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Soccer Association

2004

**Youth and Senior Outdoor
Competition Rules**



ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

2004 Outdoor Competition Rules Book

CONTENTS

Important Dates	2
Hosting Guidelines.....	3
1. Provisional Rules	5
2. Player Eligibility.....	5
3. Team Eligibility.....	8
3.8 Team Rosters.....	8
4. Transfer Of Players - Limitations	10
5. Declarations To Provincial Competitions	10
6. Seeding For All Youth Provincial Competitions	10
7. A.S.A. Provincial Competitions	11
7.1 Youth Provincial Tier IV Championships.....	11
7.2 Youth Provincial Tier III Championships	12
7.3 Provincial U-12 Tier I and all Youth Tier II Provincial Championships.....	13
7.4 Youth Provincial Tier I Championships (leading to Nationals)	14
7.5 Senior Provincial Competitions	15
8. Substitutions	16
9. Pre-Competition Meetings	17
10. Coaching Qualifications	17
11. Game Duration/Ball Sizes.....	18
12. Round Robin Tie Breaking Procedure	18
13. Discipline	19
14. Team Staff	21
15. District Representation	21
16. Financial Responsibilities	21
17. Equipment/Uniforms	21
18. Trophies.....	21
19. H.I.V. Policy	22
Fair Play Team Award	23

IMPORTANT DATES

Youth and Senior Provincial Competitions

Hosting Declarations

Outdoor	April 30, 2004
Indoor	October 31, 2004

Team Declarations/Fees (Provincials)

Outdoor Youth and Senior	June 1, 2004
Indoor Youth and Senior	December 1, 2004

Player/Team Registration Fees

Outdoor.....	June 1, 2004
Indoor	December 1, 2004

Cup-Tied Dates

Outdoor Youth.....	June 15, 2004
Outdoor Senior	July 31, 2004

Submissions of Official Team Rosters (A.S.A.)

Outdoor Youth Tier IV Provincials.....	June 30, 2004
Outdoor Youth Tier III Provincials.....	July 23, 2004
Outdoor Youth Tier I and Senior Provincials	July 31, 2004
Outdoor Youth Tier II Provincials	August 13, 2004
Indoor Youth and Senior Provincials.....	February 28, 2005

**Team rosters must be submitted on official ASA approved roster forms.
Any team not on an official ASA roster will be sent home.*

Transfer of Players

Outdoor Youth Tier IV	June 30, 2004
Outdoor Youth Tier III.....	July 23, 2004
Outdoor Youth Tier I and Senior	July 31, 2004
Outdoor Youth Tier II	August 13, 2004
Indoor Senior.....	January 31, 2005
Indoor Youth	February 28, 2005

Provincial Dates (2004 / 2005)

Outdoor

Youth Tier IV	July 9-11, 2004
Youth Tier III	August 6-8, 2004
Youth U-14/16/18 Tier I and U-18 Tier II (weekend only).....	August 26-29, 2004
Youth U-12 Tier I and U-12/14/16 Tier II	September 10-12, 2004
Senior Regionals (if necessary).....	August 21-22, 2004
Seniors.....	September 3-6, 2004

Indoor

Youth Tier I, II, III and IV	March 11-13, 2005 (*ten.)
Senior	March 18-20, 2005 (*ten.)

HOSTING GUIDELINES

Youth and Senior competition Hosting Guidelines for districts hosting Outdoor Provincial Championships.

Mandatory for All Provincials:

- Properly groomed, lined, netted and corner-flagged fields, as per sized below;
- Benches for each team;
- Meeting room for the Tournament Meeting;
- Provide a minimum of one (1) local Field Marshal for every two fields throughout the event;
- On-site telephone for emergency calls;
- On-site first-aid, such as St. John Ambulance;
- Schedule A.S.A. registered referees to A.S.A. approval and provide enough qualified referees for the level of tournament;
- Local referee scheduler to be in attendance;
- Adequate accommodation available for teams;

Mandatory for Senior Provincials and Youth Tier I Leading to Nationals:

- Fields that are at least 105 yards long by 65 yards wide (96m x 60m);
- Adequate crowd control measures, which must include a roped-off area separating players benches from spectators;
- Host district must conduct Outdoor Referee Refresher courses;

Mandatory for All Other Youth Competitions:

- Fields that are at least 100 yards long by 50 yards wide (90m x 45m);

Desirables for All Provincials:

- ☞ Sheltered change rooms, preferably with showers;
- ☞ A results board for the benefit of interested parties;
- ☞ On-site concession;
- ☞ A social event for participants;

2004 PROVINCIAL COMPETITION RULES

INTRODUCTION

All rules and “Laws of Game” from FIFA will be adhered to except as set out in the following Competition Rules. The main exceptions to FIFA are as follows:

- changes to the number of substitutions;
- changes to the number of players allowed to dress per game.***
- minimum of 8 players per team on the field to start a game.

In addition to the General Rules and Regulations and Bylaws of the A.S.A., the following shall apply to all ***Regional or Provincial*** Competitions:

1. PROVISIONAL RULES

- 1.1 The Alberta Soccer Association may, from time to time through the Competitions Committee, make temporary rules or regulations governing specific cases or occasions not provided for in these regulations, but which may be necessary for the carrying out of the objectives of the Association and in the interests of fair play.
- 1.2 In any A.S.A. Championship the Competitions Committee will be empowered to move any event to a location more suitable to the contesting teams or combine locations for certain age groups of the same level where insufficient teams compete.

2. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

2.1 Youth:

- 2.1.1 Players in age categories who reach the limiting age on or after the first day of January shall continue to be eligible to play in that age category for the remainder of the playing season. This applies to all Provincial competitions for Youth Tier I, Tier II, Tier III & Tier IV Boys and Girls.
 - U-18 before January 1st of the current year
 - U-16 before January 1st of the current year
 - U-14 before January 1st of the current year
 - U-12 before January 1st of the current year
- 2.1.2 Any youth team that includes a player who is over the age limit as defined in 1 (a) above shall forfeit the games concerned and shall be subject to disciplinary action by the A.S.A.
- 2.1.3 Players must be registered with the A.S.A. seven (7) days before taking part in any Cup Competition, subject to provisional rules. A player may not play in more than one (1) A.S.A. Provincial Youth Cup Competition in the current season, except as detailed in 2.1.4 and 2.1.5.

- 2.1.4 Players who declare to compete in Tier III Provincials will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I or Tier II team to compete in Tier I or Tier II Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier III Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I or Tier II team in Provincials, but not both.
- 2.1.5 Players who declare to compete in Tier IV Provincials will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I, Tier II or Tier III team to compete in Tier I, Tier II or Tier III Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier IV Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III team in Provincials, but not more than one.
- 2.1.6 A registered youth player shall be allowed to play three (3) trial games with a non-amateur *senior* team. Subject to agreement between Youth and Senior Leagues within a District, a youth player, duly registered with a youth team within that District, may play, for development purposes, an unlimited number of games within any Senior League with that District, without affecting his/her youth status, or eligibility for Youth Provincials. A registered youth player may play for one (1) senior team in Provincial competition.
- 2.1.7 Youth players are permitted to play up an age group and still go back to a lower age group for Provincial Championship competitions, subject to local rules, ASA Transfer of Player-Limitations (see Rule 4) and age eligibility (see Rule 2.2.1).
- 2.1.8 A youth player who plays for more than one senior team in the same senior league and subsequently transfers to a senior team will not be cup tied for Provincial purposes to the first senior team on which the player appeared on a game sheet in a league or cup being used to qualify for Provincials.
- 2.1.9 Any youth player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered to be cup-tied if such transfer is effected by June 15th (Outdoor season), (February 28th Indoor season), subject to local rules.
- 2.1.10 A player shall not play for more than one (1) team in any one (1) Cup Competition.

A player can only play in one (1) Provincial Championship (except as outlined in 2.1.4 & 2.1.5) including playdowns or any local competition leading to a Provincial Championship, in a single season. The penalty for deviation from this rule will be automatic expulsion of an ineligible player's team from the Provincial Championship.

A youth player may register with, and play for both a youth team and a senior team, and maintain his/her eligibility to compete in both Youth and Senior Provincials, provided he/she has first registered with a youth team. However, when a youth player has first signed with a senior team, there will be no further eligibility to sign with or transfer to a youth team. Should a youth player who has signed for both a youth and senior team qualify for National Championships, then that player must go to the youth National Championship.

- 2.1.11 Each player at a Tier I Provincial Championship leading to Nationals must have a District Photo I.D. Card. At all other Youth Provincial Championships, players are required to have birth certificates, or other satisfactory proof of age available for inspection on the request of the ASA representative. The burden of proof shall rest with the player.

2.2 Senior:

2.2.1 The Provincial Cup Competitions competed for annually shall be:

The A.S.A. Jubilee Cup (National Qualifying - Senior Women)

The A.S.A. Tier I Cup (Women's Tier I)

The A.S.A. Provincial Cup (Women's Tier II)

The A.S.A. Women's District Cup (Women's Tier III)

The A.S.A. Tier 1V Cup (Women's Tier 1V)

The Women's Classic Tier I Cup (Women 35 and over seven (7) days before competition)

The Women's Classic Tier II Cup (Women 35 and over seven (7) days before competition)

The A.S.A. Challenge Cup (National Qualifying - Senior Men)

The A.S.A. Tier I Cup (Men's Tier I)

The A.S.A. Presidents Cup (Men's Tier II)

The A.S.A. Men's District Cup (Men's Tier III)

The A.S.A. Tier 1V Cup (Men's Tier 1V)

The Men's Masters Tier I Cup (Men 35 and over seven (7) days before competition)

The Men's Masters Tier II Cup (Men 35 and over seven (7) days before competition)

2.2.2 Only registered players may play for a senior team in Senior Provincial Competitions (except for youth players playing up). Each player shall be registered with a team seven (7) days prior to taking part in the Competition or any competition organized by a District Association to determine its representative team.

2.2.3 Any Senior player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered to be cup-tied if such transfer is effected by July 31st (Outdoor season), (January 31st Indoor season), subject to local rules.

2.2.4 Except for players on the roster of a designated AMSL Reserve Team, who are exempted from this Rule, no senior player shall sign for more than one (1) senior team in any season, unless properly transferred in accordance with A.S.A. Rules. However, even if legally transferred, a senior player can only play in one Provincial Championship, including playdowns or any local competition leading to a Provincial Championship, in a single season. The penalty for deviation from this rule will be automatic expulsion of an ineligible player's team from the Provincial Championship.

2.2.5 If a senior player had previously played as a youth player for a senior team in a cup or league being used to qualify for Provincials, the player will not be cup tied for Provincial Competition purposes to the first senior team on which the player appeared on a game sheet in the qualifying league or cup.

2.2.6 A player who has been a professional or a non-amateur and who has been reinstated as an amateur by this Association shall be eligible to participate in the Competition.

2.2.7 For the Challenge and Jubilee Cups only, all players shall be Canadian citizens, have landed immigrant status, be a refugee claimant or a foreign student attending a school, college or university on a full-time basis and who will have been a resident in Canada for six (6) months as of the date of the National Championships.

2.2.8 Each player at a Provincial Championship must have a District Photo I.D. Card *or other photo I.D.*

- 2.2.9 A senior player shall have attained their 16th birthday by the ASA roster deadline to participate in Senior Provincials.

3. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Any teams affiliated and in good standing with their District Association will be eligible to participate in any competition under the jurisdiction of the A.S.A. subject to declaration limits set out below *and in section 5*.
- 3.2 Teams must be registered through their Districts on *A.S.A. approved forms*. District Associations must certify the team rosters on the A.S.A. approved forms and submit them to the A.S.A. office by **June 30th** for Youth Tier IV competitions, **July 23rd** for Youth Tier III competitions, **July 31st** for Youth Tier I & Senior competitions and **August 13th** for Youth Tier II competitions. Only those players so listed will be considered covered for insurance purposes. Fines will be applied to Districts who do not comply with the submission of all team rosters to A.S.A. by the above deadlines.
- 3.3 Senior Provincial competitions shall be open to senior amateur teams registered with A.S.A. through a District Association. No registered senior team shall be eligible to enter or compete in more than one Provincial Cup competition in any one season.
- 3.4 In all Senior outdoor Provincial Championships, except for the Challenge Cup & Jubilee Shield, two team declarations are allowed per district.
- 3.5 Regionals will be held where required, as determined by the A.S.A. Competitions Committee, so that all Senior Competition Finals, except Challenge and Jubilee Cups, will comprise a maximum of eight (8) teams. National qualifying finals (Challenge & Jubilee Cups) will comprise a maximum of three (3) teams from the North and three (3) teams from the South, except where determined by the A.S.A. Competitions Committee. The top two (2) teams in the A.M.S.L. from the North and South will qualify automatically. The third (3rd) spot is open for challenge from any District.
- 3.6 *Players must meet the player eligibility requirements in order to be registered on a team.*
- 3.7 Registrations shall be valid for one (1) season (the current playing season).
- 3.8 Team Rosters:**
- 3.8.1 A *Youth team* roster shall not exceed twenty (20) players of which any eighteen (18) may be dressed for any game in all Youth Provincials.
- 3.8.2 *Senior* teams from Tier I and lower, including Masters and Classics teams, shall not exceed twenty-five (25) registered and eligible players of which any eighteen (18) may be dressed for any game in Provincials, except for teams competing in Provincials leading to National or Western Canadian Championships which shall designate a maximum of twenty (20) players from a list of a maximum twenty-five (25) registered and eligible players for each of the Provincial and National Series. No additions to the designated list of players will be permitted during the Series. Eighteen (18) players may dress for each game.
- 3.8.3 The following shall be provided by each team participating in a Provincial qualifying series:
- a) Name of team;
 - b) Name, address, phone number and title of all Team Officials;

- c) Team colors and alternate colors;
 - d) A Team Roster on an A.S.A. approved form, certified by their District Association together with a District Identification Card, or other photo I.D., for each player.
- 3.8.4 In addition to section 3.8.4, teams competing for the National Challenge and Jubilee Cups, shall provide:
- a) Proof of Canadian Citizenship, landed Immigrant status or Students Residency as required under section 2.2.5, for each listed member of the team.
 - b) A Quality 8 x 10 team photograph, a brief history of the team and any other promotional material.

4. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS - LIMITATIONS

- 4.1 A.S.A. General Rules 5 & 6 apply to all competitions.
- 4.2 The roster determination and transfer deadline for Youth Tier I and Senior Provincials will be July 31st and for Youth Tier II, August 13th.
- 4.3 Youth players may transfer laterally within the same competition within the same club in the U-14, U-16 and U-18 Tier I categories, subject to the usual ASA cup-tied rules and transfer deadlines.
- 4.4 The roster determination and transfer deadline for all Youth Tier III Provincials will be July 23rd.
- 4.5 The roster determination and player pick-up deadline for all Youth Tier IV Provincials will be June 30th.
- 4.6 Prior to July 31st a youth club team may transfer a player from a lower division within the club, as long as the lower division team is not proceeding to a Provincial Championship. Prior to July 31st, a district may transfer a player from a Youth Tier III or Tier IV team to a representative (Tier I or Tier II) team, as long as that player has not played in both Tier III and Tier IV in that respective year.
- 4.7 In Youth Tier IV Competitions, teams may* pick up to *four* (4) players from another Tier IV team, of which a maximum of *two* (2) players may be from a *same-age* Tier IV team (subject to ASA cup-tied rule 2.1.9), as long as the other Tier IV team is not proceeding to a Provincial Championship.

Players are to be picked-up from within their own community, unless the community has only one team, in which case they can be picked-up from the community(s) closest to them.

*This rule was designed to replace up to four (4) players from the original District League roster who *could not* attend. This rule cannot be used to replace players that *could* attend nor can it be used to actually *increase* the *original* District League roster to more than *fifteen* (15).

5. DECLARATIONS TO PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS

5.1 Provincial Declarations

- 5.1.1 The final deadline date for districts to indicate in writing to the A.S.A. their entries for Outdoor Provincial Championships is **June 1st** for all Senior, Youth Tier I leading to Nationals and Youth Tier I, II, III & IV categories, listing by age level and category the number of teams who will be competing. The declaration date is also the deadline for all required Provincial Championship team entry fees to reach the A.S.A. office. The District will be assessed penalties for late declarations and the Competitions Committee will determine whether they be accepted or denied. There will be no refund of declaration fees for a team that withdraws prior to the competition, with the exception of rural districts who declare, and pay for, participation in Youth Tier II Provincials by the June 1st deadline, may have their declaration fees refunded if they withdraw, in writing, no later than June 30th.
- 5.1.2 A team must have participated in at least six (6) games against equal or higher level competition during the season in order to compete in Provincials at that level (Tier I, II, III, IV). Districts are required to include a certification on their declaration letter that all teams competing in Provincials are in compliance with Rule 5.1.2.
- 5.1.3 A District that places a team in another District's league on a non-exhibition basis (ie. where teams play for a Provincial berth) loses its right to declare a team for that same age/gender category of Provincial Championship. Should the out-of-district team playing for a Provincial berth in another District's league qualify for Provincials out of that league, they will represent the District in whose league they played in that category of Provincial Championship. An out-of-District team that does play on an exhibition basis in another District's league may use only its own District's berth to get to the Provincial Championship and not that of any other District, and its District must declare their intention to do so to the ASA office prior to the start of their season.
- 5.1.4 No District shall use the provisions in ASA General Rule 4(A)(ii) or Rule 5(C) to try to assemble a team for participation in ASA provincials where greater than 50% of players on that team are resident in another District. Therefore, for any team representing a District at a provincial championship, at least 50% of the players listed on that team's roster must be resident in that District.

