



CASA RULES AND REGULATIONS

Adopted: April 5, 2023

Updated and Amended April 2026 by CASA Executive Board to align with current Alberta Soccer, Canada Soccer and IFAB Rules and standards. CASA Procedures updated to reflect current practices. NO RULES HAVE BEEN CHANGED

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CASA REGULATIONS & RULES OF PLAY

CASA – Central Alberta Soccer Association is the official governing body of all soccer in District #5 – Youth & Senior, Male & Female, indoor & outdoor.

These Rules of Play conform to the constitution of Alberta Soccer Association (ASA) subject to minor exceptions. These rules apply to all leagues sanctioned by Central Alberta Soccer Association, hereinafter referred to as CASA. Any provincial competition shall be governed by ASA Rules of Play. Any national competition shall be governed by Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) Rules of Play. Except where modified by CASA and/or ASA and/or CSA, the laws by which all games are to be played are those currently approved by the Federation of International Football Associations (FIFA).

SECTION 1 – MEMBERSHIP AND TEAM REGISTRATIONS

- A. Where the Community Associations are prepared to support and sponsor soccer they will be the recognized authority within their boundaries and will appoint a Representative as a liaison with CASA. Where the Community Associations support an organization or club within their boundary(ies) that provide playing opportunities for players, the organization or club shall be the recognized authority within their boundary(ies) and shall appoint a Representative as a liaison with CASA.
- B. All Community Associations / Clubs must ensure, to the maximum extent possible, that all those wishing to play soccer are afforded the opportunity to do so.
- C. CASA shall have the authority to decide which division a team should enter. However, once registered in an age group, a team or player cannot move to a lower age group in CASA or ASA competitions without approval of the organizing body, even though its players or the player would qualify for the lower age group.
- D. Regular members shall meet all requirements in the CASA By-Laws and the following
 1. **Must file with CASA Annually a copy of its most recent Alberta Registries status and contact list of Active Board of Directors**
 2. Must hold its Annual General Meeting in accordance with the guidelines of the Alberta Societies Act and register the date of the AGM with CASA.
 3. Operate within the geographical boundaries of the District area as defined by the ASA Board of Directors
 4. Notify CASA of any change in office or address within 30 days, in writing.

- E. Members **shall be required** to attend a minimum of two CASA Board Meetings per year. The recommended meetings are the Annual General Meeting (late November or early December) and the Technical Meeting (late January or early February)
1. 1st Offence – Written Warning
 2. 2nd Offence - \$1000.00 bond to be held for one year, if by that time the Association has not complied, the bond cheque will be cashed.
 3. 3rd Offence – Review of Membership standing.

SECTION 2 – AGE LIMITS AND PLAYER REGISTRATIONS

- a) U5 Under 5 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U7 Under 7 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U9 Under 9 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U11 Under 11 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U13 Under 13 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U15 Under 15 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U17 Under 17 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year U19 Under 19 years of age prior to January 1st of Current year

ASA Age group Categories chart is available from CASA on a yearly basis

Any team that includes in one of its games a player who is over the age limit shall forfeit the game and shall be subject to disciplinary action by CASA.

- b) Team affiliation shall be set annually by CASA. CASA reserves the right to demand proof of age from any player registering.
- c) Proof of age can be provided only by birth certificates, baptism certificates, passports, landed immigrant papers or affidavits. Declarations of facts must be signed by the parents or guardian of the player and witnessed by a Commissioner of Oaths. The burden of proof of age rests with the player.
- d) All players taking part in CASA programs must be registered with a CASA Community Association Club, or Associate Member.
- e) Teams affiliating with CASA shall:
 - i) Register each player using the registration system set out by CASA.
 - ii) Minimum number of register players required:
 - U11 Outdoor (8 players)
 - U11 Indoor (7 players)
 - U13-U19 Outdoor (11 Players)
 - U13-U19 Indoor Players (7 players)

A team that registers fewer than the required number of players the deadlines set by CASA and its leagues shall be classed as improperly registered. Such a team WILL NOT BE allowed to participate further until properly registered. All Players Must be registered into the online registration system to be classed as properly registered.
- f) No player shall register or play for more than one community Association or Club under the jurisdiction of CASA or any other District unless properly transferred. Refer to Rule 23 – a) in this manual for the one exception - a youth player who has reached the age of sixteen playing on Senior Team.
- g) **Recommended Team Roster Sizes**
 - U5 – 7 to 9 players – 3 vs 3 game
 - U7 – 8 to 10 players – 4 vs 4 game
 - U9 – 9 to 12 players – 5 v 5 game
 - U11- Recommended 15 players (20 maximum) 7 vs 7 game.
 - U13 - 9 v 9 :game U15– U19 – 20 maximum players – 11 vs 11 game
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PROCEDURES FOR ALL MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS:

1. **ALL PLAYER REGISTRATIONS-** Both League Players and Mini Soccer Registrations must be submitted to the CASA office by the Registration Deadline. ALL Registrations must include the following information.
 - a. First & Last Name
 - b. Date of Birth
 - c. Address
 - d. Phone Number
 - e. Email Address
2. **ALL COACH REGISTRATIONS-** Both League and Mini Soccer Coaches must be submitted to the CASA office by the Registration Deadline. ALL Coach Registrations must include the following information.
 - f. First & Last Name
 - g. Date of Birth
 - h. Address
 - i. Phone Number

j. Email Address

3. **BENCH PARENTS FOR LEAGUE** - an approved list (Police Check required) of Bench Parents for teams competing in League Play must be submitted in advance of any games they will be attending.

k. First & Last Name

Please refer to CASA Rules & Regulations for timelines on registering players after season commencement.

