been a year of proud moments as we have seen over 60 players move on to the BC Soccer Premier League and Fraser Valley Select programs. The graduation of these players into these high-performance programs is a direct result of the leadership of our Head Coach and Technical Director Glenn Wilson. The programming Glenn has implemented and the coaches he has placed at the helm of our developmental teams and various programs makes it a win/win for all of our players who participate.

We also saw our U13, U14 Girls and U18 Boys work their way to the BC Soccer Provincials. Our U13 girls brought home the gold, U14 brought home the silver, and the U18 boys brought home the bronze. Congratulations to all the players and their coaches.

The club took over the annual August tournament and renamed it the Chilliwack FC Summer Sizzler. In our first year, we had 59 teams register. It is our hope to grow it to 70 teams this year.

Another major move for the club is that we have transitioned away from Sports Logic as our online registration system and moved to Got Soccer. This was a financial decision as Sports Logic bills us in US Dollars, whereas Got Soccer, a soccer specific program, bills us in Canadian Dollars and is much more user friendly. I encourage everyone to download their app and to check out the program. Please be patient with us though, because like you, we are still learning the program.

The Executive has also made the difficult decision to transition away from Inaria our uniform supplier of the past two seasons for the upcoming fall season. All of our full field teams will be wearing Umbro come the 2017-18 fall season. We will still be using Inaria for the 2017 Chilliwack Ford Spring Soccer Season.

It has been exciting to see Chilliwack FC Alumni Jordyn Huitema make her way on the Women's National Team and play in the game on February 4<sup>th</sup> against Mexico. To read that John Herdman, the National Team's Head Coach thinks very highly of Huitema and compare her to Christine Sinclair is definitely another proud moment for Chilliwack FC. Jordyn has been out to work with our girls' academy when her schedule allows for it. It's nice to have someone local who is excelling at the game for our players to look up to. I know we all wish Jordyn nothing but the best as she moves forward with her soccer career.



Another proud moment for Chilliwack FC is the way in which the entire club is rallying around 2 of our players who are battling cancer. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Chilliwack FC will host a fundraiser at the Chilliwack Chiefs game. Four dollars from every adult ticket sold will go towards the families as well as we have a signed Vancouver Whitecaps jersey and 4 tickets to a game that will be a silent auction item. If the club raises \$10,000 Board Treasurer, Jon Freeman will shave his head and if we reach our goal of \$15,000 I will join Jon and shave my head in support of the two players. Let's fill the rink and show these families just how much Chilliwack FC cares about them.

Finally, I'd like to thank all of our coaches, assistant coaches, managers, and especially the Chilliwack FC Executive for their support of Chilliwack this past season. We've made great strides as a club because of that support and we will continue to move forward in a positive and methodical manner to ensure that Chilliwack FC is always at the forefront of the soccer community in BC.

I'd also like to extend a special thank you to Executive Member Stephanie Toop who is retiring from the Chilliwack FC Executive after 10 years of service. Stephanie has done an outstanding job as one of our mini-ball coordinators as well as ensuring our club Picture Day goes off without a hitch. Stephanie's experience and enthusiasm for the club will be missed.

Good luck to all the teams as the season resumes and league championship games finally get underway. As always if you have questions or concerns please do not hesitate to reach out to me, I'm always more than happy to assist where I can.

#### **Head Coach and Technical Director – Glenn Wilson**

Through 2016 we continued to see a steady stream of CFC players progress to the Metro and BC SPL levels. This is partly how we measure the success of our development programs. Our goal is to be one of the major supporters, in terms of players, of the District programs such as Metro and Premier.

Our Development pathway begins with our U8-10 Prospects Academy. This program continues to flourish and we are seeing a significant rise in the standard of our U11/12 players as a result of starting their development path at an earlier age in the Prospects program.

We had success on the field last year with 3 of our teams achieving Provincials berths. Our U18 boys coached by Jake Kubanski finished 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our U14 girls, who were our surprise package, under coach Rick Dool, finished with a silver after a nail biting penalty shoot-out in the final. Lastly, our U13 girls under Josh Hall finished as gold medalists.

Heading into the fall season I was pleased to be able to recruit Kurt Thiessen and Tom Hatherly to our CFC Staff Coach team. They, along with Zac Munroe and Aleks Gundelj have been working consistently with our team coaches & teams this past season to provide more regular staff coach sessions.

Our video analysis program has been enhanced by the purchase of a hi-pod camera that allows more flexibility in moving from field to field to record games. Up until the stretch of poor weather the video staff had been able to record significantly more games this season than last.

Our senior program players have been recruited regularly this season to work as guest coaches with a number of our Recreational (House) teams. These sessions have been well received by the team



coaches and players. if not for the poor weather over the last two months we would have been able to have the senior players visit the teams more regularly.

The landscape continues to change at the District and Provincial level. Changes in the tiering system will affect how we select teams in the upcoming fall evaluations. May result in fewer Development teams.

Initiatives heading into the fall 2017 season will include;

- Formal coach evaluations.
- Standardized, age specific periodized session plans for our younger Development team coaches to adopt.
- Production of a detailed CFC Development Coach Handbook.
- More thorough implementation of “playing out of the back” philosophy with our Development teams.

