



FUSION NEWS

Welcome VFC! | Coach Spotlight | Happy New Year | Men's Team | Player Spotlights | Women's Team

Reminders

Remember to keep your availability on Team Snap up to date and fill out the Health Check before each practice and game.

Intake Evaluations

Keep an eye on the website for details about 2009 BC SPL Intake Evaluations in early 2021.

Fusion Gear

Visit Macey's Sports in North Vancouver for Fusion branded apparel, including hoodies and hats.



Vancouver FC, Welcome to the Fusion Family!

After an overwhelmingly positive vote by members of Fusion FC and the Vancouver FC, we are excited to be moving forward together towards the amalgamation of the two clubs under the Fusion FC banner. The combined club aligns with Canada Soccer and BC Soccer's direction to support clear development pathways within clubs from the youngest age groups to adult soccer. This will have a positive impact on our players, families and coaches in terms of increased operational efficiency and our ongoing ability to attract high level players, coaches, and sponsorship.

Both Fusion FC and the Vancouver FC remain committed to our longstanding reputations of providing youth soccer players with an integrated system of assessment, and high performance training and game environments.

In honour of this move forward together, you'll see that the Player Spotlights on page 3 highlight youth players from the Vancouver FC. Welcome VFC!





**Coach Spotlight:
Devin Todd-Jones,
Head Coach 05 BCSPL Girls,
Head Coach 06 BCSPL Girls**

What’s your favourite coaching memory?

My favourite coaching memory is probably winning against Surrey in the semi-finals of the Premier Provincial Cup. It was tied 1-1 in overtime and went to PKs. We won in the eighth round of shooters.

How have you changed as a coach since you started coaching?

I have changed in so many ways, but probably the most profound is my confidence when coaching. When I started coaching, I quickly learned that I had so much to improve on. Now I am sure of what I want in a game or session and can much more confidently get that across to the players. I have learned how to coach different types of people, how to get my point across, and how to be more confident when coaching.

Who is your favourite coach?

Probably Sir Alex Ferguson. He succeeded with defensive teams, with attacking teams, and could make whatever group of players he had work to their best ability.

Happy New Year!



Fusion FC players showing their spirit at the Halloween practice and playing soccer golf.

Despite many challenges in 2020, Fusion FC players, coaches and families made the best of it. Thank you to everyone for your patience and understanding as we evolved with the changing landscape.

While there is still a need to uphold ongoing safety protocols as we resume practices and games in 2021, we look forward to the New Year and the many individual and team experiences and successes it will bring.

Best wishes to the entire Fusion Family for a healthy, safe and prosperous 2021!

New U21 Fusion FC Men's Team

We are extremely pleased to announce that the men's U21 Vancouver Metro Soccer League team, United FC, is joining Fusion FC. All of the players are BCSPL graduates and the team finished top of the table before Christmas. We look forward to seeing them resume play in 2021 as part of Fusion. This exciting expansion provides an opportunity for graduating players to continue playing with Fusion FC.



Player Spotlight:
Mica Shechman, VFC 05 Metro

What grassroots club did you join VFC from?

Vancouver Athletic FC

What is your favorite soccer memory so far?

The first time I won MVP of a game in a tournament just after making my Metro team because it made me feel like I really earned my spot.

What is your favorite team?

Bayern Munich

Who is your favourite player? Why?

Megan Rapinoe, because she uses her athletic platform for activism and I'm inspired by the way she plays her position.

What is your goal in soccer?

To keep my involvement in soccer a lifelong pursuit and continuing to progress in my abilities on the field.



Player Spotlight:
Jai Sahota, VFC 07 Metro

What grassroots club did you join VFC from?

Killarney FC

What is your favorite soccer memory so far?

Scoring six goals at a U12 Killarney game in the Cascadia League and going to the FC Barcelona Escola academy national finals representing Vancouver kids.

What is your favorite team?

Club: Liverpool. Country: Spain

Who is your favourite player? Why?

Kylian Mbappe. He is fast, quick and has a great shot.