SECTION 3 – LEAGUE PLAY

The CASA outdoor season shall include regular league competitions held in the spring.

Play shall commence on the dates set annually by CASA through its District Leagues. Schedules may not be altered following commencement of play except with the approval of CASA. ASA, Provincial and Canada Soccer games have priority over CASA games.

LEAGUES

- The season will normally consist of play between teams of the same age group and division. The make-up of each league shall be determined by the respective league committee in accordance with the regulations set out by CASA.
- CASA shall make available to all participants within the leagues the appropriate information to enable these participants to play in accordance with that League's format.
- Where there are insufficient teams in an age group and/or division to form a viable league, CASA may combine such teams of a different age group and/or division if it is considered practical and logical to do so.
- CASA may direct any team to move to another division that has a level of play more suitable to that team as illustrated by past performances. Implementation of any such move may be initiated by CASA at any time during the season.
- Format for determining divisional champions shall be at the CASA League Chair's discretion. Furthermore CASA shall ensure that all participants are informed prior to the commencement of the season of the said format.
- Representative to District, ASA Regional, Provincial or Intercity competitions by teams shall be determined at the respective Leagues' organizing meeting. Upon approval of format by CASA, information on the competitions shall be provided to the teams involved by the CASA Registrar.

-Outdoor Provincial Declarations- All teams vying for a Provincial Berth (where no league is provided in CASA) must state their intentions to the CASA Office no later than June 1 to take part in the Provincials. Provincials for Tier 4 will be held the 2nd or 3rd weekend of July, the 2nd weekend of August for Tier II and III as required (after Tier IV Provincials). Tier I will be held the last weekend of August. Tournament format will depend upon the number of teams in each Tier, age group and gender. No team is guaranteed a berth at provincials.

b) INDOOR LEAGUES- INDOOR PROVINCIAL PLAYDOWNS

- An Indoor League will be provided in every case where there are sufficient teams to do so. Age groups and genders may be mixed to ensure games are available to all interested teams.
- Indoor Provincial Playdowns- All teams vying for an Indoor Provincial Berth (Both CASA League and teams playing Out of District as Exhibition teams) must state their intentions to the CASA Office no later than January 5 to take part in the Playdown. Playdowns will be held a minimum of 3 weeks prior to the Provincial Tournament. Playdown
- Tournament format will depend upon the number of teams in each Tier, age group and gender. No team is guaranteed a berth at provincials.

SECTION 4 – NUMBER OF REGISTERED PLAYERS, PLAYING UP AND NEW PLAYERS

- a) All CASA teams may register up to a maximum of 20 players at any one time during the season. Senior teams will be allowed to abide by and subject to regulations as outlined in registration format directed by ASA.
Players who are not listed on the game sheet and who do not play in the game, shall not be considered part of the team roster for that game, whether or not they are deemed to be dressed for that game.
- b) A CASA player may be "played up" to a higher division team with the written approval of the player, coach and parents, notwithstanding the required approval from the District. This is limited to five (5) games during the season. If the player plays a further game up he/she shall be considered part of that team and shall be registered with CASA as such.
- c) Teams may only bring up players from a lower division of the same age group or from an equal or lower division of a lower age group. For example, a Tier I/II player in the lower age group is only eligible to play Tier I/II in the higher age group (not Tier III or IV). Thus, a Tier IV player in the same age group is eligible to play Tier I/II or III in the same age group or a higher age group.

- d) A player's play-up game is any game in which the player is listed on the game sheet, is dressed for and plays in the game. It is the responsibility of the coach to advise CASA and to record the play-up game as being the player's 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th game.
- e) Unless properly transferred, a player may only play-up from his or her community team to a team from the same community.
- f) These play-up rules relate to the age group and division in which the players are registered, not to birth dates of the players. Thus a player who is registered in an age group higher than that required by his or her birth date cannot be moved down to play for a team registered in an age group corresponding to his/her birth date that season.
- g) These play-up rules may be relaxed for exhibition or invitational competitions.
- h) In league play a new player must be registered three (3) days prior to any game. In the event the new player exceeds the 20-player limit, one player must be dropped off the roster. A new player is a player who has not registered with CASA in the current season.
- i) ASA and/or CASA player registration rules shall apply to teams participating in ASA and/or CASA competitions.
- j) VIOLATING ANY OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION WILL RESULT IN FORFEITURE OF THE GAME AND POSSIBLE DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY CASA.

