



# **BYSA Policy: Drugs and Alcohol**

Updated January 2026

## **Policy Statement**

The purpose of this policy is to ensure a safe, healthy, and positive environment for all participants involved in Boundary Youth Soccer. The use of alcohol, cannabis, illegal drugs, or other impairing substances compromises player safety, fair play, and the values of youth sport.

## **Scope**

This policy applies to all individuals associated with BYSA, including:

- Players
- Coaches and Assistant Coaches
- Officials and Referees
- Spectators (parents, guardians, and guests)
- Employees
- Board Members
- Volunteers
- Contractors and Vendors

This policy applies during all BYSA-related activities, including but not limited to:

- Games, Practices, And Tournaments.
- Team Travel And Accommodations.
- Meetings, Training Sessions, and Events.
- All Fields, Facilities, Parking Areas, and Surrounding Premises.

## **Applicable Laws (British Columbia & Canada)**

This policy operates in accordance with:

- Cannabis Act (Canada)
- Liquor Control And Licensing Act (British Columbia)
- Motor Vehicle Act (British Columbia)
- All Applicable Municipal Bylaws and Facility Rules.

In British Columbia:

- The legal age for alcohol and cannabis is 19 years.
- Youth under 19 may not possess or consume alcohol or cannabis under any circumstances.
- Cannabis use is restricted in public places and prohibited around youth sport environments.



## Prohibited Substances and Conduct

The following are strictly prohibited at any BYSA sanctioned activity:

- **Alcohol** – Possession, consumption, sale, or distribution.
- **Cannabis** – Including marijuana, edibles, oils, vaping products, or related items.
- **Illegal drugs** – Possession, use, sale, or distribution.
- **Misuse of legal drugs** – Including prescription or over-the-counter medication used without a prescription or contrary to directions.
- **Impairment** – Appearing to be under the influence or otherwise impaired in a manner that affects safety, judgment, or conduct.

## Players (Youth Under 19)

- Players are strictly prohibited from possessing, using, or being under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, or drugs at any time during BYSA sanctioned activities.
- Players may not bring prohibited substances to BYSA sanctioned games/practices or events, even if not used.

### Player Consequences:

- **First Offence:**
  - Immediate removal from the activity.
  - Parent/guardian notification.
  - Meeting with the coach and BYSA representative.
- **Second Offence:**
  - Suspension from games and/or practices for a defined period, as determined by BYSA.
  - Mandatory parent/guardian meeting.
- **Third Offence:**
  - Removal from the team and possible dismissal from the league.

Consequences may be adjusted based on age, severity, and legal requirements.

## Adult Responsibility And Conduct

All adults involved in BYSA are expected to act as role models and are held to a higher standard of conduct.

### Coaches, Officials, Employees, Board Members, Volunteers, and Contractors:

- Must not possess, consume, distribute, or be under the influence of alcohol, cannabis, or drugs during any BYSA sanctioned activities.
- Must not attend activities while impaired, including impairment from substances used prior to the activity.
- Must comply with all facility rules and municipal bylaws regarding alcohol and cannabis.



### **Adult Consequences:**

- Immediate removal from the activity.
- Suspension or termination of role, employment, or contract.
- Possible permanent removal from the organization.
- Referral to governing bodies or law enforcement when required by law.

### **Spectator Responsibility And Conduct**

Spectators are expected to contribute to a safe, respectful, and family-friendly environment.

- Alcohol and cannabis are not permitted at BYSA events, regardless of age.
- Impaired, unsafe, or disruptive behaviour will not be tolerated.

### **Spectator Consequences:**

- **First Offence:**
  - Verbal warning and request to comply.
- **Second Offence:**
  - Immediate removal from the game/practice.
- **Third Offence:**
  - Suspension or ban from future BYSA sanctioned activities.
  - Law enforcement involvement if necessary.

### **Reporting And Enforcement**

- Any suspected violation should be reported to a coach, official, or BYSA representative.
- BYSA reserves the right to investigate all reports and take appropriate action.
- Decisions will prioritize youth safety, fairness, and legal compliance.

### **Zero Tolerance For Distribution To Youth**

Any individual found providing, attempting to provide, or facilitating access to alcohol, cannabis, or drugs to a registered BYSA player (minor) will face immediate and severe disciplinary action, including permanent removal from BYSA sanctioned activities and possible referral to law enforcement.

### **Helpful Links**

[Help Starts Here – Government of BC](#)

[Health Link BC](#)

[Government of Canada – Get Help With Substance Use](#)

[Canadian Centre on Substance Use and Addiction](#)