



## **ASA General Regulations**

### **Definitions (not included in Bylaws)**

- (a) CPIC shall mean a check of the National Repository of Criminal Records based on a person's name and date of birth which includes a vulnerable sector check
- (b) Cup Competition shall mean a competition where a team is vying to win a Cup
- (c) Exhibition Game or Exhibition Games shall mean any competition where three (3) or less teams compete against each other in less than seven (7) calendar days;
- (d) Guest Players shall mean players who are not on the registered roster of the team
- (e) Home District shall mean the originating District a player is or has been registered with.
- (f) Inter-District shall mean between one or more ASA Districts
- (g) Member Academy shall mean an academy run by a Sanctioned Member under a Regular Member which includes registered players within their respective membership.
- (h) Member Camp shall mean a camp run by a Sanctioned Member under a Regular Member which includes registered players within their respective membership.
- (i) Non Member Academy shall mean a non-member sanctioned as per Rule 19 to provide supplementary programming to the club and community skill training.
- (j) Non Member Camp shall be a non-member sanctioned as per Rule 19 to provide supplementary programming to the club and community skill training.
- (k) Official Game shall mean any soccer game that is a Sanctioned Game and has met all of the ASA requirements in order for its results to be recorded by ASA for any league play, tournament or competition;
- (l) Provincial Level Three (SQS) Club License shall mean the Canada Soccer Standards for Quality Soccer Club License and the associated standards as established by Canada Soccer and Alberta Soccer.
- (m) Receiving District shall mean the District a player transfers registration from the Home District.
- (n) Referee or Match Official shall mean any person who has met the requirements set forth by ASA (as amended from time to time) and has become eligible to provide Referee Services to any Sanctioned Game and shall include an assistant referee, fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) official, any referee assessor, any referee mentor, referee instructors or any other person specified by ASA to be a Referee and whose name is listed on the Eligible List of Referees for the relevant soccer season;
- (o) Sanctioned Events shall mean any ASA Sanctioned activity that meet the ASA Bylaw, Regulation and Policies requirements and includes activities, competitions and programs run by District Members
- (p) Team shall mean a group of a minimum of seven (7) players
- (q) Usports shall mean national governing body of university sport in Canada.

### **Regulation 1 – Registration of Season Players**

- A. The outdoor season shall commence annually on the 1st day of May and end on the 31st of October. The indoor season shall commence annually on the 1st day of



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November and end on the 30th of April. There may be minor variations on season start-up and end dates from District to District.

- B. Players must be registered seven (7) days before taking part in any Cup Competition.
- C. A player arriving from another province shall not be registered until they provide, in writing, clearance from the Registrar of the Province in which they were previously registered. Such clearances must be copied to the ASA.
- D. All player registration fees shall be paid as directed, in writing, to the ASA office.
- E. The ASA youth player registration fee will be paid per player as registered in the indoor season and per player as registered in the outdoor season. The ASA Adult registration fee will be paid for each unique player per year.

## **Regulation 2 – Players and Team Officials**

### **A. General**

- i. All players and team officials in competitions sanctioned or conducted by the ASA or any District Association shall be registered with each appropriate District and information supplied for ASA Registration platform.
- ii. All ASA Member District Team Staff who are attending a Provincial or Regional Championship are required to complete CPIC Security Clearance. Written confirmation of clearance must accompany each team roster submitted by Districts to ASA to compete in any Provincial Championship.
- iii. District to District Reporting
  - a. Individual youth players will be allowed to register for other District youth teams, provided they follow standard procedures (if applicable) in the new District. Once a youth player has registered with their new District, it will be the responsibility of the Receiving District to inform the Home District of the following registration information of the youth player(s) to include: Last Name, First Name, DOB, Gender, City, Province, District, Club, Age Group, Tier and Team.
  - b. Receiving District must supply registration information to the Home District within fifteen (15) days of the player(s) being accepted in the Receiving District.
  - c. Entire teams will not be allowed leave a District that offers the same level of competition they are currently playing in, without the written permission of the Home District. Individual releases cannot be used to form a team outside the Home District without the approval of the



Home District. A team under this Regulation will be considered to be a minimum of seven (7) players.

