

Policy Category	Operational - Program
Policy Name	CDMFA Player Eligibility
Source	CDMFA Boundaries & Release Committee 2022, Football Canada LTAD, ASAA Policy
Date	Rewrite 2024-03, Jan 10-25
Refer to Policies	Registration, Recruitment – Zones & Boundaries, Recruitment - tampering

This document defines criteria for player eligibility for each program.

## CDMFA Player Eligibility

### 1. UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS

- 1.1. Football is for the players.
- 1.2. All member teams are honourable.
- 1.3. CDMFA is a facilitating organization.
- 1.4. CDMFA shall hold Member Associations accountable to these RPPs.
- 1.5. Honest and Full Disclosure
  - 1.5.1. When providing information to the CDMFA, all parties involved are expected to provide complete and accurate information.
  - 1.5.2. The CDMFA reserves the right to investigate and/or follow up to ensure the accuracy of information presented.

### 2. PLAYER RECRUITMENT

- 2.1. Teams and Clubs are free to recruit new players without hindrance from within their assigned recruitment zone. Teams and Clubs shall not recruit players within the recruitment zone of another Club. The act of “actively recruiting” players shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, making the initial contact with a prospective player who resides within another Club’s recruitment zone, or making subsequent unsolicited contact with a prospective player who resides within another Club’s recruitment zone. See CDMFA Player Recruitment – Tampering Policy

### 3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

**NOTE:** Age divisions and naming format to be reviewed to align with LTAD for 2024-25 programming.

- 3.1. The club President and Registrar shall be responsible for verifying the eligibility of the club’s rostered members.
- 3.2. All members must have completed the required waivers upon registration.
  - 3.2.1. Football Alberta Waiver
  - 3.2.2. CDMFA Code of Conduct Waiver
  - 3.2.3. CDMFA Media Release Waiver
  - 3.2.4. CDMFA Privacy Policy Waiver
  - 3.2.5. CDMFA Waiver of Liability
  - 3.2.6. CDMFA Division Acknowledgement Waiver - new to 2025
  - 3.2.7. Amateur Athletic Waiver & Release of Liability - Club Specific

- 3.3. Eligibility of a player to participate in CDMFA games or sanctioned events may be suspended or terminated by the CDMFA Executive in the event of any conduct that violates any standard of conduct set out by the CDMFA policies, including but not limited to, the CDMFA Code of Conduct.
  
- 3.4. Age
  - 3.4.1. Any individual meeting age requirements, regardless of weight, is eligible to play any position within their age division of the CDMFA.  
Refer to CDMFA Policy "Registrations"
  - 3.4.2. Upon request, players must provide the club Registrar with proof of age (i.e. Birth Certificate or Alberta Health Care Insurance card). Clubs must not keep copies of any proof of age documents or information contained therein.
  - 3.4.3. Underage Players  
CDMFA strongly discourages moving players outside of their designated age group, however, if the current age category does not fit the developmental age of the player, they can be moved (only up) an age category.
    - 3.4.3.1.1. The request must be made on the prescribed form: CDMFA Underage Player Form and submitted to the Senior Program Manager for consideration.
  - 3.4.4. Grade
    - 3.4.4.1. Upon request, players must also provide a current year original report card or a letter from the school that will prove to the club registrar's satisfaction the player's grade and school of enrollment during the current season of play.
    - 3.4.4.2. Players who are in "non-traditional" school environments and cannot define their grade level, will be assessed on a case-by-case basis as these standards are set by Football Alberta and ASAA and affect player/team eligibility for Minor Playoffs and/or High School seasons.  
Example: A home-schooled player who is listed as Grade 9, but is enrolled in more than ten credits of grade 10, or "dash 10" level courses would be considered a Grade 10 student.
  - 3.4.5. Residence
    - 3.4.5.1. It is expected that players will register with and play for the club in their designated zone.
    - 3.4.5.2. As per the Recruitment Zone and Boundary policy, a player's primary residence determines their assigned or designated zone.
      - 3.4.5.2.1. See Item 4 for clarifying statements for each program.
      - 3.4.5.2.2. If an existing player's primary residence changes and they wish to move to the club in the designated zone of their new residence, they must complete a Transfer Request. (Refer to CDMFA Transfer Policy).

#### **4. Programs & Age Divisions**

\*Programs labelled as "Traditional" are inclusive of all genders.

