



## CASA Technical-Spring Planning Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

7:00 pm - Virtual

Attendance:

**Bashaw** – Jackie-Lynn Gibson: **Clive** – Jake Kallos: **Bentley** – Michelle Luntz

**Blackfalds** – Marcia Arneson: **Camrose** – Scott Harvey, Grace Doucet

**Lacombe** – Jeff Mason: **Penhold** – Bart van der Loop: **Rimbey** – Leann Cross **Spruce View** – Rolf van Benthem

**Stettler** – Wade Stewart: **Sylvan Lake** – Kevin Breitzkreutz, Tammy Muhlbeier, Julie Maplethorpe

**Wetaskiwin** – Simon Kelm, Mike Reid, Drew Gordon

**Executive / Staff** – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President / Technical Director – Lonny Behm, Director of Soccer Operations and Development – Jason Blake, Executive Director – Tammy Olson, Assistant to the DRA – Tracy Everett

Meeting called to Order – 7:00 pm

### 1. Games Program

#### a. U9 Development League- No standings, tryouts or stats

- U9 Boys, U9 Girls, Coed if needed – 6 v 6 will remain for CASA Leagues, the small clubs do not want to exclude players. Canada Soccer standard is 5 v 5. A show of hands was done, and the Clubs wish this to continue as 6 v 6
- Clubs would like to remain at the two – 25-minute halves because of travel time and ensuring the players get adequate time on the field
- Historically Larger communities – A Division, Smaller Communities B Division
- Game start time will remain at 6:30 pm
- Zones will be created whenever possible in the League schedule to reduce travel times
- Season ending Festival
- Camrose requested that their girls be allowed to play not in the league but against other league teams in a festival / tournament format on weekends as they do not wish to travel too far. Camrose can arrange games against other CASA U9 Girls teams but as they are not part of the league, they will have to be arranged by Camrose not the district.
- U9 Development teams may have rotating rosters with players registered to other teams
- Request to have the U9 league begin a week later than the other leagues

Recommendation by the Technical Director – Playoffs for U11 to U19 leagues be discontinued.

Medals to be awarded based on final league standings. This may allow for one or two additional games in each division with an extra week of play for everyone.

Recommendation by Technical Director – Clubs with two or more teams create at a minimum one Tier 3 team. CASA's growth indicates that to keep our higher ability players we need to offer them a higher level of play within the district. We have Tier 1 and Tier 2 but are missing out on Tier 3 which is a necessary step.

#### b. U11 League

- U11 Boys and Girls Divisions 4A and 4B. This member driven request was established in the 2023 Outdoor Season. Switching from Tier 3 and Tier 4. It will remain the same for



the 2025 Outdoor Season. It allows teams not comfortable at the Tier 3 level during the season to participate in Tier 4 tournaments

- 8 v 8 (7 and a keeper). This does not follow Canada Soccer Standards but is at the request of the membership
- U11 will be separated into zones whenever possible to reduce travel times
- c. U13 League
  - U13 Boys and Girls Divisions Tier 3 and Tier 4
  - New Canada Soccer – and ASA Provincial Structure 9 v 9 (8 and a keeper). Provincials will be run with this format. A survey will be sent out to the clubs to ensure that enough Clubs are ready for the new format, smaller fields, less players, smaller nets. If there is enough interest for both formats there may be two different leagues. 11 v 11 is still run in other areas of the province specifically in the rural areas.
  - A discussion was held with several clubs stating they are ready as they were aware of this transition about to take place
  - There will not be a separate Coed Division. This will be changed to align with Alberta Soccer Provincial standards. There are no Coed Provincials
- d. U15 League
  - U15 Boys and Girls Tier 4
  - Tier 3 for the Boys Division if there is sufficient interest
- e. U17 League
  - U17 Boys and Girls
- f. U19 League
  - U19 Boys and Girls
  - Note that if insufficient teams U17 and U19 Divisions will be combined

## **2. U13 9v9 Transition (outdoor)**

- a. Standards
  - Field width – Minimum to maximum 42m to 55 m. Field Length – 60 m to 75 m. Goal Size 6 ft by 18 ft. No retreat line
  - Roster Size – minimum 11, recommended 15, maximum 20

## **3. Coach Education – Player Development**

- a. Grassroots Workshops / On field Certification session– Workshops will be set up in CASA in zones, South, North and Central
- b. Clinics – informal Coach education- The Technical Director will set up Development sessions that will include both Players and Coaches
  - Technical Directors Calendar – April 3 – Rocky Mountain House, May 3 – Rimbey, July 2 – Sylvan Lake. These dates have not been confirmed by the Clubs

- 4. **CASA Development Academy – Technical Director** – This has not yet been formalized. The Technical Director is proposing the addition of this program. Four days in May and 3 days in June. Tentative suggested locations – Two sessions in Stettler, One session in Camrose, 2 sessions in Lacombe, 2 sessions in Wetaskiwin.

- 5. **Player Call ups for League** – it is highly recommended that the clubs use this to give players opportunities to play at a higher level, whether that be Tier 3 or an older Tier 4 division. Players are allowed to play up to a maximum of one age group as per CASA Rules and regulations.



## 6. Referee Courses

- a. Please contact the CASA office to set up Referee courses. Courses will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis. Limited weekends will be available in April. CASA has two Referee Instructors and our DRA attends as the assistant instructor for courses with over 10 participants
- b. CASA Clubs are responsible for recruiting referees for the associations. Please contact Philip Ignacio – DRA or Tracy Everett – Assistant to the DRA if you require guidance
- c. Referees may receive their certification outside of CASA (for example Red Deer) but please ensure they are aware they must choose CASA as their District when completing their certification or we do not know that they have completed it

## 7. Other Business

- **Macron partnership – Team gear** – as members of CASA your club can utilize this organization at a discounted rate
- All coaches who appear on game sheets or on the bench must be officially registered in RAMP and have a Police (VSS) Check. There are no exceptions to this rule. Bench parents need not be registered in Ramp must be written on the game sheet and have the required Police (VSS) Check.

**Meeting adjourned: 8:24 pm**