5.2 Player/Team Registration Fees

Player registration fees for Youth and team registration fees for Seniors are due to the A.S.A. office no later than **June 1st**.

5.3 Hosting Declarations

All outdoor hosting requests must be submitted to A.S.A. by **April 30th** for all competitions.

6. SEEDING FOR ALL YOUTH PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS

Seeding shall be based on previous year's results. Districts which did not participate in the previous year's Championships at the level concerned will be placed as low seeds as determined by the Competitions Committee. Districts which declare two or more teams, to the same competition must designate which team is their first, second teams etc.

Seeding for a for six team round robin will be: Group 1: #1,#4, #5 and Group 2 : #2, #3, #6.
In an eight team competition Group 1 will be: #1, #4, #5, #8 and Group 2: #2, #3, #6, #7.

7. A.S.A. PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS

7.1 Youth Provincial Tier IV Championship Competitions (Boys/Girls)

- 7.1.1. Each district will be allowed to declare one team per category, except in the case of those districts that exceed the 2003 registered youth player population of 5,000, or a District undertaking to Host the Provincial Competition, who will then be entitled to two (2) declarations per district. A Host District declaring two teams (hosting community and district representative) for Tier IV Outdoor Championships may have until June 1st to advise the A.S.A. office of the actual location of the Championship to be hosted.
- 7.1.2. A District with a team participating for a Provincial berth in another District's League, or an Inter-district League in the U-12/14/16/18 Tier IV level, forfeits its' right to enter teams at that level.
- 7.1.3. Depending on the number of teams entered, Districts will be encouraged to host boys and girls of the same age group in the same location.
- 7.1.4. Tier IV teams shall normally be house league teams or Division/Tier IV teams of larger districts. The prime aspect of Tier IV Championships shall be recreational rather than competitive. Tier IV teams are to be true house league teams made as equal as possible within each Community of a District. The purpose of any player selection process would be to accomplish that end. Any player selection process whose purpose is to select the best team from the players of a Community must not result in a declared Tier IV team.
- 7.1.5. Players who declare to compete in Tier IV Provincials will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I, Tier II or Tier III team to compete in Tier I, Tier II or Tier III Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier IV Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III team in Provincials, but not more than one (see also rule 2.1.5).
- 7.1.6. In all competitions the format will be determined by the Competitions Committee following a review of the declarations. The scheduling format will follow the appropriate format but a five (5) team round robin format will only be used in extraordinary circumstances.
- 7.1.7. Seeding of teams shall be determined for each region based on the previous year's results. Districts which did not participate in the previous year in Tier IV Championships at the level concerned will be placed as low seeds as determined by the Competitions Committee. In Provincial Regionals or Finals, where there are 2 or more groups of 3; or 2 or more groups of 4 crossing over, wherever feasible, no two teams from the same district will be seeded into the same group of 3 or 4 teams.
- 7.1.8. If any team does not fulfill all its playing obligations in the competition then all games involving this team will be declared null and void. A District whose team withdraws from the competition more than seven days prior will be fined \$500, and \$2000 for a withdrawal less than seven days prior.
- 7.1.9. The host district will get one (1) automatic bye into Provincials, if regionals are required.

7.2 Youth Provincial Tier III Championship Competitions (Boys/Girls)

- 7.2.1. Each district will be allowed to declare one team per category, except in the case of those districts that exceed the 2003 registered youth player population of 5,000, or a District undertaking to Host the Provincial Competition who will then be entitled to two (2) declarations per district. A Host District declaring two teams (hosting community and district representative) for Tier III Outdoor Championships may have until June 1st to advise the A.S.A. office of the actual location of the Championship to be hosted.
- 7.2.2. A District with a team participating for a Provincial berth in another District's League, or an Inter-district League in the U-12/14/16/18 Tier III level, forfeits its' right to enter teams at that level.
- 7.2.3. Depending on the number of teams entered, Districts will be encouraged to host boys and girls of the same age group in the same location.
- 7.2.4. Teams would be formed from within a community/adjoining communities where necessary (depending on community size) and this shall be policed by the district.
- 7.2.5. Players who declare to compete in Tier III Provincials will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I or Tier II team to compete in Tier I or Tier II Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier III Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I or Tier II team in Provincials, but not both (see also rule 2.1.4).
- 7.2.6. The practice of having an entire team of Tier IV players declare together and compete in a Tier III, II or I competition is highly discouraged. The practice of having a Tier III team move almost in its entirety into Tier II or I is equally discouraged. In extenuating circumstances, the ASA Competitions Committee will have the final say on the district's entry. It is expected that the districts will police this themselves.
- 7.2.7. In all competitions the format will be determined by the Competitions Committee following a review of the declarations. The scheduling format will follow the appropriate format but a five (5) team round robin format will only be used in extraordinary circumstances.
- 7.2.8. Seeding of teams shall be determined for each region based on the previous year's results. Districts which did not participate in the previous year in Tier III Championships at the level concerned will be placed as low seeds as determined by the Competitions Committee. In Provincial Regionals or Finals, where there are 2 or more groups of 3; or 2 or more groups of 4 crossing over, wherever feasible, no two teams from the same district will be seeded into the same group of 3 or 4 teams.
- 7.2.9. If any team does not fulfill all its playing obligations in the competition then all games involving this team will be declared null and void. A District whose team withdraws from the competition more than seven days prior will be fined \$500, and \$2000 for a withdrawal less than seven days prior.
- 7.2.10. The host district will get one (1) automatic bye into Provincials, if regionals are required.