- d. All senior players/teams are not restricted by their District Boundaries.

## **B. Players**

### **i. Proof of Age**

- a. Where necessary, birth certificates, passports or other evidence acceptable to the ASA shall be accepted as proof of age and evidence shall accompany all registration forms. The burden of proof of age shall rest with the player.

### **ii. Eligibility**

Player Registration must be completed with the District twenty-four (24) hours prior to participation in ASA Sanctioned Events.

### **iii. Eligibility – Cup Competitions**

- a. Player registration must be completed with the District seven (7) days prior to participation in Cup Competitions.
- b. Youth players who wish to move from one team to another team will not be considered cup-tied if the transfer is completed by the dates identified in the ASA Competition Rule Book for that current year, subject to Home District rules.
- c. Any Senior player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered to be cup-tied if the transfer is completed by the dates identified in the ASA Competition Rules Book for that current year, subject to Home District rules.
- d. A player shall be registered on only one active registered team during a season with the following exceptions:
  - 1. Provincial all-star team, National all-star team, Canada Games team, or an Alberta Summer Games team;
  - 2. A youth player may register with, and play for, both a youth team and a senior team.
    - a. The player will maintain their eligibility to compete in youth and senior provincials if the player has met the conditions outlined in the current Rules on Provincial Competitions.



3. Players competing in ASA Provincial Futsal Championships are not considered cup tied to Provincial Cup Competitions.
  4. Players who compete in “Tier III” Provincials will not be considered to be cup-tied and will be eligible to participate in either Tier II or Tier I Youth Provincials but not both.
  5. Players who compete in “Tier IV” Provincials will not be considered to be cup-tied and will be eligible to participate in any one of Tier III, Tier II and Tier I Youth provincials.
- iv. Jewelry and Non-compulsory Equipment
- a. In all competitions the FIFA Laws of the Game and individual Competition Rules will be followed in regard to jewelry and equipment. Any exemptions granted to the FIFA Laws of the Game or Competition Rules shall be as follows;
    1. FIFA, CSA or ASA exemptions publicly posted/distributed.
    2. FIFA, CSA or ASA individual exemption letter as provided by the respective Association.
  - b. The referee shall not allow anything to be worn by any player if the referee determines that it is, or has become, dangerous to themselves or another player.
    1. Any individual exemption letters provided by a Governing Body must be available for presentation at games and competitions within that Governing Bodies jurisdiction.
- v. Eligibility – General
- a. An amateur player is bound to the club through which they have registered until the end of the league’s current playing season unless otherwise provided in these Regulations and is subject to the regulations governing the movement of players.
- vi. Player – Team Limit
- a. Youth team shall not be permitted to register more than a total of twenty (20) players at any one time during the course of the season and senior team shall not be permitted to register more than a total of twenty-five (25) active players.

## C. Definitions and Age Limits



- i. Definitions on Age Divisions/Age Limits and Qualifying Dates
  - a. Outdoor season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained their nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of their application for registration;
  - b. Indoor Season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained their eighteenth (18<sup>th</sup>) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of their application for registration;
  - c. Indoor and Outdoor Season – An adult player shall mean an amateur who has attained their sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of their application for registration;
  - d. Indoor and Outdoor Season – A classic player shall mean an amateur who has attained their thirtieth (30<sup>th</sup>) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of their application for registration;
  - e. Indoor and Outdoor Season – A master player shall mean an amateur who has attained their thirty fifth (35<sup>th</sup>) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of their application for registration;
- ii. Divisions shall be comprised of the following age groups:
  - a. 16th birthday Adult
  - b. 19th birthday U19
  - c. 17th birthday U17
  - d. 15th birthday U15
  - e. 13th birthday U13
  - f. 11th birthday U11
  - g. U10 and under will be a district by district decision

### **Regulation 3 – Transfer of Players**

- A. A registered player wishing to transfer shall make a written application to the Home District and a completed transfer must be obtained from their Receiving District.
- B. ASA Regulations 2.B.iii.a and 2.B.iii.b will apply to any request for transfer of a player
- C. A registered player must have consent from their club which they are currently registered with prior to transferring. A player shall be allowed to appeal a refused Club transfer, without fee, to the District Association. Amateur player transfers cannot be unreasonably withheld by any person, Association, League or Club. Player transfers shall be granted within seven (7) days of the receipt of their appeal unless the appeal is contested. In the event that the appeal is contested, the District Association will deal with the matter within fourteen (14) days and will render its decision immediately thereafter.



