

**CENTRAL ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION**  
**2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
(Draft Only)

**DATE:** Wednesday, December 6, 2023

**LOCATION:** Virtual

Meeting Called to Order:

**Present:** 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Lonny Behm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Alvaro Pina, Darla Preston  
Past President – Tracy Everett, Executive Director -Tammy Olson, **DRA**- Philip Ignacio,

**Voting Members:** Bashaw – Michelle Hilderman  
Bentley – Michelle Lundy  
Camrose – Glen  
Innisfail – Amy Adams  
Lacombe – **Cecelia Metro-Mena**, Jeff Mason, Jacqueline Belbin  
Ponoka-Krista McKnight  
Rocky Mountain House – Olivia Atwater  
SC Central – Kobi Okoye  
Sylvan Lake – Brandyn Leveque

**Not Present:** Clive, Blackfalds, Central Alberta Men’s Soccer League, Penhold, Rimbey, Spruce View, Stettler, Wetaskiwin

- 1) Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President (L Behm)  
Roll Call: Roll call was taken with voting members noted above. Nine of Seventeen members present.  
Quorum met.
- 2) Vice-President’s (Interim President) Opening Remarks- (L. Behm)  
“As most of you may be aware our President was suspended by ASA. Due to the pending hearing, we are unable to answer any specific questions currently. The hearing was originally scheduled for November 2, however as he was unable to attend it was rescheduled to today, December 6. We will give everyone an update once the process has been completed.”
- 3) Agenda adjustment- Review of Minutes of 2022 Annual General Meeting, will be held after the Technical Report
- 4) **Technical Report – APPENDIX A (FULL REPORT) – L. Behm – Technical Director**
  - CASA is growing at an impressive rate, 4088 players registered for 2023 Outdoor.
  - We started 2023 with an amazing event which we co-hosted with RDCSA. The Cavalry FC Men’s Professional Soccer Team had their Pre-Season and Inter-Squad game at the Dome. Attendees were given an impressive show being able to watch both. The Team as well as it’s Coaches then hosted a Player Development Session with 400 attendees. There as also a meet and greet. Cavalry was very impressed with the showing.
  - We hosted some Player Development Sessions, however this year our emphasis was on Coach Certification, with SQS completion being a priority.
  - 13 Grassroots Coach Education Course were hosted in CASA- taught by our own in-house instructor. Active Start, Fundamentals, Learn to Train and Soccer for Life – 90 Coaches achieved their certification. Attendance was very low at some. We will be centralizing all courses for 2023 Outdoor.
  - A C-License Coach Certification was held in Red Deer. Five CASA Coaches attained their C-License Certification, including three females. This is amazing. Rebuilding our Girl’s program is a major priority. This is a big step towards that goal.

- We just completed one of the largest training sessions CASA has ever hosted – 95 players and 9 Coaches attended. Our next session is December 17
- Our U9 Development League started in 2023 Outdoor. We will continue to develop this program.
- U11 was divided into four divisions – Tier 4A, Tier 4B, Coed and Girls. This proved to be a highly successful program.
- Summer Games was back this year – 4 CASA girls and 2 CASA Boys competed on the teams. The teams were very competitive at the event. We will be working on having a better system working with Red Deer (our Zone partner) on this to hopefully see more CASA players on the teams, as we have seen in the past.
- CASA United – CASA United was brought back this past Summer. U11 Boys and Girls Teams. Made a great showing at Tier 1 and Tier 2 Tournaments.
- SQS Deadline is February 16, 2024. CASA will be hosting on-field Coach Session
- Cavalry FC Partnership – 9- to 14-year-olds – details in attached report. Mor information coming soon.

5) Review of Minutes of 2022 Annual General Meeting.

- No Errors or Omissions Noted
- Business arising – SQS will be discussed later in this meeting as per the agenda.
- Bentley Minor Soccer (M. Lundy) moved that the minutes be accepted as presented. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ponoka Minor Soccer (K.McKnight). **CARRIED**

