



2023

ALBERTA
SOCCER
ASSOCIATION

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES - YOUTH

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ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

Code of Conduct

- 1) Members have an obligation not only to abide by the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of the Association, but also to act in a manner that displays their commitment to the principles and intent of the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations.
- 2) All Members should expect to be treated fairly in all matters. Members shall not discriminate against other Members by means of different, unequal, or inconsistent treatment applied to individual members.
- 3) Individuals shall not provide the potential for, or the appearance of, an opportunity for benefit, wrongdoing, or inappropriate conduct. It is important to emphasize that conflict of interest relates to the potential for wrongdoing as well as actual or intended wrongdoing.
- 4) Information or data entrusted to Members for use in their capacity or position shall not be disclosed or used in a manner that may cause embarrassment to the Association, or that betrays a trust or confidence.
- 5) Members shall at all times exhibit behavior that maintains the Association's reputation and shall at no time harm or hinder the Association or its ability to represent the sport.
- 6) No Member shall harass another Member by actions that include, but are not limited to, unwelcome remarks, invitations, requests, gestures, or physical contact that, whether indirect or explicit, has the purpose or effect of humiliating, interfering with, or creating an intimidating situation for that other Member. Harassment shall be considered inappropriate behavior, be it ethnic, religious, or sexual in nature.
- 7) The interaction or involvement of Members under the jurisdiction of the Association shall not result in threats, intimidation, or inflicted physical distress between such Members, whether implied or explicit.

All rules and “Laws of the Game” from FIFA will be adhered to except as set out in the following Competition Rules.

1. **PROVISIONAL RULES**

- 1.1. These Rules shall apply to all Provincial Competitions. Any variances for specific competitions will be as noted in these Rules.
- 1.2. The Alberta Soccer Competitions Committee is responsible for the management and control of all Provincial Competitions.
- 1.3. These Rules are subject to the Alberta Soccer [Bylaws](#), **Code of Conduct, Policies** and the [General Rules and Regulations](#).
- 1.4. Within the constraints of Rule 1.3, the Competitions Committee may make temporary rules to govern specific situations not otherwise provided for within this rule book and in the interest of fair play.
- 1.5. The Competitions Committee will be empowered to move any event to a location more suitable to the contesting teams or combine locations for certain age groups of the same level where an insufficient number of teams are competing.
- 1.6. The Competitions Committee shall appoint to each competition an Alberta Soccer Representative, who will establish a three (3) person Discipline Committee (“the Competition Discipline Committee”). The Alberta Soccer Representative and the Competition Discipline Committee will act as an extension of the Competitions Committee. All decisions reached by the Competition Discipline Committee on any competition-related matter will be final.
- 1.7. All dates and deadlines indicated in this rule book are intended for District use. Districts and leagues are free to set earlier deadlines which their teams are expected to adhere to.
- 1.8. Prior to competing in a Provincial competition leading to a Canada Soccer Regional / National competition (“Regional / National competition”), Districts and team coaches must become familiar with the latest Canadian Soccer Association Rules and Regulations for Regional / National Championships.
 - 1.8.1. The latest Canadian Soccer Association Rules and Regulations for Regional / National Championships will be made publicly accessible on the Alberta Soccer competitions website as soon as it is available.
- 1.9. In the event of a discrepancy between the current Alberta Soccer rule book and the current Canadian Soccer Association Rules and Regulations for Regional / National Championships, the Canadian Soccer Rules and Regulations will be followed. This only applies to teams competing in Provincial competitions leading to Regional / National competitions.