SECTION 5 – ELIGIBLE PLAYERS, TRANSFERS & RELEASES

- a) An eligible player is one who has properly registered, is not suspended, and resides within the CASA boundaries, unless properly transferred.
 - Playing an ineligible player shall result in the forfeiture of games in which the player took part and may lead to disciplinary action against the coach and/or the subject team.
- b) A player may represent the community in which he or she originally signs if he/she moves to another area during the current season, and may continue to do so until the next season, indoor or outdoor.
- c) It is an offense for any Club through its responsible officers and or representatives to induce or attempt to induce a registered player of a Team under the jurisdiction of ASA/CASA to leave his/her team before the end of the current season. The offense shall be dealt with by the ASA or League in Membership concerned, if the Club and Players are under the same jurisdiction and by the ASA in all other cases. (ASA policy on Player Movement)
- d) Unless otherwise sanctioned by CASA involved under special circumstances, a player shall not be permitted to transfer more than twice in the current season. Upon transfer, the player shall remain with that team for a minimum of thirty (30) days.
- e) The transfer of players shall be completed through the CASA Executive Director Transfers will be completed by CASA. Transfers are valid only until the end of the season, indoor or outdoor, to which the transfer pertains.
- f) A player shall not be permitted to transfer after July 31st for the outdoor season in accordance with ASA ruling.
- g) All appeals relating to the transfer of players must be submitted to CASA in accordance with Section 12 of these regulations.
- h) A non-resident player is a player who has been duly approved by CASA to play for a team outside his/her residence district. Each approval is valid for one playing season only. Player shall acquire proper form from CASA Executive Director to be officially released.
- i) A player shall only be registered on one active registered team at any time during a season with the following exceptions:
 - o Provincial all-star team, National all-star team, or an Alberta Summer Games team;
 - o CASA United teams formed for training in advance of the regular season's completion. (These are not considered Active Teams)
 - o 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 ASA Rules and Regulations on Provincial Competitions.

SECTION 6 – DEFINITION OF TIERS

1. **House League/Development:** All players registered and only playing within their own community or in a CASA sanctioned league not competing for Provincial declaration.
2. **Tier IV:** Community based teams. Try outs are not held (as per ASA Rules and Regulations) teams are split equally including all levels of players and competing in district league play.
3. **Tier III:** Community based teams. Try outs are held competing in district league play.

MULTIPLE TEAM EVALUATIONS

All communities with two or more teams in any one division can inform CASA (with adequate notice) of evaluation dates for said teams. Qualified evaluators (appointed by the CASA Executive Board) from outside the home community can then be assigned to observe the player assessment upon request of the club. Teams will be split equally according to skill level. Considerations be made for special requests (e.g. players travelling together – siblings)

TIER III: CASA Clubs who wish to form teams to take part in Tier III competitions must inform CASA (with a minimum of two weeks' notice) evaluation dates for said teams.–Qualified evaluators (appointed by the CASA Executive Board) from outside

the home club may be assigned at the request of the club to observe the player assessment Tier III teams formed after the Tier IV Season will require that a minimum of 51% be changed from an original Tier IV roster of the players if they plan to vie for a Provincial declaration. All Coaches will have a minimum of Soccer for Life Certification. Players trying out for the teams will be required to commit to the team for the duration of the season – May to August.

Tier III Tournament teams – Tier III rules from above apply. Players will be members of current Tier IV teams within their own club. They will be allowed to train with the Tier III tournament team and take part in a maximum of one tournament with said team (with written acknowledgement of the tournament releasing head coach) during the regular Tier IV season May and June.

Tier III League teams - Tier III rules from above apply. If no viable Tier III league is available within CASA (minimum of three teams of the same gender and age group), teams may be registered in the EMSA (Edmonton Minor Soccer Association) Outdoor League at the request of the club. All games may be played in EMSA communities. Players will be required to pay their local associations' registration fees and any costs over and above that will be the responsibility of the teams. Rescheduling of games without prior consent of EMSA is not allowed in this League.

Provincial Play downs rules apply see - SECTION 3 – LEAGUE PLAY – Spring and Summer Leagues a) - Provincial Play downs may include tournament teams if applicable.

4. Tier I, II & III: CASA District teams (referred to as CASA United). Try outs to be held under the direction of CASA as well as CASA staff and executive. Open to all players in Central Alberta of the appropriate age group. Evaluation dates for said teams will be set by the coaches creating the team with the assistance of CASA staff and publicized on the CASA website. All Coaches will have a minimum of Soccer for Life Certification for Tier III and Tier II, and a minimum C-License for Tier 1 Players trying out for the teams will be required to commit to the team for the duration of the season – May to September.
 - a. Tier I & II Tournament teams – Tier I & II rules from above apply. Players will be members of current Tier IV teams within their own club. They will be allowed to train with the Tier I or II tournament team and take part in a maximum of one tournament with said team (with written acknowledgement of the releasing coach) during the regular Tier IV season May and June following the CASA Trialist / Playing Up Rules.