**6) REFEREE PRESENTION (Assistant DRA -T-EVERETT) –APPENDIX B – (DRA REPORT– Philip Ignacio)**

- Indoor and Outdoor Team Numbers have increased significantly, although we have a higher number of referees, we have not reached a number that is comfortable. This results in Referees officiating more games than they should at tournaments and weekend events.
- Our District now has officials participating in all levels of play.
  - U9 Development
  - U11-U19 Tier 4
  - Tier 2-3 Select Teams
  - U11-U17 Tier 1 and 2 SC Central -playing in EMSA.
  - Men's League
  - Adult Coed League
  - AYSL (Alberta Youth Soccer League) – Elite Alberta Youth Soccer – we have just been given this opportunity, the league starts in January and is an incredible experience for our Referees.
- There is a real need to develop and mentor all our Youth referees. We continue to also focus on developing our Female referees, which correlates directly with creating a stronger female Soccer program.
- Our number of referees need to better match our growth.
- Referee Recruitment is the responsibility of each individual community, whether that be through advertising within the schools, Social Media campaigns. School Work Experience. Creating a system within your Club where players or former players become certified referees. Referees do not need to be Soccer Players or Coaches.
  - How can CASA help?
    - Social Media campaign on both our Facebook and Instagram accounts
    - At the request of the Clubs our DRA's will do the best to attend Club AGM's or Board Meetings. Please contact them well in advance of any Club Meetings you wish them to attend, so they can arrange their schedules accordingly.
  - Please submit your ideas

- Mentorship within the communities is vital. Both Philip and Tracy will assist communities whenever possible. Please contact them well in advance so they can arrange their schedules accordingly.
  - Clubs must be willing to step up and assist the DRA's.
  - Two people cannot mentor 140+ referees in 15 Clubs. It has always been a struggle to get the Clubs to step up with Mentors.
  - Without Referees there are no games. Referees need to be treated as Members of your Clubs, just like the Players and Coaches
  - CASA is also searching for people for The Referee Development Team. Let's build a strong group.
- Discussion

#### **7) BUDGET- APPENDIX C: Full Financial Report (D. Preston- Treasurer / T. Olson – Executive Director)**

- Another successful year, approximately 5,000 players registered in 17 Clubs over the Indoor and Outdoor seasons.
- CASA is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest District in Alberta, only behind Edmonton and Calgary. This creates many challenges for only one full time employee and one part time employee.
- The Executive Board is dedicated to keep ensuring that the Staff are adequately compensated in accordance with Industry standards. The Technical Department will be hiring two assistants to aide the Technical Director in facilitating programs.
- CASA comes into the 2024 Budget year with a small profit of \$26,405.45. This brings our bank account up to an acceptable level after being radically reduced during Covid. This ensures financial security for CASA, if further crises occur. Some Districts have still not recovered from Covid, losing entire boards and their staff. One Rural District is on the verge of shut down. We need to be proud of our success and give that credit to our members for continuing to fight for strong Soccer programs in our communities.
- Adult Leagues break even. We struggle to ensure our Youth Leagues do the same without raising fees to substantially. With small increase overtime to contend with constantly increasing expenses will keep us viable.
- Darla Preston (Treasurer) requested that the Budget and Fee Presentation be accepted as presented. Motion to accept the Budget and fees as presented by Bentley Minor Soccer (M.Lundy) 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ponoka Minor Soccer (K.McKnight). All in favour. **CARRIED**

#### **8) Election**

**Membership agreed to the Election being run by T. Olson Executive Director- unanimous.**

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Lonny Behm Incumbent) nominated by Ponoka Minor Soccer (Krista McKnight)

Call for nominations from the floor. No further nominations were made.

**Lonny Behm elected 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President by acclamation.**

##### **Secretary/Director**

Rob McArthur nominated by Ponoka Minor Soccer (Krista McKnight)

Call for nominations from the floor. No further nominations were made.

**Rob McArthur elected Secretary/Director by acclamation.**

1st Vice-President (L. Behm) motioned that the Election be closed. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ponoka (M. McArthur)

**All in Favour. Carried**

#### **9) By-Laws, Rules and Regulations Update (T. Olson)**

- As per the notice sent out to the CASA Membership March 29, 2023, re: CASA By-Laws.
- Kriste McKnight (Ponoka Minor Soccer) motions that the Central Alberta Soccer Association repeals the Central Alberta Soccer Association By-Laws (2018 Version) to be replaced with

the Central Alberta Soccer Association Bylaws (2023 Version). Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Amy Adam (Innisfail Minor Soccer Association). Discussion. **All in favour. CARRIED**

#### **10) New Business**

- **Standards of Quality Soccer (SQS)**

- Final Deadline for completion February 16, 2024. Clubs not completed by the deadline will be Member's in Bad Standing, not allowing participation in Soccer Programming.
- The Executive Director (T. Olson) and Technical Director (L. Behm) with the assistance of Alberta Soccer (P. Rai) are here to assist you with documents and policy's that your organization may not have in place but can be adopted.
- This may seem like a daunting task but most of you have most of the requirements already in place.
- The online portion of Coach Certification and Respect in Sport is always available. Links can be found on the CASA Website. L. Behm will be offering more on-field sessions.
- T. Olson has forwarded an email regarding an on-line SQS presentation by Canada Soccer for Alberta Soccer Members tomorrow. This on-line presentation will be a great assistance to you, and everyone is free to ask questions.