Thank you to the CFC board for their continued vision and support of all of our Recreational and Development programs.

#### **Developmental Coordinator U11- U18 and Prospects Program – Kevin Skalicky**

The 2016/ 2017 season as usual has been an eventful season. Both Boys and Girls teams are in their respective playoff schedules. Which has been a challenge with the winter weather causing havoc.

In total, we have 35 teams in the Development program including U10 Prospects. 17 boys' teams and 14 girl teams. In U10 Prospects we have 2 boys' teams and 2 girls' teams.

I would like to thank all the volunteer coaches and managers with their respective duties and also with their patience with continuing changes in schedules and the weather causing postponements.

Highlight of the season is seeing players from Chilliwack FC moving on to Metro, BC SPL and even more exciting making it to the National level.

Here's hoping for a successful playoff run to our teams and an even better season next year!

#### **Recreational Coordinator U11 – U18 – Andrea Laycock**

As has been highlighted a couple of times already the weather has wreaked havoc on the schedule causing mass disruptions to teams and in some cases causing them to fold.

Overall, we had 19 recreational teams between U11 and U18. The one challenge we had was the registration numbers in specific age groups. In some cases, we had too many and in other cases not enough. This resulted in us combining age groups. This also ensured that everyone who registered had an opportunity to play.

Volunteerism continues to be a challenge for us as many teams did not have coaches until the last minute.

We have been asked to review how we form recreational teams. Right now, they are formed based on their school and catchment area. Without having evaluations I'm not sure how we would best balance the



teams out but am open to suggestions. We do not want our teams being hammered every weekend so if there is a more viable solution to how teams are formed please send that to me.

Approximately half of our recreational teams participated in the program that saw our senior players come out to their practice and work with their teams. This program proved to be very worthwhile for the coaches and our senior players.

Thank you to all the coaches and managers who stepped up this past season, we couldn't do it without you.

### **U5-U7 Mini Ball and Picture Day – Stephanie Toop**

U5 division has 60 players with all 6 teams maxed out.

U6 Division had 10 teams all maxed out.

U7 boys have 83 players with 8 teams.

U7 & U8 Girls division were combined for the fall miniball season to make up eight teams overall.

The miniball season kicked off Saturday Sept 10 to Oct 9th at FFI park and the U5 & U6 games at Strathcona school, including the mid-week games. Games at Exhibition turf commenced from Oct 15 to Nov 26.

Fortunately, no miniball games were cancelled, especially after moving to the turf when the weather was mostly rainy for the month of November.

No games were scheduled for the October Thanksgiving weekend and Remembrance Day weekend. We were very fortunate to have parents; family members and CFC youth players volunteer their time to coach the miniball teams for 2016.

Picture day Wed Oct 19 & Thurs Oct 20<sup>th</sup> at Evergreen Hall There were 116 teams scheduled for Picture day.

### **U8-10 Mini-Ball – Gary Lau**

We started the season with the usual problem of not having enough parent volunteers wanting to step up and coach. It went right down to the final day before the start of the season before we managed to fill the last coaching position. Again, this year, we had a handful of young ladies say that they wanted to give back to CFC by volunteering their time to fill in for a couple of teams that were without coaches.

Also, this year we ended up combining the U7 & U8 girls' leagues, as well as the U8 & U9 girls as the registration numbers for all 4 age groups were down.

These are the boys and girls age groups break down.

U7/8 girls 70 players - 8 teams

U9/10 girls 70 players - 6 teams

U8 boys 86 players - 8 teams

U9 boys 72 players - 6 teams



U10 boys 52 players - 4 teams

The season kicked off utilizing FFI park again for the first few weeks, due to football, then resuming the rest of the season at Exhibition Turf. Over all I think it was another successful year!

**Spring Coordinator U9-U16 – Tanya Harnett**

The 2016 Spring League season began Monday April 4<sup>th</sup> and ran until the week of June 24<sup>th</sup>.

U9/10 boys (138) – 14teams (9/10 players)      girls(80)- 8 teams (10-12 players)  
Thursdays, Exhibition/Townsend                      Tuesdays, Exhibition/Townsend

U11/12 boys (130)- 12 teams (10-12 players)      girls (72)- 6 teams (12 players)  
Wednesdays, Exhibition/Townsend                      Wednesdays, Exhibition/Townsend

U13/14 boys (93)- 8 teams (11/12 players)      girls(62)- 6 teams (9-12 players)  
Wednesdays, Exhibition/Townsend                      Mondays, Exhibition/Townsend

U15/16 co-ed (92)- 8 teams (11/12 players)

Mondays, Exhibition/Townsend

Exhibition Field turf was our main location for games. The U11-12 boys and girls group games as well as one U9-10 boys game per week were played at Townsend turf.