SECTION 7 – PLAYERS FOR TEAMS IN PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS

- a) Teams that qualify to represent CASA in ASA Provincial finals will be allowed to add players to their regular league roster (to the maximum permitted by ASA) subject to ASA regulations. Regulations on adding players shall be available through the CASA Executive Director.
- b) Players who have played in a final qualifying competition or tournament to represent CASA in ASA Provincial competition will be considered cup tied. (i.e., Teams A and B play off to determine CASA representation for ASA Provincials. Team A will go on to represent CASA. Players from Teams C and D **MAY** be transferred to Team A for that ASA Provincial competition. Pick up rules for the Provincial Tournament --- if your team does not drop below 16 players -- *pick-ups are not allowed*.
- c) Teams must have potential pick up players in mind when declaring themselves for the Qualifier if they may be needed.
 - d) Teams not following the rules will be subject to fines for dropping from Provincials after the Qualifier.
 - e) All teams qualifying for ASA competitions must confirm the appropriate rosters for each team with CASA on deadlines provided by CASA.
 - f) Failure to show at any of the above competitions once confirmed will result in disciplinary action by CASA.
 - g) The teams identified that will represent CASA in District, ASA Provincial competition must comply with above rules and deadlines as may be applicable.

SECTION 8 – NUMBER OF PLAYERS & SUBSTITUTIONS (U11-U19)

- a) Any eleven (11) players on the team's official roster for a game may be on the field at one time. A minimum of seven (7) players on each team is required to officially start a game. **U11 Specific Rules – Any seven (7) players on the team's official roster. A minimum of six (6) players on each team are required to officially start a game. U13 Specific Rules – Any seven (7) players on the team's official roster. A minimum of six (6) players on each team are required to officially start a game.**
- b) There shall be no restrictions to the number of substitutions made during a game. A substitution may be made only when the play has been stopped by the referee and then only at the referee's discretion - Outdoor and Indoor non-boarded . Indoor Boarded soccer allows substitution on the fly. A substitution will not be allowed for any player who has been ordered off the field by the referee for infractions of the Laws of the Game.
- c) ASA and CSA substitution rules shall apply to all Provincial and National Competitions. These rules shall also apply to competitions

within CASA Leagues.

SECTION 9 – TEAM MANAGEMENT

- a) Only ASA and/or CSA Certified Referees shall officiate at any scheduled games within the District. This shall include all league games, playoffs, invitational, district, intercity, and Provincially hosted tournaments.
In the event the assigned official does not show, or becomes incapacitated during a game, it is the responsibility of the coaches of both teams to agree on the supply of a replacement official. The game **MUST BE PLAYED** as scheduled and any delay to the start of the game may be compensated for by reducing the length of halves accordingly, as equal halves.
- b) For those games where a referee has not been assigned, the home team is responsible for providing a competent official. If the home team is unable to provide a competent official, the away team shall be advised and may provide the competent official.
NOTE: ASA Rule 13(c) – “No person shall officiate as a referee in any competitions under the jurisdiction of the Association unless he is on the Official List of Referees.” If no competent referee is available, it is the responsibility of the coaches of both teams to mutually agree on how to officiate the game.
NOTE: ASA Rule 13(b) – “If for unforeseen circumstances a referee is unable to act, District, Leagues, or Teams shall have the right to agree on some other person to officiate.”
Amendment to the acceptance of the official(s) shall be deemed conclusive by both teams once the game has commenced.
- c) The home team must supply the game ball unless in the opinion of the referee the visiting team has a more satisfactory ball.
Ball Sizes
U5 – U7 Size 3
U9 – U11 Size 4
U13 -U19 Size 5
- d) Field of Play and Net Sizes (Minimum and Maximum Required)
- U5 – Field: Width 18- 22Metres by Length 25 - 30 – Metres Net – Height 4 ft x Width 6 ft
 - U7 - Width 18- 22 Metres by Length 25- 30 Metres Net - Height 4 ft x Width 6 ft
 - U9 - Width 25-30 Metres by Length 30-36 Metres Net - Height 5 ft x Width 8 ft
 - U11 - Width 30-36 metres Length 40-55 metres Net - Height 6.5 ft to 16.5 ft
 - U13 - Width 40-55 metres Length 65-75 metres
Net - 6.5 ft to 18.5 ft
 - U15-U19 (Adult) - Width 64-75 Metres by Length 100-110 Metres Net - Height **8 FT X WIDTH 24 FEET**
- e) Footwear (soccer shoes) must conform to Law IV of the Laws of the Game (metal soccer cleats are not permissible). Any player whose footwear does not conform will not be allowed on the playing field.
- f) Apart from the goalkeeper, all players from the same team must wear the same colored shirts preferably with minimum 6” high numbers on the back.
- g) All age groups must wear shin guards. Shin guards, which must be covered entirely by the stockings, shall be made of suitable material (rubber, plastic, polyurethane or a similar substance) and shall afford a reasonable degree of protection.
- h) In the event of a duplication of colors, it is the responsibility of the home team to change to a contrasting color.
- i) The wearing of rigid casts even though covered with foam or other protective padding **WILL NOT BE ALLOWED**. Players may wear braces where in the opinion of the referee, such braces are not POTENTIALLY INJURIOUS to other players on the field.
- j) For all players, head protection shall be permitted as defined by FIFA Law.
- k) Tights that are longer than team shorts must be the same color as the team shorts. Long pants may be allowed at the discretion of the official due to inclement weather, under shorts, socks and shin guards.
- l) Coaches shall identify themselves with the referees before the start of the game. For any mixed gender team , at least one **team** official must be of each gender. Refer to Rule of Two.
- m) Coach volunteer screening must be of the minimum standard as outlined in the ASA Volunteer Screening policy.
- n) Clubs are responsible for providing properly marked fields for their home games that are scheduled to be played. Home teams must provide nets and corner flags, not less than 5 feet in height for all home games.
- o) It shall be at the discretion of the referee in determining the safety and the condition of the field. He/she shall have the power to deem it unsafe for play or commencement of play.
- p) As per ASA/FIFA LAWS - No Jewelry Policy
- q) ID cards are required for all League players U11-U19 and must be shown to the Match Officials prior to kick-off. Team officials on the bench during a game must provide picture ID (if requested) to be checked by the referee prior to game.
- r) Cap on scoring for points in standings-only +5 maximum score will be recorded.
- s) **No player shall appear on any league roster until he/she has received a CASA ID Card.**