- **Club Insurance**

- All Clubs should have Insurance that protects their Directors and Officers from personal liability, including financial.
- Clubs do not always realize that their elected officials are not protected from personal liability when it comes to the day-to-day business of the Association, including fund-raising activities. Directors and Officers can be sued. This protects them. The annual fees are more than affordable. Additional coverage that can be attained are for your equipment or storage facility, all things to consider.
- CASA Directors and Officers are covered by BFL Canada. Please research your own or reach out to the CASA office and you can be put in touch with our broker.
- Lacombe Soccer has requested that, next Indoor Season, CASA have both Saturday and Sunday games to allow Seventh Day Adventist to play. This is certainly something that can be done moving forward. Advance warning of these types of issues certainly assists in our planning which must start in the Summer. Limited field apse is one of our major issues, especially the larger we grow.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 8:08 pm**

**Next Meeting: Spring Planning-Technical – February 2024**

---

**APPENDIX A:**  
**TECHNICAL REPORT**

**2023 CASA AGM TECHNICAL REPORT**

4,088 registered players

**PLAYER COACH DEVELOPMENT.**

We started off after the last AGM co - hosting alongside RDCSA The Calgary Cavalry pre-season training weekend. Coaches, parents and players were able to watch the Cavalry have a training session, followed by a player clinic and meet and greets/autographs. The following day the Cavalry had an intersquad game again followed by autographs. The event far exceeded their expectations and ours.

Technical sessions were in January and February.

Coach education was going to be our focus late fall to early summer to help associations become SQS compliant. We managed to offer 13 grassroots coach education courses. Certifying nearly 90 coaches.

Some areas had great turnout others very poor where we had to cancel some which took time away from tech sessions.

ASA also hosted a C licence course in Red Deer. CASA has 5 new C Licence coaches which is fantastic out of those 5 we added 3 new female C licence coaches. Which is amazing

Recently we just completed one of the biggest technical events in CASA.

We have 4 more planned throughout the indoor season. We are also working on an all-female day in CASA, we are in talks with some prominent Alberta players to help and possibly Project 8.

Introduction to U9 development league, like anything new there were some hiccups that we hope to fix and if we could get some feedback that will help in making it an even better experience this upcoming year. Overall, we are excited it finally got off the ground.

U11 A/B league ran well this year after the adjustments we made after it's 1st year.

**ALBERTA SUMMER GAMES**

This year was also an ASG's year. On the field the teams were competitive,

On the girl's side they had tremendous success, there were 4 CASA players that made the team. The boys were competitive as well. We had 1 CASA boy on the team.

1st ASG coming out of COVID we found there is some work that needs to be done with RDCSA regarding co hosting the event, which I plan on reviewing.

**Recognize the 5 CASA players. 5 that played at the provincial level, but we also had 2 female soccer players that attended the North American Indigenous Games in Halifax.**

**Teams that went to provincials 2023 Indoor provincials**

SC Central U13 Boys finished 8th at tier 2.

Ponoka Storm U13 girls won Bronze and the ASA Fair Play award at tier 3.

Ponoka Storm U13 boys won silver at tier 4.

Camrose Vikings U15 Boys finished 5th at tier 4.

Camrose Vikings U17 Boys finished 6th.

Camrose Vikings U17 Girls finished 6th.

Lacombe Panthers U19 Boys won Gold and the ASA Fair play award.

**2023 OUTDOOR**

SC Central U13 Boys Finished 9th at tier 2.

Ponoka Storm U13 Girls won Gold at tier 3 Provincials.

CASA had 2 boys' teams at tier 3 Provincials.

Ponoka U13 boys finished 8th.

Wetaskiwin Vanguards finished 9th but won the ASA fair play award.

Stettler FC U13 Girls won Gold at tier 4 and the fair play award.

Lacombe Panthers U13 Boys won silver at tier 4 and the ASA fair play award.

Lacombe Panthers U15 Boys won Silver at tier 4.  
Stettler FC U15 Girls won Bronze at tier 4.  
Stettler U17 Boys won Bronze at tier 4 and ASA Fair Play  
Penhold Piranhas U17 Boys finished 4th at tier 4.  
Camrose Viking U17 Girls won Bronze at tier 4.  
Stettler FC U19 Girls Won Bronze as well as ASA Fair play award at tier 4.  
Thats 11 medals and 7 ASA Fair Play awards

## **CASA UNITED**

The first year running, I thought it was very successful and would like to thank Alvaro, Christoph and Michelle for dedicating so much time into making this a reality. A special thanks to the coaches who help inform players and parents. Both teams competed at a tier 2 tournament and a tier 1 tournament where they did extremely well.

