Q3 JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026

NEWFOUNDLAND&LABRADOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

PARTNERSHIPS & INITIATIVES

BMO Girls Play NL!
The NLSA was proud to bring free soccer and coaching opportunities to communities across Newfoundland and Labrador, creating more opportunities for girls to get involved in the game!

Throughout the summer, events were hosted in Mount Pearl, Portugal Cove–St. Philip's, Gander and Paradise, bringing together young players and aspiring coaches for a summer of learning, development and fun.

This summer, 128 players took part in the program and 35 coaches earned their certification, helping strengthen the female coaching pathway and create more opportunities for girls in soccer.

A big thank you to BMO, our community partners, coaches, volunteers and everyone who helped make this year's events possible!

We're excited to continue building opportunities for girls and women in soccer across the province!



Photo Credit to Dan Chandre (@ucephoto)

COMPETITIONS

League Results

BU17PL: SJSC
GU17PL: SJSC
BU15PL: SJSC
GU15PL: CBS

BU17CL: SJSC
GU17CL: BPSA
BU15CL: SJSC - Strickland
GU15CL: CBS - Squires

Challenge Cup: Holy Cross
Jubilee Trophy: Holy Cross

Nationals Results

Challenge Cup
- Holy Cross – 8th

Jubilee Trophy
- Holy Cross – 4th
- FAA – 7th

Under 17 Nationals
- BU17 St. John's – 4th
- BU17 Mount Pearl – 11th
- GU17 St. John's – 5th
- GU17 Paradise – 11th

Under 15 Nationals
- BU15 St. John's – 8th
- GU15 CBS – 10th



Congratulations to all teams for proudly representing Newfoundland and Labrador on the national stage.

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REFEREE DEPARTMENT

Updates
The July to September period was a busy one for NLSA referees, with 850 games officiated across our various leagues, including Championship weekends. This is in addition to approximately 1,000 small-sided games played at the Metro and club levels.

Local officials also had the opportunity to referee a special exhibition match hosted by MPSA between Halifax Wanderers U21 and Nottingham Forest U21. Well done to everyone involved for doing a fantastic job!

The Jubilee and Challenge Cups featured eight matches, each officiated by a different referee. This is a great reflection of the growing depth of our referee pool and the continued development of officials at higher levels.

Developing younger referees remained a priority throughout the season. The U15 and U17 Championship weekends provided valuable opportunities for emerging officials to take on key roles and gain experience in higher-level matches. With mentoring provided at most games, referees had access to guidance and support as they continued to build their confidence and skills.

Providing these opportunities, along with ongoing mentorship, is an important part of strengthening the referee pathway and supporting the next generation of officials.





Respect The Whistle
A reminder that referees are an integral part of the game. Without referees, there is no game.

Every referee deserves to feel safe, supported and respected on the field. Whether you're a player, coach, parent or spectator, take a moment to show your appreciation.

As the season comes to a close, we want to extend a big thank you to all our referees for their time, dedication and commitment throughout the season. Your contribution makes soccer possible across our province, and we appreciate everything you do!

Let's all do our part to create a positive soccer environment where referees feel valued and supported.

TECHNICAL

Player Development
The third quarter was an exciting one for player development at NLSA, with our provincial players gaining valuable competition experience and opportunities to take their development to the next level.

Jesse Acteson met with NLSA Provincial Program players to discuss Canada Soccer's Youth National Team programs and the importance of creating Individual Development Plans (IDPs).

Our provincial teams also travelled to major competitions, bringing home some impressive results:

- Canada Youth Cup – Halifax: U14 Girls captured Silver, while U15 Girls earned Bronze.
- Atlantic Championships – Moncton: Both U16 teams finished with Bronze medals.
- Champions Showcase – Ottawa: U18 Boys brought home Silver.

There were also exciting individual milestones, with Inis O'Keefe travelling to CF Montréal for a trial, while Luke Fahey and Luca Dupasquier relocated to Halifax to join the Wanderers U18 Academy!

Our U12 and U13 Provincial Training Centre programs also wrapped up another fantastic year, providing young players with valuable opportunities for growth, development and continued learning.

Congratulations to all our players and coaches on a successful season. It's great to see Newfoundland and Labrador talent continuing to grow and earn opportunities beyond the province!

Coach Education
July kicked off with Active Start, Fundamentals, Learn to Train and Soccer for Life courses, helping coaches build their knowledge and confidence across different stages of player development.

NLSA also delivered BMO Girls Play NL! Workshops, including a session in Gander. This marked the second time this year that NLSA brought coach education opportunities to the community.

The 2026 C Diploma wrapped up at the end of September, marking another important milestone for coaches working towards furthering their qualifications.

There was also progress in advanced coach education and coach development:

- Abby Evans and Kaitlin Casey completed their second in-person B Diploma AcceleratHER course.
- Sipho Sibiya began his Canada Soccer Children's Diploma.
- Kim Kennedy completed her FIFA Coach Developer Training, while Abby Evans and Joy McCarthy began their own FIFA Coach Developer Training.

Club Development
NLSA is proud to recognize Mount Pearl Soccer Association and Exploits Minor Soccer, who were both recognized as Quality Soccer Providers.

This recognition highlights the clubs' commitment to providing quality soccer experiences and supporting the continued development of players, coaches and their communities.

Congratulations to both clubs on this achievement and for their ongoing contributions to soccer in Newfoundland and Labrador!

ADMINISTRATION NEWS

Congratulations to our NLSA technical staff on some exciting professional development milestones!

- Brent Hennebury achieved C Diploma 'Trained' status and completed all Grassroots Workshops.
- Adam Mooi and Steven Jamieson completed and received their Canada Soccer Children's Diploma Upgrade.

2026 Annual Awards – Nominations are now open. Recognize the outstanding players, coaches, and volunteers who have made an impact on soccer in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Hall of Fame – NLSA is also accepting nominations for the Hall of Fame, celebrating individuals who have made significant contributions to the sport.

Please visit our website for more info.