(U11-U19 League Players). PLAYER CARDS MUST BE WITHIN THE POSSESSION OF THE TEAMS AT ALL GAMES – **No exceptions.** Teams / Players without cards will not be allowed on the field without the express consent of the CASA Executive Director. Teams missing their cards and without permission will automatically forfeit the game. New players joining the teams just before or during the season must be registered with the CASA District Office 24 hours prior via email to be allowed on the field. They must also have a player card to be added to the roster.

*Pictures are to be taken for all players participating in CASA Spring Leagues. It is up to your Association Registration Committee to take the pictures or the players supply the proper sized picture. (Refer to ID Pictures)

Player Cards can be printed through RAMP, the online Registration system.

- U9 Development players do not require an ID Card
- Please refer to CASA Rules & Regulations for timelines on registering players after season commencement.

SECTION 10 – DURATION OF GAMES

Group	Duration of Play
U5-U9	as per CASA/ ASA LTPD Coach Manuals
U9 Development	25-minute halves
U11	30-minute halves
U13	40-minute halves
U15	45-minute halves (Full field soccer begins)
U17-U19/Adult	45-minute halves

All games will be regulation time only. Half-time will be a minimum of five (5) minutes, otherwise at the discretion of the referee.

SECTION 11 – GAME SHEETS

- Game sheets will be supplied online through the CASA Website, each team must print out their Game Sheet in advance of the game, and cross off players not participating. The coach must include the names of players who may arrive late. Names of players cannot be added once the game has begun. **All team officials including bench parents must be listed on the game sheet.**
- **Coaches are responsible for the accuracy of the information on the game sheet.** Coaches are responsible for ensuring that the game date, location, age group, division and league are clearly identified on the game sheets, as well as identifying players as follows:
 - Play-up games (noting game 1,2,3,4 or 5)
 - Any suspended players (serving game 1, 2, 3 and/or specific card (Yellow or Red)
 - Team officials on the bench during a game must provide a picture ID to be checked by the referee when requested prior to the game.

THE COMPLETED GAME SHEET MUST BE GIVEN TO THE REFEREE PRIOR TO THE START OF THE GAME.

Both coaches have the right to review the opposing team's game sheet. If either coach feels that a name appearing on the game sheet is that of an ineligible player, he may signify his/her intention to protest on the back of the game sheet before the referee leaves the field of play.

- The game sheets may be scrutinized by CASA against the original registrations and if a case exists against a team, it will be turned over to the Disciplinary Committee for action.
- A team found in conflict with rules will forfeit the game and will be subject to disciplinary action by CASA.
- No other protest will be considered in this regard unless these procedures are followed.
- After the game, the referee shall sign and record the score on the game sheets, take a picture of the game sheets and then hand the game sheets to each coach
- GAME RESULTS FOR STATS:**
 - Score statistics will be posted on the Website as soon as they are verified by the C.A.S.A Office Staff
 - **Game Sheets** are to be **emailed** OR TEXTED to the C.A.S.A. office staff within 24 hours of the game(s) by the referee.
 - **NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE**

Notification of schedule changes must be reported to the C.A.S.A office staff immediately.

SECTION 12 – SCHEDULES, POSTPONED GAMES & LATE KICKOFFS

- Games must be played as scheduled, unless the fields are closed by the community, or the game is canceled by the league staff.
- Regular league games cancelled due to weather may be rescheduled and played prior to playoffs. Playoff games cancelled will be rescheduled by the CASA Staff,, or at the mutual agreement of both teams involved in the playoff game.