7.3 Provincial U-12 Tier I, All Youth Tier II Championship Competitions (Boys/Girls)

- 7.3.1 Each District may enter up to two teams per age group in U-12 Tier I, and one team per age group in all Tier II Provincials, except in the case of those districts that exceed the 2003 registered youth player population of 5,000, who will then be entitled to two (2) declarations per district.
- 7.3.2 A District with a team participating for a Provincial berth in another District's League, or an Inter-district League in the U-12/14/16/18 Tier II, or U-12 Tier I levels forfeits its' right to enter teams at that level.
- 7.3.3 No Tier II Provincials (except U-18), or U-12 Tier I Provincials, will be conducted in August. The Provincials will be conducted on the first weekend in September after the Labour Day weekend, except the U-18 Tier II which will be held August 27-29. If necessary, games will be played on the Friday evening. Where possible, boys and girls of each age group will compete for championships in the same location, with locations alternating north/south annually.
- 7.3.4 In all competitions the format will be determined by the Competitions Committee following a review of the declarations. The scheduling format will follow the appropriate format but a five (5) team round robin format will be used only in extraordinary circumstances.
- 7.3.5 Seeding of teams shall be determined for each region based on the previous year's results. Districts which did not participate in the previous year in Tier II Championships at the level concerned will be placed as low seeds as determined by the Competitions Committee. In Provincial Regionals or Finals, where there are 2 or more groups of 3; or 2 or more groups of 4 crossing over, that, wherever feasible, no two teams from the same district will be seeded into the same group of 3 or 4 teams.
- 7.3.6 No Tier II level team is allowed to play in Tier III Competition under any circumstances.
- 7.3.7 Players who declare to compete in Tier IV Provincials will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I, Tier II or Tier III team to compete in Tier I, Tier II or Tier III Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier IV Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III team in Provincials, but not more than one.
- 7.3.8 Players who declare to compete in Tier III Provincials and have not already played Tier IV in that same year (see rule 7.3.7) will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I or Tier II team to compete in Tier I or Tier II Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier III Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I or Tier II team in Provincials, but not both.
- 7.3.9 If any team does not fulfill all its playing obligations in the competition then all games involving this team will be declared null and void. With the following exception, no competition fees will be refunded if a district withdraws from competition after June 1st. Rural districts who declare, and pay for, participation in Tier II Provincial Championships by the June 1st Declaration/Payment deadline, may have their declaration fees refunded if they withdraw, in writing, no later than June 30th. Otherwise, a District whose team withdraws from the competition more than seven days prior will be fined \$500, and \$2000 for a withdrawal less than seven days prior.
- 7.3.10 The host district will get one (1) automatic bye into Provincials, if regionals are required.

7.4. Provincial Tier I Championship Competitions U-14/16/18 (leading to Nationals)

- 7.4.1 Each District may enter only one team per age group except Districts that had a 2003 Youth player population of 5,000 or more may enter two teams.
- 7.4.2 Regional Competitions will be scheduled by the Competitions Committee to produce a maximum of four teams from each of the North and South for the Provincial Championship Tournament.
- 7.4.3 A District with a team participating for a Provincial berth in another District's League, or an Inter-district League in the U-14/16/18 Tier I levels forfeits its' right to enter teams at that level.
- 7.4.4 The U-14/16/18 Tier I Championships will be conducted from August 26-29th (Thursday to Sunday).
- 7.4.5 Unless otherwise stated in these Rules and the A.S.A. Competitions formats, all C.S.A. rules contained in the latest C.S.A. Competitions booklet will apply to the U-14/16/18 Provincial Championship Tournament and the preceding Regionals, if any.
- 7.4.6 The schedule will observe the appropriate format, but a five (5) team round robin format will be used only in extraordinary circumstances.
- 7.4.7 In Provincial Finals or Regionals where there are 2 or more groups of 3, or 2 or more groups of 4 crossing over the Competitions Committee will ensure that, wherever feasible, no two teams from the same District will be seeded in the same group.
- 7.4.8 Tier I league teams are not eligible to compete in Provincial Tier II or Tier III level competitions under any circumstances.
- 7.4.9 Players who declare to compete in Tier IV Provincials will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I, Tier II or Tier III team to compete in Tier I, Tier II or Tier III Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier IV Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I, Tier II, or Tier III team in Provincials, but not more than one.
- 7.4.10 Players who declare to compete in Tier III Provincials and have not already played Tier IV in that same year (see rule 7.1.6) will not be considered cup-tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I or Tier II team to compete in Tier I or Tier II Provincials. Such players who compete in Tier III Provincials will be considered eligible for either the Tier I or Tier II team in Provincials, but not both.
- 7.4.11 If any team does not fulfill all its playing obligations in the competition then all games involving this team will be declared null and void. A District whose team withdraws from the competition more than seven days prior will be fined \$500, and \$2000 for a withdrawal less than seven days prior.

7.5 Senior Provincial Competitions

7.5.1 Entry into Cup Competitions shall be as follows:

In all Senior outdoor Provincial Championships, except for the Challenge Cup & Jubilee Shield, two team declarations are allowed per district.

Jubilee Cup - Any women's team capable of creditable performance at the Inter-Provincial and National level;

Women's Tier I Cup - Any women's team (highest Division in Districts 4 & 8);

Women's Provincial Cup (Tier II) - Any women's team (2nd highest Division in Districts 4 & 8);

Women's District Cup (Tier III)- Any women's team (3rd highest Div. in Districts 4 & 8);

Women's Tier IV Cup - Any women's team (4th highest Division in Districts 4 & 8);

Women's Classic Cup Tier I - Two teams from the highest Classic Women's Division in districts 4 & 8. Districts other than Edmonton and Calgary may enter a team comprised of any registered player, who has attained the age of 35 seven days prior to the start of the competition, within their district. Edmonton and Calgary districts may enter a registered 35 and over team from the highest Classic Division within an affiliated district league. All players who have competed in another A.S.A. Provincial Competition or Cups leading thereto are ineligible to play in the Provincial Classic Cups.