<b>U5 Boys - Monday</b> <b>5:30</b> <b>U5-6 Girls - Monday</b> <b>5:30</b> <b>U6 Boys - Monday</b> <b>5:30</b> <b>U7-8 Girls - Monday</b> <b>5:30 or 6:45</b> <b>U11-12 Boys - Monday</b> <b>6:15 or 7:30</b> <b>(Townsend)</b>	<b>U7-8 Boys - Tuesday</b> <b>5:30 or 6:45</b> <b>U13-14 Boys -</b> <b>Tuesday 6:45 or 8:00</b>	<b>U9-10 Boys - Wednesday</b> <b>5:30 or 6:45</b> <b>(Exhibition/Townsend)</b> <b>U11-12 Girls -</b> <b>Wednesday 5:30 or 6:45</b> <b>(Townsend)</b> <b>U13-14 Girls -</b> <b>Wednesday 8:00</b>	<b>U9-10 Girls -</b> <b>Thursday 5:30 or 6:45</b> <b>U15-16 Co-ed -</b> <b>Thursday 6:45 or 8:00</b>
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**Coach's meeting**

There was a coaches meeting on **Thursday March 31<sup>th</sup> at Exhibition Turf at 6:30pm**. At this meeting coaches received team uniform and game ball. Coaches also got to see how the fields were set up for your division. We also went over the rules for Spring soccer and the expectations for the turf fields.

\*\*\*issues with collecting uniforms/game ball at the field (coaches grabbing wrong team/ball) – looking at coaches picking up uniforms etc. from soccer office after coaches’ info meeting.

**CFC group training**

Spring training sessions were offered again to all Spring League players in the following divisions: U5/6, U7/8, U9/10. These sessions were coordinated by CFC head coach Glenn Wilson.



Sessions were one hour in length and not mandatory for players or coaches.

Finding coaches were a bit difficult for a few divisions, but we were able to recruit some great youth coaches.

Removed player request for 2016 and went over fairly well. Also, added the highest level played on registration form. This helped make the teams a bit better balanced as well as Glenn Wilson glancing over the older team rosters.

Year-end we went with Corner Kick concession who gave out vouchers for a hot dog, chips and a juice. The vouchers were good for the whole wrap up week. Medals and vouchers were picked up by coaches from the concession. This went over fairly well, the main complaint was the time some had to wait to get their food, especially on the nights there were mini games (lots of teams finishing at the same time. It was suggested to coaches that they have a parent bring the vouchers to the concession prior to the games ending and get the team meals. Will work with concession to make the process smoother for the next season.

Still had to reinforce the city expectations for the turf. Had a field Marshal at the field Mondays and Tuesdays to help with field set up and take down during mini field games. Emails went out over the course of the season reminders parents and coaches of the rules.

Coaches/teams needed to be reminded to remove nets from the fields if they were the last games playing for their division.

2017 season is just gearing up.

Season running from April 3<sup>rd</sup> to June 22<sup>nd</sup>. No games on the Easter Monday (April 16<sup>th</sup>)

Trying for majority of games to be played at Exhibition with games also scheduled at Townsend. Hoping to keep the nights the same as last for the divisions.

Already getting youth coaches from last year wanting to help out again this year.

### **Fields – Mike Hawley**

This year has been the worst for field closures in my 30 years with the Club. To date we have had 7 weeks of cancelled practices and 4 weekends of cancelled games which amounts to a credit from the City of approximately \$12,000. The missed games amount to 134 in total including 77 full field and 57 Super 8 and Prospects games.

The leagues have to come up with set schedules and stick to it. Changing the schedules constantly results in costing us \$ for fields not used because of the 2 week cancellation policy set by the City.

I have scheduled over 700 home games this season in Chilliwack so far this season and to my knowledge have not missed a game.

The City of Chilliwack has expanded the time frame for prime and non prime time field rentals. As of July 1<sup>st</sup> 2017 the weekend and holiday prime time hours will now be 800am- 1100pm It's currently 800am-



600pm. The weekday primetime hours remain at 500pm-1100pm. The rates will also increase with youth going from \$18.70 to \$18.90 and adult going from \$37.40 to \$37.80.

Next season the coaches really have to be made aware of the importance of letting myself and Samantha know if their game is cancelled. We had a number of games this season where we didn't know of cancellations so officials were assigned. If they show up and there are no teams they get paid.

It would be nice to have some type of snow clearing equipment to remove the snow from the turf fields rather than sit and watch it disappear. Out of the 7 missed weeks of training we could have been on the field at least 4 of them.

### **Equipment – Sherry Hawley**

Once again, the Club was sponsored by Tim Horton's. This season Tim Horton's gave us soccer balls which the players got to keep and medallions for our U5 to U 8 age groups.

The mini ball coaches picked up and returned their equipment a lot quicker than in previous seasons. We still get equipment returned dirty and wet. We then have to clean it so it doesn't go moldy.

We have had a number of coaches ask us for indoor balls this season as the School District has changed their policy and outdoor balls are no longer permitted in school gyms. If this seasons weather is any indication of what's ahead for climate change the Club may want to consider buying some indoor balls. Some Recreational coaches were going out and buying their own.

We will be sending out to suppliers to get quotes on kits after the Board decided to go with Umbro now. There will be 3 quotes.