- D. Transfer deadline dates are outlined in the current Competitions Regulation book as per 2.B.iii.a and 2.B.iii.b.
- E. A registered player must give their club seven (7) days notice, in writing, of their intention to transfer.
- F. Players are permitted Two (2) transfers during the current season within the jurisdiction of a District Association. A player cannot be transferred back to the home club until a period of thirty (30) days has elapsed.
- G. It is a Code of Conduct violation for any Club, through its responsible officers or representatives to induce or attempt to induce a registered player to leave their team before the end of the current season. The Code of Conduct violation shall be dealt with by the ASA or the District.

#### **Regulation 4 – Movement of Players – Youth to Seniors**

- A. A youth team may register and play in a senior league in its Home District if a program is not available for that youth age group in the Home District.
- B. With Inter-District agreement, a registered youth player may play, for developmental purposes, an unlimited number of games within the senior league, without affecting their youth status, or eligibility for youth Provincials.
- C. Any registered youth players playing for a senior team must be recorded on league game sheets with a notation of juvenile status and the senior team must have a letter of approval from the coach of the youth team.

#### **Regulation 5 – Competitions**

- A. All Regulations for ASA Competitions will be drafted by the ASA Competitions Committee and approved by the ASA BoD. The latest date for presentation for the upcoming outdoor season will be February 28th, and the latest date for presentation for the upcoming indoor season will be August 31st.

#### **Regulation 6 – Games and Competitions**

- A. CSA and ASA Competitions or Exhibition games shall take precedence over all other games or competitions.

#### **Regulation 7 – Protests**

- A. Protests on games shall be made according to the Regulations of the competition in which the game is played.



### **Regulation 8 – Cup Competitions**

- A. Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Cup Competitions shall be held annually in accordance with the ASA Regulations.

### **Regulation 9 – Competitions**

- A. Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Championship competitions shall be held in each age category annually and shall be open to District Members in good standing,
- B. Regulations of the ASA's Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Championship competitions for each year shall be announced by the ASA.

### **Regulation 10 – Games**

- A. CSA Rules will apply for ASA sponsored competitions not covered by the ASA Competition Rulebooks.

### **Regulation 11 – Tournaments**

- A. Tournaments must be sanctioned by the ASA and are to be conducted as per ASA Tournament Guidelines.
- B. ASA registered teams must only participate in ASA Sanctioned Tournaments within Alberta.
- C. ASA registered teams must only participate in sanctioned Tournaments, outside of Alberta. Tournament must be sanctioned by a Sport Governing Body. Travelling teams attain prior approval via an ASA Travel Permit.
- D. “Guest” players must receive written permission from their registered team. “Guest” players from outside the teams’ Home District must receive written permission from the “guest” players Home District.

### **Regulation 12 - General**

- A. All finals played in ASA sponsored competitions must be played on fields that are marked, have nets, and corner flags;
- B. Players playing in ASA sponsored competitions shall be properly dressed at all times, i.e., shirt, shorts, socks and appropriate footwear.
- C. Any Club, District Association or League desiring to arrange an exhibition game involving a team from another National Association must follow the requirements of the CSA. All request are to be made through ASA.



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- D. Players, participating in ASA sanctioned games must wear numbered shirts. Numbers cannot be duplicated. Players are not permitted to change their number during the game without the permission of the referee.
- E. All clubs under the jurisdiction of the ASA shall place their players at the service of the ASA.
- F. Any team (except an AYSL/AMSL team) having four (4) or more players selected to Regional, Provincial or National team duty, may have affected games postponed. Ten (10) calendar days' notice must be given. There are no appeals. Games affected must not be scheduled/rescheduled within twenty four (24) hours prior to the departure or twenty (24) hours after the return of the effected player(s).