Women's Classic Cup Tier II - Districts other than Edmonton and Calgary may enter a team comprised of any registered player, who has attained the age of 35 seven days prior to the start of the competition, within their district. Edmonton and Calgary districts may enter a registered 35 and over team from their second highest Classic Division within an affiliated district league. All players who have competed in another A.S.A. Provincial Competition or Cups leading thereto are ineligible to play in the Provincial Classic Cups.

Challenge Cup - Any men's team capable of creditable performance at the Inter-Provincial and National level.

Men's Tier I Cup - Any men's team (highest Division in Districts 4 & 8);

Men's Presidents Cup (Tier II) - Any men's team (2nd highest Div. in Districts 4 & 8);

Men's Districts Cup (Tier III) - Any men's team (3rd highest Div. in Districts 4 & 8);

Men's Tier IV Cup - Any men's team (4th highest Division in Districts 4 & 8);

Men's Masters Cup Tier I - Two teams from the highest Master Men's Division in districts 4 & 8. Districts other than Edmonton and Calgary may enter a team comprised of any registered player, who has attained the age of 35 seven days prior to the start of the competition, within their district. Edmonton and Calgary districts may enter a registered 35 and over team from the highest Masters Division within an affiliated district league. All players who have competed in another A.S.A. Provincial Competition or Cups leading thereto are ineligible to play in the Provincial Masters Cups.

Men's Masters Cup Tier II - Districts other than Edmonton and Calgary may enter a team comprised of any registered player, who has attained the age of 35 seven days prior to the start of the competition, within their district. Edmonton and Calgary districts may enter a registered 35 and over team from their second highest Masters Division within an affiliated district league. All players who have competed in another A.S.A. Provincial Competition or Cups leading thereto are ineligible to play in the Provincial Masters Cups.

- 7.5.2 Seeding of teams shall be based on previous year's results. Districts which did not participate in the previous years Championships at the level concerned will be placed as low seeds as determined by the Competitions Committee, except in the Challenge and Jubilee Cups. Seeding for the Jubilee and Challenge Cups shall be S1, N2, N3 in one group and N1, S2, S3 in the second group. S1, S2 and N1, N2 will be based on the final standing from the Alberta Major Soccer League. S3 and N3 will be subject to challenge from all districts.
- 7.5.3 A six (6) team format (two round-robins of three teams with crossovers on the last day) will be in place for the **Challenge and Jubilee Cups**. Normal three team round-robin format to apply, with crossovers between 1st Place Group I & II playing for Gold & Silver; 2nd Place Group I & II playing for Bronze.
- 7.5.4 Regionals will be held where required, as determined by the A.S.A Competitions Committee, so that all **Tier I, Tier II, Tier III, Tier IV and Masters & Classics Competitions** will comprise a maximum of eight (8) teams. Eight team format to apply, with crossovers between 1st Pl. Group I & II playing for Gold/Silver; 2nd Pl. Group I & II playing for Bronze;
- 7.5.5 The scheduling format will follow the appropriate format, but the five (5) team round-robin format will be used only in extraordinary circumstances.
- 7.5.6 If any team does not fulfill all its playing obligations in the competition then all games involving this team will be declared null and void. A District whose team withdraws from the competition more than seven days prior will be fined \$500.00, and \$2000 for a withdrawal less than seven days prior.

NOTE: Challenge and Jubilee Cup Provincials finals only will produce one (1) representative team each for competition in Western Regional and National Championships. Masters and Classics Tier I Provincial finals will produce one (1) representative team each for competition in Western Canadian Championships. All other senior competitions will conclude with the Provincial Finals.

- 7.5.7 Host district will get one (1) automatic bye into Provincials if regionals are required, except for the Challenge and Jubilee Cups.

8. SUBSTITUTIONS

In all games played at Provincials, substitutions shall be allowed as follows:

- 8.1 In Jubilee and Challenge Cups and Youth Tier I to Nationals there shall be a maximum of 5 substitutions allowed during a game. This shall include regular and overtime periods: however, unlimited substitutions will be permitted at half time and at the end of regulation time prior to overtime.
- 8.2 In all other Senior and Youth competitions there will be unlimited substitutions.
- 8.3 Substitutions can be made at any stoppage of play and at the referee's discretion, and must be made at the half-way line.

- 8.4 No substitutions will be allowed for a player who has been ordered from the field for misconduct.
- 8.5 In Jubilee and Challenge Cups and Youth Tier I to Nationals a substitution must report to a designated game official, giving his full name in writing and the name of the player for whom he/she is substituting, prior to participating in the game.
- 8.6 In Jubilee and Challenge Cups and Youth Tier I to Nationals a player who has previously been replaced in the game by a substitute shall be subsequently allowed to return to the game, but his/her return shall be considered one (1) of the five (5) allowed substitutions *unless done at half time or at the end of the game before overtime.*

9. PRE-COMPETITION MEETINGS

Pre-Competition meetings are mandatory at all Provincial Championships. Failure of a team representative to attend the tournament meeting will eliminate the team's right to protest or appeal any event that transpires during the competition. Rosters and I.D. cards must be available at the pre-competition meeting. The referee coordinator / head referee must also be in attendance.

10. COACHING QUALIFICATIONS

- 10.1 Any team entering an Alberta Provincial Competition leading into a National Championship must have a coach certified at the full *Community Coach Certification* level.
 - 10.1.1 If a new (non-certified) coach takes over a *Youth Tier I or Senior* team leading into a National Competition, dispensation is granted for the next four (4) years from the time his/her name appears on the team's registration.
- 10.2 Every coach involved in all Outdoor Provincial Competitions must be certified at the *Community Coach Youth* level for a youth team and the *Community Coach Senior* level for a senior team.
 - 10.2.1 If a new (non-certified) coach takes over a team leading into a Provincial Championship, dispensation is granted for the next two (2) years from the time his/her name appears on the team's registration.
- 10.3 Each coach and Assistant coach of a team competing for the right to proceed to National Club Championships *must* be security cleared on a CPIC form through their local Police Service or detachment of the RCMP.