Games called for weather – Once a Match has been suspended due to weather the following Regulations apply (If the game cannot be continued on the same day). The game must be rescheduled with a date and time confirmed between the Coaches, and forwarded to the CASA Office. The game will restart from the time it was suspended. If 2/3 of the game has been played it is considered completed

e.g.- 60-minute game 40 minutes : 80-minute game – 54 minutes : 90-minute game 60 minutes. As per the Referee's time

- c) Notwithstanding rule (a) above, if for whatever reason game times or delays should have to be changed, it is the responsibility of the home team coach to seek mutually agreeable arrangements with the visiting coach and Referee assignors, as soon as possible but prior to league playoffs. The home team shall make the CASA Staff statistician aware of his or her intent to alter any scheduled games. The Coach requesting the reschedule must agree to one of the "reasonable" dates provided by the opposing team (the opposing team should supply a minimum of two dates). If an agreement cannot be made it could result in a forfeiture by the requesting Coach.
- d) The CASA Executive Board may intervene at any time if an arrangement cannot be made.
- e) Games scheduled by CASA take precedence over any other games. Fields booked to the schedule are not available to any other group for practice, games or other activities.
- f) Only the Referee has the discretionary power to suspend or terminate games whenever, by reason of the elements (in accordance with ASA weather policies), interference by spectators, or other cause, he or she considers such stoppage necessary. The Referee will file a report of the incident to CASA and the game will be rescheduled if time for rescheduling is available.
 - g) The maximum waiting time to begin a scheduled game is TEN MINUTES beyond the time shown on the schedule. If the team does not have a minimum of SEVEN players (for U13-U19) or FIVE players (for U11) 10 minutes after the scheduled game time, the result is a forfeiture. A 3-0 win will be awarded to the opposition. If both teams do not have the minimum number of players, neither team will be awarded any points.
- h) If exceptional circumstances prevail that prevent a team playing a game previously confirmed by both coaches, the game may be rescheduled, with advice from both coaches involved.

Where the schedule dictates and in order to vacate fields for games that follow, the period allocated to play games should not be exceeded, irrespective of late kickoffs or other delays caused by either team or other elements. Subject to it being validated by CASA, the score standing at the termination of such games shall represent the final result.

SECTION 13 – SCORING, LEAGUE STANDINGS, FORFEITURE OF GAMES

- a) In a league and cup competition (if applicable), points will be awarded as follows:

WIN = 3 POINTS TIE = 1 POINTS LOSS = 0 POINTS

A team that wins a game via a penalty kick contest shall have one (1) goal added to their team as it stood prior to the start of the penalty kick procedure.

- b) Forfeiture of games shall result in the opposing team being declared 3-0 winners.
- c) Forfeiture of a game by both teams, due to, for example, both teams not showing as scheduled or playing ineligible players, shall result in no points being awarded to either team.
- d) Where a team wins a game, but their opponents lodge a protest based on illegal rosters or violation of the Rules and Regulations of the League and the protest is upheld, the team winning the protest shall be declared 3-0 winners.
- e) If a team drops out of league competition before completion of the schedule, all games played prior thereto, and schedule thereafter shall be 3-0 wins to the opponents. A fine shall be levied against the local Association for the remaining games as per CASA Policy.
- f) Should an improperly registered team be allowed to play, then under the authority of the Executive Director games involving such teams shall have the opposing teams declared 3-0 winners.
- g) Notwithstanding the above, if CASA considers that deliberate and willful forfeiture has occurred to thwart or benefit a team's standing in league or playoff schedules, the declared winner shall be assigned a score by CASA appropriate to the situation. In addition, CASA may take disciplinary action.
 - h) **Score Cap** – +5 score cap on all league games. The game will continue as it is but the score will be posted at no more than +5 over the opposition. The actual score will however be sent to the C.A.S.A. office. Goals for and against will be based on the +5 score cap.

SECTION 14 – TIE BREAKING RULES -

The following tie-breaking rules will be used to determine final league standings where two or more teams are tied on points taking

the entire round-robin into consideration where applicable. The same tie-breaking rules will apply for divisional playoffs where deemed practical by CASA to determine a championship.

In leagues comprising teams of different age groups and/or divisions, unless specifically noted on the schedule or otherwise, only the results against teams of the same age group and/or divisions shall be used for tie-breaking purposes if such teams finish tied on points from ALL the games in such leagues.

“Previous **matches** results – The winner of the **previous matches** between two teams tied in points shall be awarded the higher position.”

1. 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 regular season or competition will be awarded the higher standing.
2. Most goals **For** – If #1 and #2 do not break the tie, the team scoring the most goals in all of their matches will be awarded the higher standing.
3. Least goals **Against** – If #1, #2, and #3 do not break the tie, the team with the least goals scored against them in all of their matches will be awarded the higher standing
4. For any teams still tied under criteria #1-4, **A one game playoff requiring a result will be held at a neutral field with a coin flip determining home team. If the game results in a tie it goes directly to penalty kicks. Procedure below:**

Five penalty kicks from each team must be taken, with the team scoring the most goals declared the winner. If, after the first five penalty kicks, there still remains a tie, single penalty kicks must be taken by each team, thus declaring the winner. Only the players on the field at the end of the game shall be eligible to take the penalty kicks.
5. **All League Playoff games and Qualifier Double Knockout Tournament Games go straight to penalty kicks. No overtime**

CURRENT ASA YOUTH AND SENIOR OUTDOOR AND INDOOR COMPETITION RULES SHALL APPLY TO ALL PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS.