**Regulation 13 – Interpretations**

- A. Any reference to these Regulations in the singular shall also be acknowledged to apply to the plural. All questions regarding gender shall apply equally.

**Regulation 14 – University and College**

- A. The USports and the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference are subject to CSA and ASA Regulations.
- B. ASA registered Amateur players are able to play with Alberta college or university teams without affecting their Club eligibility and vice versa.

**Regulation 15 – Soccer School Instruction**

- A. The ASA shall be the sole authority for the organization and conduct of indoor and outdoor soccer schools within Alberta. The ASA may enter into cooperative profit-sharing soccer skills instructional programs with members of the ASA.
- B. ASA Members may not conduct indoor or outdoor soccer skill camps, schools or clinics without the written consent of, and in conjunction with, the ASA.
- C. Member participants may not conduct indoor or outdoor soccer skills instruction unless in the direct employ of the ASA or in the employ of a member engaged in an approved instructional program.
- D. The technical content and technical delivery of any part of an indoor or outdoor soccer skills program proposed under Regulation 15.A, 16.B or 16.C are subject to prior written approval of the ASA.
- E. The ASA District in which the proposed instructional venture would be conducted, must provide endorsement prior to submission for sanctioning to the ASA.





### **Regulation 16 – School Soccer (Elementary School, Junior High School, High School)**

- A. The ASA sanctions all soccer in registered schools in the following school boards in the province of Alberta;
  - i. Alberta Public School Boards
  - ii. Alberta Separate School Boards
  - iii. Alberta Francophone School Boards
  - iv. Alberta Charter School Boards
- B. School Soccer will be considered secondary development to Active Member and Associate Member programs.
- C. School Soccer programs must be restricted to the registered students at each individual educational institution.
- D. Registered Game Officials cannot accept School Soccer assignments in lieu of ASA Assignments, Regular Member Assignments or Associate Members Assignments;
  - i. Failure to comply with Regulation 16.D can result in disciplinary action against the Game Official involved.
- E. Registered Game Officials with the ASA will be covered by ASA insurance while refereeing School Soccer.
- F. Players and Team Officials are not covered by ASA insurance while participating in School Soccer.
- G. ASA Commercial General Liability, including facilities, does not cover School Soccer.

### **Regulation 17 – Minimum age of Adult (Senior) Soccer Eligibility**

- A. Any youth player must have attained their 16th birthday in order to become eligible to participate in adult league / exhibition games with the following exceptions;
  - i. Participation in the Alberta Major Soccer League (AMSL)
  - ii. Rural District exemptions approved by the ASA Board of Directors.

### **Regulation 18 – Gender Identity and Registration**

- A. A player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies.
  - i. This policy will not apply where restricted by other governing bodies Regulations in specific competitions, including but not limited to the CSA and FIFA.



## Regulation 19 – Non Member Camps and Non Member Academies & Non Member Leagues

### A. Non Member Camp and Non Member Academy Endorsement

- i. Non Member Camps and Non Member Academies must be endorsed by a minimum of One (1) Regular Member, operating in the same District Area as the Camp and Academy is operating.
  - a. If a Non Member Camp and Non Member Academy is operating in multiple District Area's the Camp and Academy must be endorsed by a minimum of one (1) Regular Member, responsible for that Age Category, in each of the District Area's in which it operates.
- ii. Non Member Camp and Non Member Academy Endorsement will be subject to the Non Member Camp and Non Member Academy Endorsement Guidelines in addition to the following Regulations;
  - a. Provide supplementary programming to the club and community skill training by;
    1. Scheduling around club and community games and practices;
    2. Encourage camp and academy players to participate in Regular Member programming by offering information about local programs in registration packages and on academy websites.
  - b. Register all players with the Regular Member who endorsed the program and pay associated fees, including Regular Member, ASA and CSA fees for any non-registered players.
  - c. Must not promote one Regular Member, Club or Community over another
  - d. Endorsed camps and academies must meet the SQS standards by May 1, 2023 to operate after such date.
- iii. Non Member Camps and Non Member Academies who are in full compliance with the Regulations on Non Member Camps and Non Member Academies and the Non Member Camp and Non Member Academy Endorsement Guidelines, according to Alberta Soccer, cannot be unfairly denied endorsement by a Regular Member and decisions to not endorse can be appealed to the ASA Discipline Committee