11. GAME DURATION / BALL SIZES

This will apply to all games requiring a decision and if necessary, penalty kicks.

Age Group	Duration of Play	Overtime	Ball Size
Senior	2 periods of 45 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	#5
U-18	2 periods of 45 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	#5
U-16	2 periods of 45 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	#5
U-14	2 periods of 40 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	#5
U-12	2 periods of 35 minutes	2 periods of 10 minutes	#4

In Gold medal games of Outdoor Provincials that are tied at the end of regulation time, two overtime periods will be played, if necessary, but overtime will be terminated immediately when one team scores (ie. the FIFA “Golden Goal” rule). Bronze medal and non-medal games will go directly to penalty kicks.

12. ROUND ROBIN TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE

In all competitions (or parts thereof) organized on a *round-robin basis*, the following special rules shall apply.

- 12.1 All games shall be played to regulation time only, except as specified in 12.3;
- 12.2 Three points shall be awarded for a win and one point for a tie. Standings shall be determined by points won at the completion of the round-robin, with tie-breaking as outlined in 12.4;
- 12.3 In any three (3) team round-robin, whether part or whole of the competition, the third game of the competition shall be played to a decision if the team not participating has zero points, has been suspended or has withdrawn. Any third game of a three-team round robin that requires a result will go directly to penalty kicks, except in competitions leading to Nationals, which will go to overtime.
- 12.4 In all other round-robins, if two (2) teams are initially tied on points, then the following formula will be used to determine the final standings, commencing with tie-breaking rule 12.4(a). If three or more teams are tied on points, tie-breaking rule 12.4(a) will not be used, and the tie-breaking formula will commence with 12.4(b), goal differential. If tie breaking rules 12.4(a) and 12.4(b) are not successful in breaking the tie, then rules 12.4(c), and if necessary, 12.4(d) will be applied.

(a) Previous Match Results

The winner of the match between two teams tied in points shall be awarded the higher position;

(b) Goal Difference

Goal difference shall be calculated by deducting the total goals against from total goals for, in all of the team’s games. The team with the highest goal difference in the entire competition will be awarded the higher standing.

(c) Most Goals Scored

If (a) and (b) do not break the tie, the team scoring the most goals in all of their matches will be awarded the higher standing.

(d) Penalty Shots

If two or more teams are still tied under criteria (a)-(c), then the higher standings shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark, as follows:

Two teams tied:

As per FIFA Laws of the Game, at a time and place decided by the A.S.A. Representative;

Three teams tied:

Each team is designated A, B or C as determined by a random draw done by the Competitions Chairman. Three mini-games shall be played (A vs B, B vs C, C vs A) consisting of 5 penalty kicks at a time and place to be decided by the A.S.A. Representative/Committee. All 5 penalty kicks must be taken. Three points shall be awarded for a win, one for a tie. The standings after these three mini-games shall be determined according to the criteria (a)-(d) above;

Four teams tied:

Each team is designated A, B, C or D. Six mini-games shall be played (A vs B, C vs D, A vs C, B vs D, D vs A and C vs B), to decide the final ranking, as in the three team case.

This tie breaking procedure must be carried through in its entirety. No tie breaking rule will be used twice.

13. DISCIPLINE

- 13.1 The A.S.A. Representative shall establish and chair a Tournament Discipline Committee for all Provincial competitions. In the Jubilee Cup and Challenge Cup the A.S.A. Discipline Chairperson will establish a Tournament Discipline Committee and a three person Tournament Committee will be appointed by the A.S.A. Competitions Committee. The Tournament Chairman will be elected by the Committee members. The Discipline Committee shall comprise the Chairman and two other A.S.A. Directors wherever possible. The Discipline Committee shall deal with all cases of discipline relating to player and/or staff during the tournament.
- 13.2 Misconduct by players or team officials reported by the referee shall be dealt with by the Tournament Discipline Committee prior to the next game, except as noted below.
- For any misconduct in his/her team's final games in any competition, discipline may be delegated to the District in Membership which the player or team official represent, if time does not permit the holding of a hearing.
- 13.3 If a hearing is requested, or if the A.S.A. Representative/Committee at his/her/their discretion shall so decide, the Tournament Discipline Committee shall conduct hearings to deal with misconduct in accordance with the A.S.A. Constitution, excepting only for any notice periods, which shall be waived, A.S.A. mandatory suspensions will be applied. The District in Membership of the player or team official involved shall be informed of the disposition.

- 13.4 Any player or team official reported for misconduct who elects to have a hearing, or where the A.S.A. Representative/Committee has called a hearing, shall attend the hearing and may be accompanied by a club representative.
- 13.5 Failure to attend, after notification by the A.S.A. Representative/Committee, shall result in immediate suspension until the player or team official involved requests a further hearing in writing, and appears at that subsequent hearing.
- 13.6 The Tournament Discipline Committee shall hold a hearing into the behavior off the field of play of any player or team official alleged by the A.S.A. Representative/Committee to have brought the game into disrepute. The Committee may take any disciplinary action it sees fit, including suspension from all soccer activity.
- 13.7 Three (3) yellow cards in a Provincial series or Championship will automatically generate a one-game suspension. Cards do carry forward from Regional to Provincial Finals. Red Cards in a Provincial series or Championship will automatically generate a minimum one-game suspension, unless a hearing is called by the Tournament Chairman.
- Threats and Assaults on officials during a Provincial series or Championship will generate an immediate suspension pending A.S.A. Discipline Committee action in accordance with Rule 9 of A.S.A. Rules and Regulations.
- 13.8 Protests may be lodged with the A.S.A. Representative/Committee only on alleged deviation from these published rules. Protests must be in writing on the game sheet, clearly outlining the complaint, and must be lodged immediately after the game. No protests will be heard which are based on a game official's interpretation of the Laws of the Game.
- The A.S.A. Representative/Committee will deal with all valid protests immediately, and his/her/their decision shall be final and binding on all parties concerned.
- 13.9 Where an A.S.A. representative at a Provincial Championship discovers, after the tournament meeting and the certification of credentials, that a team has inserted an ineligible player, the A.S.A. representative will declare that team's participation illegal and adjust the results of competition accordingly.
- Individuals who have been listed on a gamesheet will be deemed to have participated in that game.
- 13.10 A referee who wishes to or is requested by a Tournament Representative/Committee to submit a written report on a game incident must do so within two hours after the end of their final officiating responsibility for that day. The report shall be submitted in accordance with the format outlined in the A.S.A. Referee Manual.