SECTION 15– PLAYOFFS & DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS.

All CASA League Committees shall abide to the following criteria:

- a) Submit Tournament Rules to CASA Executive Director for approval.
- b) Upon approval, ensure distribution of tournament rules of play to all participating teams.
- c) Record and submit infractions noted by officials. Refer to Section CASA Discipline & Appeals Policy

SECTION 16- PROVINCIAL QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT

Provincial Qualifying Tournament Rules will be posted annually and forwarded to all Associations prior to the tournaments.

1. Teams declaring to take part in the Provincial Qualifier must ensure that only players registered to the team appear on their roster
2. The Executive Director must sign off on the roster before attending the first game. Prior to declaring for this tournament each team must ensure that their team is able to attend Provincials to represent the District.
3. Pick up players cannot be added until after the Qualifying Tournament. Teams who know they are unavailable to attend provincials must declare themselves as Exhibition ONLY for the Provincial Qualifying tournament.
4. Alberta Soccer pick up rules for the Provincial Tournament --- if your team does not drop below 16 players -- *pick-ups are not allowed*.
1. Teams must have potential pick up players in mind when declaring themselves for the Qualifier if they may be needed. Teams not following the rules will be subject to fines for dropping from Provincials after the Qualifier.

SECTION 17- TEAM, COACH & PLAYER COMMITMENTS

Each and every team that registers with CASA has the responsibility to discharge its commitments, as follows:

- i) correct registration of players
- ii) compliance with CASA Rules and Regulations
- iii) completion of CASA regular league and cup play
- iv) representation at Provincial Finals (if applicable)

b) Any arbitrary non-fulfillment of these commitments may result in forfeiture of games and possible suspension, fines and or bonds of team, players and/or coach as appropriate.

SECTION 18– SPECIAL NEEDS PLAYERS

CASA has an obligation to allow any player the opportunity to play soccer in its programs, subject to that player observing and conforming to CASA Rules of Play and FIFA Laws of the Game.

However, in the case of special needs players, subject to the nature of the special needs, the Rules of Play contained herein shall be

relaxed as they relate to the age groups to enable such players to register with the community's lower team entry in an age group considered equal to their learning enjoyment and capacity, notwithstanding their birthdate. In order to clear registration for such players, CASA should be given a letter from the player's parent or guardian attesting to the player's condition supplemented.

SECTION 19 – TOURNAMENT ATTENDANCE – OUT OF DISTRICT

All CASA registered teams wishing to participate in tournaments outside of their League **must receive permission from CASA** to play outside of the district, from ASA to play outside of Alberta, and from the CSA to play outside of North America.

Teams traveling to out-of-District tournaments (other than ASA Provincials) must lodge a listing of their team players with the CASA District office with the online application. Applications for travel will not be entertained unless accompanied by such a listing.

The online applications requesting permission and notifying CASA of intent to participate in out of District tournaments shall include the following:

- Tournament place and dates
- Division and Tier participating in
- Names of at least two team officials accepting responsibility for the team players on behalf and for CASA

Team roster and any required Trialist forms. - Submitted in Excel form to the CASA Office a minimum of ten days prior to the tournament commencement date.

Noncompliance may result in suspension of team officials and players.

SECTION 20-GAME PROTESTS

- a) PROTESTS – Initial protests must be submitted in writing via the game sheet to the CASA Executive Director, CASA Discipline Chair within two (2) hours following the game or event giving rise to the protest. Within 24 hours email confirmation must be submitted to the Coaches Local Association and the CASA Executive Director, Discipline Chair and Technical Director. All protests must fully outline the basis of the protest and be signed by the team representative. A ruling in writing will be issued to the player or team representative by the CASA Discipline Committee; however, if time is of the essence, an oral confirmation of the ruling will first be conveyed to the player or team representative by a member of the CASA Discipline Committee.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL A PROTEST BE ACCEPTED ON A REFEREE'S DECISION OR INTERPRETATION OF THE LAWS OF THE GAME.

Protests will only be accepted, by the team representative that are based on violations of the Rules of Play as laid down in this guide and only then if there are sound and unequivocal facts that the spirit of the game as befits youth or senior soccer has not been protected or preserved.

Please refer to CASA Policy for Discipline and Appeals

SECTION 21- DISCIPLINE - Game related Offenses

1. In all cases of alleged physical assault of, attempted physical assault of, or threatening behavior towards a game official, the accused shall be suspended from all soccer activities until the case has been decided upon by the Alberta Soccer Association.
 2. Suspensions shall be served for a continuous period or for consecutive games, except where there is a break in the competition, in which case the suspension may be continued accordingly.
NOTE: All suspended players and team officials shall be noted on game sheets indicating Game 1, 2, 3, etc. The suspended player(s) shall not be on the field or with their team during suspension.
1. Suspension guidelines for specific offenses are set out by ASA Rules. CASA and any Associations / Clubs shall use these guidelines in setting punishments as listed below.
 2. A player receiving a red card shall automatically sit out the next league, playoff, exhibition, or tournament game. A coach ejected from a game shall automatically sit out the next league playoff, exhibition, or tournament game

3. GAME SUSPENSIONS

1. *Cautions (Yellow Cards)* The following suspensions for Yellow Card accumulation during a season shall be automatic:
 - a) 3 cautions 1 game suspension
 - 2 additional cautions 1 game suspension
 - 1 additional caution 2 game suspension
- 1 additional caution 4 game suspension plus, must meet with CASA Discipline Committee
- b) Two Caution Cards received by a player in a single game will not be calculated in the above and will be dealt with as an ejection (Red Card). Single Caution Cards amassed will not be used in determining an ejection. The CASA Discipline Committee in issuing

suspensions shall consider Red Cards received during a season.

