



**VANCOUVER  
INTERNATIONAL  
SOCCER  
FESTIVAL**



FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

» You are taking part in much more than a multi-ethnic soccer tournament; you are expressing one of Canada's most cherished values: acceptance. We live in a country where we have understood that we are rich not despite our diversity but because of it. For me this is a message that will need to be repeated from generation to generation to make sure that this core value of what makes us Canadian never dies" «

The Right Honourable Justin P. J. Trudeau, Prime Minister Of Canada

VISF is a soccer festival organized by One Team United for Peace and Development. With a big vision and an outstanding community track record, the festival strives to be one of the most successful international tournaments in the world. VISF provides local and international guests with an exceptional soccer and cultural experience that will benefit our city, country, and the world.

In past years, VISF, ONETEAM Society, and partners hosted players from Israel and Palestine. This once in a lifetime opportunity saw Arab and Jewish athletes competing together as one team in the Vancouver International Soccer Festival.

The team impressed and inspired members of the local community with their passion and cooperation towards a common goal. They showed participants that peace and social change for their respective communities in Israel and Palestine is possible. CBC soccer day in Canada and CBC the NATIONAL featured the tournament and Israel-Palestine team in a special national broadcast.

### WHY SOCCER?

Soccer is the biggest game in the world. The game is watched and played by billions of people worldwide; therefore, it's a powerful medium for change and for making a difference. The game transcends borders and barriers, and is among the most powerful tools for creating awareness about issues of global interest.

### 2017 FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

Join us July 7, 8, and 9 at Empire Fields in Vancouver, as it promises to be our biggest and most exciting year yet.

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### EVENT PROMOTION AND PUBLICITY

VISF has caught the attention of local and international media, receiving extensive promotion and editorial coverage through TV, radio, print, and other multi-media outlets. Media sponsors are selected carefully to ensure that the event is promoted well. VISF provides sponsors with opportunities for promotion and publicity through an extensive campaign which includes: advertising and media, promotional materials, an event website and an onsite event program.

### 2017 Festival Highlights:

- A multicultural soccer tournament including local, international, homeless, First Nations, and multi-ethnic soccer teams
- Tournament sanctioned by BC Soccer Association
- Recognized by Fairtrade Canada as one of the first Fair Trade accredited sporting events in Canada
- Three days of soccer, music, food, entertainment, and fun!
- Food, beer and wine gardens
- Friendly exhibition matches
- 32 Coed teams comprised of local and international soccer players
- 50 staff and volunteers
- Fun for the whole family
- Free admission

» Sport has the power to change the world. It has the power to unite in a way that little else does. It speaks to youth in a language they understand. Sport can create hope where once there was only despair. It is more powerful than governments in breaking down racial barriers. It laughs in the face of all types of discrimination.« Nelson Mandela

### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

VISF is currently seeking major sponsorship aligned with the messages of sports, cultural harmony, and global peace and involvement in social change through soccer. We are seeking: funding partners, venue partnership, and media sponsors. VISF provides exposure by association opportunities, such as inclusion in press releases, event website, and exposure at the festival site and at VISF beer garden.

### CONTACT

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When we reflect on the values learned through sport, we often think of concepts like integrity, sportsmanship, and teamwork. These are, without a doubt, pillars of sport and human development. But Adri Hamael and his team have broadened our understanding of sport to include values like harmony, equality, and mutual understanding.«

Hon. Christy Clark, Premier of British Columbia

2017 brings us the 13th annual Vancouver International Soccer Festival. Join us July 7, 8, and 9 at Empire Fields in Vancouver.

VISF, One Team For Peace & Development Soccer Society, and Official Partners invites people of all backgrounds and cultures to join us and participate in a 3-day soccer festival full of festivities for the whole family! We are setting the stage for Canada's most exciting three days of soccer!

This summer, 32 coed teams of 7-12 players will play on the new Empire Fields for the first time. Be part of Canada's largest and most meaningful soccer and culture celebration! VISF Soccer Tournament is all about having fun, living healthy lives, and promoting our core values of Equality, Respect, and Inclusion!

#### TOURNAMENT FORMAT:

- 32 Coed teams of 7-12 players (minimum 2 females per co-ed team | minimum age is 16)
- Each team will play a minimum of three games in the round-robin stage
- The top two teams from each group will move on to the playoffs

#### AWARDS & PRIZES

- The Coveted annual VISF trophy will be handed to divisional winners
- Draws will be held throughout the event with many prizes to be won
- You will be part of the most exciting soccer tournament this summer has to offer!

#### FOOD & BEVERAGES

- Food and beverages including sports drinks, and beer and wine, will be available on site for purchase
- Water will be available at the water tent. Please bring your own water bottle to gain access to the water supply and to reduce the garbage on-site!

#### REGISTRATION:

- We are growing and so are our staging costs. The registration fee helps us pay some of our staging costs required to put on a memorable festival!
- Register your team today and be part of The most exciting Soccer event in Canada!
- Registration for returning teams IN GOOD STANDINGS will open January 2017
- Registration for New teams opens March 2017
- Team fees are \$650 CAD, plus applicable taxes. Fee includes 12 official tees or jerseys
- To enhance festival atmosphere and to promote our core values, ALL teams must wear VISF official uniforms. No political, religious, and or commercial messaging allowed on uniforms. Thank you for your cooperation.

» I am proud to live in a city which prides itself on diversity and inclusiveness. Vancouver International Soccer Festival brings together local and visiting teams from around the world to participate as equals on and off the playing field. Through teamwork and respect for one another, VISF promotes peace and the rights of individuals to fully engage in the betterment of society.« Hon. Gregor Robertson, Vancouver Mayor

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