### B. Un-registered and/or un-sanctioned Academies and Camps & Leagues



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- i. The ASA will not provide any services to unregistered or unsanctioned leagues, camps, academies or other unregistered entities unless approved by the Alberta Soccer Association.
- ii. Un-sanctioned academies, camps and leagues are not covered by ASA Insurance.
- iii. Regular Member or Associate Member of the ASA must not provide any services or sublet contracted field time where ASA has provided a certificate of coinsurance to leagues, camps, academies or other entities who do not register all their players or sanction their programs.
- iv. An individual (who is the age of majority) registered as a player, coach, team manager, Board Member or is employed, with a Member of the ASA (or otherwise falls under the discipline authority of the ASA or a Member) is not permitted to be involved in the organizing, administration or governance structure of an unregistered and/or unsanctioned academy, league or camp. Being involved in “organizing, administration or governance structure” means that an individual is a coach, team manager, board member, director or shareholder of that unregistered and/or unsanctioned academy, league or camp.
- v. Duty to Report
  - a. Any person may report a breach of Regulation 19.B.iii and must do so in writing on the form provided by ASA.
    1. Any reported breach must identify and submit evidence to ASA of the individuals that have breached Regulation 19.B.iii.
  - b. The ASA will not start the process of investigation, warning and suspension from access to services without evidence being included in the complaint.
  - c. It is an offense for a Regular Member to register an individual who has been identified to them, in writing by ASA, to be in breach of Regulation 19.B.iii.
  - d. It is an offense for any Member to, knowingly, withhold reporting information that would be evidence of a breach of Regulation 19.B.iii.
    1. If a member comes to know of a breach affecting another member they are responsible for informing the affected member.
- vi. Investigation
  - a. ASA has fourteen (14) days, at maximum, to confirm the content of the complaint before a warning is issued.



- b. All ASA Members that are known to be potentially impacted by the breach of Regulation 19.B.iii will be notified during the investigation period.
- c. If at anytime, before the Warning time period or Suspension process, including a hearing, is completed the process can be paused to allow for alternative methods of resolution, including but not exclusive to;
  - 1. Open Membership application process begins with a Regular Member or ASA (if applicable).
  - 2. Alternative Dispute Resolution process agreed to by one of the affected Regular Members and the respondent.
- vii. Warning
  - a. Upon receipt of the required evidence of a breach of Regulation 19.B.iii, ASA will issue a written warning to the individual, notifying them to cease and desist any behaviour and actions causing the breach within fourteen (14) days of notice.
- viii. Suspended from Access to Services
  - a. Individuals that fail to provide sufficient proof to ASA that they have stopped the behaviour and actions causing the breach, will be sent a second written notice (“Final Notice”) advising the individual that they will be Suspended from Access to Services within 30 days of receipt of the notice unless they file a written letter of appeal, without fee, to the ASA Discipline Committee.
    - 1. A copy of the process to file an appeal, along with the name and number of an ASA individual that can answer questions, will be included with the Final Notice.
  - b. Suspension of Access to Service will not be put into effect unless the 30-day appeal period has expired without a letter of appeal having been filed; or unless the ASA Discipline Committee upholds the finding.
  - c. Any individual found by ASA to have breached Regulation 19.B.iii while they were registered as a player, coach, team manager, or employed, with a Member of the ASA (or otherwise fell under the discipline authority of the ASA or a Member) at the time of violation of Regulation 19.B.iii, will no longer be able to access any Member or ASA programs, services or benefits until such time as that



individual can prove they are no longer in breach of Regulation 19B.iii (“Suspension from Access to Services and ASA Insurance”).

ix. Penalties

a. First Offence

1. 6 months Suspension after the date that unsanctioned services are ceased

b. Second Offence

1. One (1) year Suspension after the date that unsanctioned services are ceased

c. Third Offence

1. Suspended from Access to Services Indefinitely
  - i. Eligible for application for re-instatement after two (2) years minimum