



September 01, 2014

RETREAT LINE UNDER 11 AND UNDER 12

In a meeting held in August 2014, between the following clubs and respective technical directors:

**Coastal FC, Mark McQueen – Ladner FC, Russ Heggie – North Delta, Ajit Braich
Tsawwassen SC – Mark Rogers**

The following was agreed to:

With immediate effect for the upcoming fall/winter 2014/15 soccer season the age groups under 11 and under 12 will implement a retreat line.

The use of a retreat line will be introduced to promote young players during goal kicks to improve their ability to play out from the back rather than kicking the ball away from their goal and down the field.

The world of soccer is evolving and Canadian youth must also evolve with the game. The modern game now revolves around maintaining possession of the ball, was controlled, precise buildup starting from the goalkeeper. Players must understand the right time to play forward and or backwards.

To enable youth players to play this style soccer they must learn to play through the third of the field and have the ability to maintain possession throughout the whole field while under pressure. Every player on the field must become comfortable in possession of the ball, as possession soccer should become their default style play.

Retreat Line Procedure:

The Retreat Line comes into play when the ball has gone out for a goal kick. All opposing players will retreat to the offside line or on the side indicator (cone or marker) which should already be in place. Opposing players may not pressure the ball and until:

- **The ball is received by a teammate OR,**
- **The ball travels over the retreat line (offside line) OR,**
- **The ball leaves the field of play.**

If a team chooses to play quickly, they can. The ball will be in play as soon as it leaves the penalty area regardless of the opposing team's position.

If the planning team repeatedly infringes the retreat line, an indirect free kick shall be awarded from the place where the offense occurred not for respect the restart.

This rule is only in place for U11 Developmental Division, and U12 Division 3 and 4 teams within DYSA