14. TEAM STAFF (Conduct/Dress)

- 14.1 All players, team officials and other persons involved in the playing of games which constitute a part of the Association's Championships are required to conduct themselves in a manner which will bring credit to themselves, their teams, the host Association, the Alberta Soccer Association and the Sport.
- 14.2 At all official and civic functions associated with the Competition participants must be present and dressed appropriately.
- 14.3 All youth teams with female members must have an adult female on the official roster and be on the bench at all games. (i.e. coach, manager or physio). Failure to comply will lead to assessment of appropriate penalties.

15. DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE

All teams participating in a North/South Regional Qualifying Series or a Provincial Final *for Seniors* should be accompanied by an appointee of their District Association at the expense of that Association.

16. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 16.1 Teams competing in District, Regional or Provincial Finals are responsible for travel, accommodation and other similar expenditures incurred.
- 16.2 Teams representing the Province at National Championships will receive financial assistance for travel, as established annually by the Alberta and Canadian Soccer Associations. The home district of these teams assumes ultimate financial responsibility for payment of tickets issued for travel to National Championships.

17. EQUIPMENT / UNIFORMS

- 17.1 When the colors of competing teams are similar, home teams shall use alternate colors. Goalkeepers shall wear colors which plainly distinguish them from all other players and game officials.
- 17.2 All jerseys must be clearly numbered as per FIFA Rules. The number of the player's jersey must correspond to the number listed with the player's name on the game sheet.
- 17.3 Visible undergarments such as cycling shorts are authorized. They must; however, be of the same colour as the uniform shorts of the player wearing them and not extend farther than the top of the knee.
- 17.4 The wearing of shin guards is mandatory in all Provincial Competitions.

18. TROPHIES

The winners of Senior Provincial Championships shall be responsible for the safe keeping and return in good condition of trophies to the office of the A.S.A. six (6) months after winning.

The winners of Youth Provincial Championships shall be awarded "keeper" trophies which are not required to be returned to the A.S.A.

19. H.I.V. POLICY

Dealing with a bloody wound;

- a) If bleeding occurs where other participants may be exposed to blood, **the individual's participation must be interrupted until the bleeding has been stopped.** The wound must be cleansed with antiseptic and securely covered.
- b) All clothing soiled with blood should be replaced prior to the athlete resuming training or competition. Clothing soiled with blood and other body fluids must be washed in hot, soapy water.
- c) If an athlete leaves the field, has his/her injury treated and covered and wishes to re-enter the game in another, differently numbered jersey, that replaces a blood-stained jersey, **he/she may re-enter only after the referee has been advised of the change of number.**
- d) All equipment and surfaces contaminated with blood and other body fluids should be cleaned with a solution of one part household bleach to nine parts water. This solution should be prepared fresh daily. **This is particularly important on the artificial turf of indoor arenas.**
- e) While cleaning blood or other body fluid spills, the following must be done:
 - wear waterproof gloves;
 - wipe up fluids with paper towels or disposable cloths;
 - disinfect the area as described in (d);
 - place all soiled waste in a plastic bag for disposal;
 - remove gloves and wash hands with soap and water.

Other wounds must be reviewed by medical personnel, including abrasions and all skin lesions and rashes on athletes, coaches and officials. All wounds, skin lesions and rashes must be confirmed as non-infectious and be securely covered prior to the athlete starting or continuing participation.

FAIR PLAY TEAM AWARD

A.S.A. Provincial Championships

GUIDELINES

The *Fair Play Team Award* is intended to foster the spirit of fair play including:

- respect for the Laws of the Game.
- respect for the opponent.
- respect for game officials and acceptance of their decisions.
- maintaining of dignity under all circumstances.

Team includes all players, coaches and other team officials on team credentials form.

Fair Play Contest starts when team arrives at venue 30-45 minutes before the game time and will end when team leaves venue.

Each team will be awarded 5 points per game x number of games played = total points at start of championship.

Points will be deducted as follows:

- | | |
|---|--------------|
| ▪ equipment not worn correctly or missing equipment | -1 |
| ▪ caution given to player | -2 |
| ▪ coaching from the touchline beyond the Technical Area | -2 |
| ▪ suspension from a game in addition to automatic 1 game | -2 |
| ▪ not attending Medal Ceremonies (without permission) | -2 |
| ▪ expulsion of player and automatic 1 game suspension | -6 |
| ▪ late arrival of a team for a game | -6 |
| ▪ no show of a team for a scheduled game (not crossovers) | -6 |
| ▪ team leaving the field | Disqualified |

Any other incidents will be judged by the A.S.A. Representative and/or designate.

The Team having the highest number of points will be declared the winner of the Fair Play Contest. If two (2) or more teams are tied in number of points it will be the A.S.A. Representative or Designate to determine the winner. Decisions are final.

A team that drops to 0 points or less during the tournament will be excluded from the Fair Play Contest.

The Tournament Chairperson shall have discretionary power to decide not to award the Fair Play Team Award in that competition over which he/she presides.

REMEMBER TO “PLAY FAIR”