##### **4.1. Spring Tackle - Traditional U19**

- 4.1.1. No individual who is currently enrolled in Grade 8 shall be eligible to play in the U19 Level of the CDMFA.
- 4.1.2. No individual entering Grade 12 at any time during the school year of the current season will be eligible to play in the U19 level of the CDMFA. The "school year" shall be the year of the current season, ending at the completion of the term concurrent with that season. For the purposes of this clause, the third year of high school will be deemed to be Grade 12, regardless of the actual courses that an individual may be enrolled in.
- 4.1.3. U19 (Previously Midget) Division. No player over the age of eighteen (18) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA.
- 4.1.4. As per the ASAA rules: high school students may participate on or with a non-school football team during the ASAA season of play if less than sixty percent (60%) of that non-school team's players are participating on or with a single non-member school football team as confirmed by the coach of the member school team for each student participating on or with a member school team.
- 4.1.5. Grade 9 Player Recruitment for U19 Tackle
  - 4.1.5.1. The player's primary residence shall be used to determine recruitment rights. Clubs shall have recruitment rights within Recruitment Zones as defined by the Recruitment Zones & Boundaries Policy.
  - 4.1.5.2. Notwithstanding 4.1.4.1 players that have played with a CDMFA club at any level can elect to play with that club. If that club does not offer a U19 program they can register with a team that has recruitment rights in their club's area.
  - 4.1.5.3. If a player's primary address is in a recruitment zone that is not offering U19 programing, they can choose to play for a team that is geographically closest to their primary residence.
- 4.1.6. Grade 10 & 11 Player Recruitment for U19 Tackle
  - 4.1.6.1. The player's High School location shall be used to determine recruitment rights.
  - 4.1.6.2. Notwithstanding 4.1.6.1 players that have played with a CDMFA club at any level can elect to play with that club. If that club does not offer a U19 program they can register with a team that has recruitment rights in their club's area.
  - 4.1.6.3. If a player's high school or primary residence is in a recruitment zone that is not offering U19 programing, they can choose to play for a team that is geographically closest to their primary residence.

- 4.2. Spring Tackle - Girls U19
  - 4.2.1. No individual who is currently enrolled in Grade 8 shall be eligible to play in the U19 Level of the CDMFA.
  - 4.2.2. (U19) Sr Girls Division. No player over the age of eighteen (18) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA.
  - 4.2.3. (U16) Jr Girls Division. No player over the age of fifteen (15) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA.
  - 4.2.4. As per the ASAA rules: high school students may participate on or with a non-school football team during the ASAA season of play if less than sixty percent (60%) of that non-school team's players are participating on or with a single non-member school football team as confirmed by the coach of the member school team for each student participating on or with a member school team.
  
- 4.3. Spring Flag - Traditional U8-U16
  - 4.3.1. U18. No player over the age of seventeen (17) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play.
  - 4.3.2. U16. No player over the age of fifteen (15) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play.
  - 4.3.3. U14. No player over the age of thirteen (13) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play.
  - 4.3.4. U12. No player over the age of eleven (11) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play.
  - 4.3.5. U10. No player over the age of nine (9) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play.
  - 4.3.6. U8. No player over the age of seven (7) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play.
  
- 4.4. Fall Flag - U9 Traditional
  - 4.4.1. U9 (Previously Novice Division). No player over the age of eight (8) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA U9 Division.
    - 4.4.1.1. It is mandated that the U8 division will be non-contact only. (Football Canada April 2018)
  
- 4.5. Fall Tackle - Traditional U11-U16
  - 4.5.1. No individual entering high school (grades 10, 11, or 12), at any time during the calendar year of the current season, will be eligible to play in the Bantam Level of the CDMFA. (See 3.4.4 above)
  - 4.5.2. No individual who is currently enrolled in Grade 9 shall be eligible to play Bantam Football in the CDMFA if he is currently on the roster of a High School football team. (See 3.4.4 above)
  - 4.5.3. U16 (Previously Bantam) Division. No player over the age of fifteen (15) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA Bantam Division.
  - 4.5.4. U13 (Previously Peewee) Division. No player over the age of twelve (12) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA Peewee Division.
  - 4.5.5. U11 (Previously Atom) Division. No player over the age of ten (10) on December 31 of the current year is eligible to play in the CDMFA Atom Division.

Capital District Minor Football Association - Rules, Policies and Procedures

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LTAD Level	<b>TACKLE PROGRAM **</b> Age on Dec 31 (year season is played)	Age Division **	Birth Year **
Fundamentals	6, 7, 8	U9 (Novice) Flag only.	2017, 2018, 2019
Learn to Train	8, 9, 10	U11 (Atom) 6v6 Tackle	2015, 2016, 2017
Train to Train	11, 12	U13 (PeeWee) 9v9 Tackle	2013, 2014
Train to Train	13, 14, 15	U16 (Bantam) 9v9 or 12v12 Tackle	2010, 2011, 2012 No grade 10's
Train to Train	16, 17, 18	U19 (Midget) Traditional 12v12 Girls 6v6	2007, 2008, 2009, No grade 12's

\*\*to be revised for 2026

LTAD Level	<b>SPRING FLAG PROGRAM</b> Age on Dec 31 (year season is played)	Age Division	Birth Year **
Fundamentals	6, 7	U8	2018, 2019, 2020?
Learn to Train	8, 9	U10	2016, 2017
Train to Train	10, 11	U12	2014, 2015
Train to Train	12, 13	U14	2012, 2013
	14, 15	U16	2010, 2011
	16, 17	U18	2008, 2009
	17, 18	U19	2007, 2008

\*\*to be revised for 2026