One of my most proud moments, but also recognize some of our smaller in number communities like Clive, Bentley, Rimbey, Penhold, Sylvan who have come back into the U11 competitive group, At qualifiers seeing your kids come up and receive their medals in multiple age groups was such a great moment, I worked with a few of you, but to see the hard work you and your boards have done and to see the smiles on those kids and coaches faces was one of my highlights of my season.

Going forward to have our associations be SQS compliant we will have to have 1 more strong year of FORMAL coach education. We are putting together a plan for a combined FORMAL and INFORMAL coach education days. It is our hope that coaches that wish to attend get more hands-on experience as well as the opportunity to session plan. While our technical team put on player technical sessions.

We will be looking at putting on a weeklong CASA Summer Soccer Camp

## **CAVALRY AND CASA PARTNERSHIP**

Lastly some very exciting news: we have been working on a partnership with Alberta's only professional soccer club Calgary Cavalry FC, we will work together in coach and player development.

The program will be open to both Male and Female players from 9-10 y/o, 11-12 y/o and 13-14 y/o. As well as coaches young and old who wish to help and learn more and represent CASA and The Cavalry.

This will be a type of skill center that offers players 16 on field sessions, video analysis sessions, sports science sessions along with parent education, players would receive a cavalry kit, payment plans will be available.

Details are still being finalized; our hope is to have a program launched in April.

---

## **APPENDIX B**

District Referee Annual Report- **Submitted by Philip Ignacio**

### **Referee Certifications:**

Mini Referee - 35

Entry Level

- Youth - 11
- District - 18
- Regional - 0

### **Referee Renewals:**

Mini Returning - 20

Youth Returning - 15

District Returning: - 27

Regional Returning- 2

TOTAL OUTDOOR REFEREES - 128

### **Indoor Referees (2022-2023): (2023-2024 Indoor Numbers not yet Available)**

Indoor Conversion – 6

Indoor Refresher – 7

With the resurgence in Referee numbers this year, it is less of a challenge than the previous season. We added a decent number of new Referees. We had 64 Referees Return of our total of 87 Referees last year. We faced very few disciplinary issues in our Youth games, showing that the Referees had good control of the games. We have recently added both an Indoor Adult Coed League, Indoor and Outdoor Adult Men's Recreational League. So, we still face some challenges with having enough officials.

CASA held an In-District Tournament June 23-25, 2023, for U11 to U19 Players. There were 83 Games – 42 officials were utilized from both CASA and Red Deer. I along with other Senior Referees worked as Referee Mentors throughout the Tournament.

CASA Hosted U13 Tier III Boys and Girls Provincials in Ponoka August 11-13, 2023. The assembled Referees did an excellent job, helping to lead to a very successful tournament. Unfortunately, we were only able to offer limited Referee Mentorship opportunities, outside of the Tournaments. This is something that we are working on, trying to create a team of dedicated officials to be part of a District Referee Team. It is a challenge in a District as vast as ours to be able to mentor our Referees.

---

**APPENDIX C: Budget Presentation – 2023 CASA AGM – Darla Preston - Treasurer**

Welcome Everyone, it has been an incredibly successful year for our District. CASA continues to grow as a District, 17 Clubs, with approximately 5,000 players registered over two seasons. Membership has increased 8% since 2019. CASA is the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest District in Alberta, just behind Edmonton and Calgary. This certainly brings on challenges for our one full-time and one part-time employees.

The Executive Board has voted on initiatives for moving forward into 2024 as CASA continues to build the future of Soccer within our District. We continue to work towards ensuring our employees receive adequate compensation at industry standards.

The Executive Director and Technical Director positions continues to have an increased workload. This year the Technical Department will bring on some assistance for the Technical Director to ensure that we can better cover our District. On-site training and development programs, technical staff mentoring, Coach mentoring, Creating development Program curriculum, etc.

CASA Indoor and Outdoor Leagues are programs which continue to work at a deficit. Supporting Playoffs, Provincials and the Provincial Qualifier for Outdoor – Playoffs and Provincial Qualifiers for Indoor. Facility costs continue to rise, which has a huge impact on the cost of running Indoor programs, both League and Player Development. Referee pay is a part of these programs, we will continue to slowly increase the fees for Referees at our Indoor League and Outdoor Playoff and Qualifying Games.