2. *Ejections (Red Cards)* The following suspension for actions against other players or team officials:

For persistent misconduct or foul or abusive language:

First Offense 2 game suspension minimum

Second Offense 4 game suspension minimum

For violent conduct or serious foul play:

First Offense 4 game suspension minimum

Second Offense 8 game suspension minimum

Ejections (Red Cards) for action against game officials as directed by ASA:

Persistent criticism or disputing of decision:

First Offense 2 game suspension minimum

Second Offense 4 game suspension minimum

Third Offense 8 game suspension minimum

Use of foul, abusive or insulting remarks:

First Offense 4 game suspension minimum

Second Offense 8 game suspension minimum

Third Offense 1 year suspension minimum

Deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening:

First Offense up to one year suspension

Second Offense up to five years suspension *Striking, spitting, kicking or any form of violent conduct or*

attempted violent conduct:

First Offense up to five years suspension

Second Offense up to 15 years suspension

Repeated Ejections: a third red card offense in one calendar year may result in a one year suspension in addition to any sentence imposed at a hearing.

NOTE: PHYSICAL OR VIOLENT CONDUCT TOWARDS OFFICIALS

All such action will be dealt with by ASA. Any ASA Suspension for such an offense will be accompanied by a \$30.00 fine imposed by CASA. This fine must be paid before returning from suspension.

3. Coaches and managers are also subject to suspensions for:

The use of abusive language

- i) Entering the field of play during a game without the referee's Permission
- ii) Inciting the players
- iii) Other evidence of unsporting behavior as recorded on the game sheet or referee's report

4. Coaches who terminate games in progress by pulling their teams off the field of play shall:

- i) Forfeit the game.
- ii) Receive a minimum of one game suspension and
- iii) Be subject to possible further disciplinary action as may be determined by the CASA

3. APPEALS – Any player or team representative shall have the right to appeal through their Local association to be forwarded to the CASA Discipline Committee ruling on a protest. The appeal must be filed in writing within 48 hours after the ruling is made known and should be submitted to the CASA Chairman for review by the Discipline Committee. The appeal is to be in writing, signed by the player or team representative and accompanied by a fee of \$250.00 of which \$150.00 will be refunded if the appeal is successful. Refer to Section XII – Discipline for further clarification.

SECTION 22- SPONSORS

Any person, business or organization may be a sponsor of a team and will be allowed to advertise subject to CASA approval. CASA reserves the right to reject advertising on aspects of taste, wording or product.

SECTION 23 – MINOR REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO SENIOR SOCCER

- a) A youth player who has reached the age of sixteen may register with, and play for, both a youth team and a senior team.
 - 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 and Regulations on Provincial Competitions.
- b) The number of games a minor player is allowed to play within any Senior League shall be determined each year by the ASA and

passed on by CASA. However, these games must not interfere with the regular minor league schedule.

c) THE MINOR COACH MUST GIVE WRITTEN PERMISSION for minor players to play up in the senior league or other senior competitions.

d) Any minor player who plays up, in any type of game whatsoever, without his coach's permission may be disqualified from further minor competition for the remainder of the season.

SECTION 24 – COACHING QUALIFICATIONS

1. All Coaches in both U5-U9 House League and U11-U19 require Coaching Certification for the level of play.
2. All coaches and bench personnel must have a clear CPIC certificate in order to be on the bench at any level of soccer play. As per ASA Volunteer Screening Policy.
3. Respect in Sport for Leaders must be attained. This Certification is transferable between Sports.
4. Any team entering an Alberta Provincial Tier II, III and IV Competition must have a coach certified at Soccer for Life Level. Tier I leading to Nationals (U15 and U17) Coaches must have a minimum C-License. (As per ASA Provincial Competition Rules) Coaching a team in Provincial Competitions without the necessary certification will result in fines being imposed by the ASA on the teams concerned.
5. SUMMER GAMES COACHING QUALIFICATIONS
 - a) Summer Games Head Coach is required to have a Minimum C-License Certification
 - b) A minimum of one (1) Gender specific Coach MUST be on the Bench of each team.
 - c) Coaches are chosen by Alberta Soccer

SECTION 25: DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE

Each Local Association should have a member willing to sit on the Discipline Committee (this is to avoid a conflict of interest if a member of your Local Association is the focus of the Discipline Issue). All Discipline Issues need to be dealt with in a timely manner (within a few days of the incident). From CASA Policy on Discipline and Appeals