What is your goal in soccer?

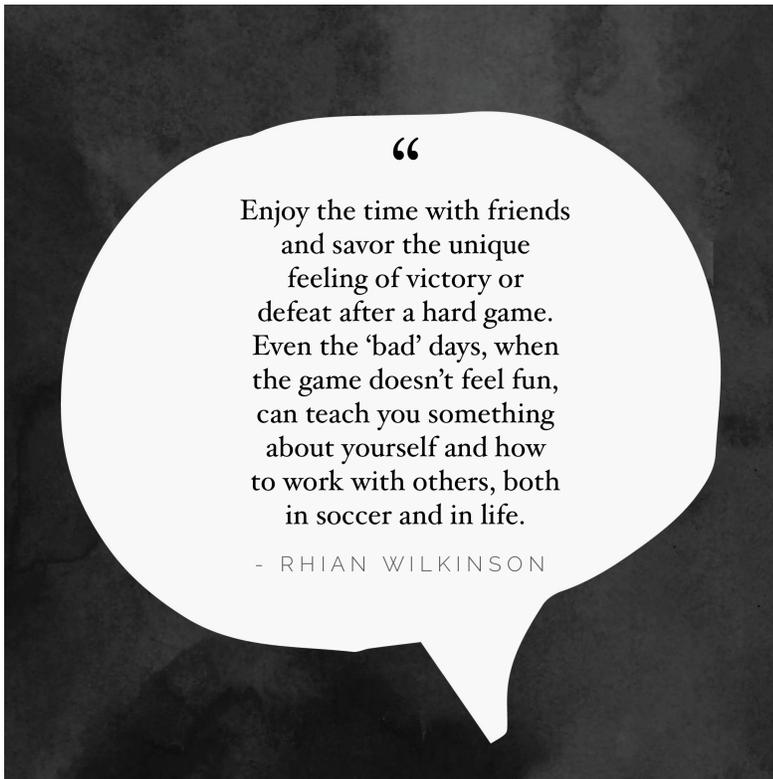
Play soccer at a high level. To be a good teammate, be a leader on the pitch, be better technically and quicker every day!

Fusion FC Women's Team: Lifelong Love of the Game

For our female Fusion alumni, who are not taking their playing careers to the post-secondary level, the club has established a pathway to ensure their time on the pitch doesn't have to end.

Fusion FC Premier is currently competing in its second (albeit pandemic hampered) second season in the Premier Division of the [Metro Women's Soccer League \(MWSL\)](#)

Danny Vaughan, who also serves as Head Coach, founded the team a year and a half ago. The goal from the outset was to build a team that aligns with the club's philosophy of keeping our players active well past the end of their youth career and fostering a life-long love for the sport.



The team also includes a mixture of former players from other BC SPL clubs who have been recruited by Danny and is fortunate to have in its ranks three former Canadian national team players; Rhian Wilkinson, Melissa Tancredi and Selenia Iacchelli.

Danny says he's always on the lookout for players who are staying local after graduation and is happy to say the team roster has grown since it's founding to 30 players. With so much talent available, Danny expects that Fusion will likely add a second team to the MWSL once the pandemic ends, with a goal of creating two teams that can challenge for the top of the league table.

After her retirement in 2017, Rhian continued to work in the game and believed being around it via work would be enough for her without being out on the pitch. Although she was hesitant to play again, the pull to connect with teammates and the feeling of full-body exhaustion of a hard fought 90 minutes was more than enough to bring her back onto the field. Rhian says continuing to play also helps keep her sharp and makes her a better coach.

She says it's a privilege to play with the younger players who are still early in their journeys in the game. Rhian's advice is to enjoy the time with friends and savor the unique feeling of victory or defeat after a hard game. Even the 'bad' days, when the game doesn't feel fun, can teach you something about yourself and how to work with others, both in soccer and in life.

While league play has been suspended due to the pandemic, the team would welcome the support of our youth team players when play resumes and spectators are allowed at the fields again.