2. **PROVINCIAL DECLARATIONS**

- 2.1. The final deadline for Districts to indicate their entries for the 2023 Indoor Provincial Championships in the manner prescribed by the Alberta Soccer office is January 13, 2023.
- 2.2. The final deadline for Districts to indicate their entries for the 2023 Outdoor Provincial Championships in the manner prescribed by the Alberta Soccer office is:
 - 2.2.1. Tier IV – June 2, 2023

2.2.2. Tier I, II, III – June 17, 2023

- 2.3. The district will be assessed a \$250 administrative fee per declaration for late declarations and the Competitions Committee will determine whether the late entry is to be accepted or denied.
- 2.4. In circumstances where a competition does not have a full complement of teams, the Competitions **Coordinator** may invite teams from any district to participate in the Provincial Championships. Declaration fees for such additional declarations will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- 2.4.1. Priority for any additional declarations will be based on declaration fee, geographic distance from the host location and number of declarations already allocated.
- 2.4.2. Except for competitions leading to a National competition, Provincial Championships will not be run for categories where there are fewer than:
- 2.4.2.1. four (4) declarations received by the Declaration Deadline unless the declaring district agrees to continue with the competition.
- 2.4.2.2. two (2) Districts declared by the Declaration Deadline **unless the declaring districts agrees to continue with the competition.**
- 2.5. Districts will be invoiced for their Provincial Championships declarations as per their declaration form. There will be no refund for a team that withdraws prior to the competition.
- 2.6. If the location of the Provincial Championships is confirmed or changed after the Declaration Deadline, all competing Districts will be given the opportunity to adjust their Declarations without penalty.
- 2.7. Each District will be allowed to declare one (1) Youth team per Youth category
- 2.7.1. One (1) additional declaration will be allowed for each:
- 2.7.1.1. District that exceeds 5,000 registered Youth players in the **previous season**
- 2.7.1.2. District hosting the Provincial Championship
- 2.7.2. A District with more than 5,000 registered Youth players who is hosting the Provincial Championship will be entitled to up to three (3) declarations.
- 2.8. No Division, league or tournament leading to the Provincial Championships can qualify teams into more than two (2) different Provincial Competitions of the same age.
- 2.9. Except for leagues structured by age, no team competing in a division, league or tournament leading to more than one Provincial Championship can solely declare for the lowest available level of competition.
- 2.10. Districts are expected to provide a contact person for each Provincial weekend in which they have teams competing who will be available to address any roster or player eligibility issues.
- 2.11. Outdoor Competition only, teams from **CMSA EMSA, & EIYSA** cannot compete in the Tier IV Rural Provincial Championships.
- 2.12. **Outdoor Competitions** only, Rural Districts may declare to compete in both the Tier IV Rural and Tier IV City Provincial Championships. The same team may not compete in both Provincial Championships. No players may compete in both the Tier IV Rural and Tier IV City Provincial Championships.
- 2.13. **For Tier 1 to Nationals, the total number of teams will be determined by the Competitions Committee following the declaration deadline. The goal is to offer an eight (8) team competition per gender & age group**

- 2.13.1. In an eight (8) team competition there will be the following guaranteed declaration for competitions leading to Nationals
- 2.13.1.1. Greater Edmonton area (within 200km) will have three (3) spots
 - 2.13.1.2. Greater Calgary area (within 200km) will have three (3) spots
- 2.13.2. All teams within their leagues must play an equal number of games as they are vying for a spot in Provincials through league standings, *unless approved by the Competitions Committee*
- 2.13.3. All teams in these leagues would vie for the spots allocated to that league
- 2.13.4. Should a viable team from within 200km of each city *not participate in a respective league. They will be provided the opportunity to qualify by one of the other spots, allocated by the Competitions Committee.* The guaranteed declarations for that centre will be reduced by one.
- 2.13.5. The Host District for Provincials will receive one guaranteed declaration. *For the purposes of this Rule, EIYSA and EMSA are considered separate districts*
- 2.13.6. In circumstances where we do not have a full complement of teams after guaranteed declarations have been allotted, the remaining declarations will be allocated to achieve an equal balance between North and South teams
- 2.13.7. Rural Districts within 200km of Edmonton/Calgary must apply for entrance into the appropriate league
- 2.13.8. All teams accepted into a Regional League can return to their home district as per Rule 3.10 and Rule 3.11
- 2.13.9. Districts outside of 200km from Edmonton/Calgary must participate in a minimum of two ASA approved Tier 1 Tournaments prior to July 31 of the participating year.
- 2.13.9.1. The schedule (including opponents) and results *(if competed)* must be provided to the ASA for review by the ASA Competitions Committee to demonstrate that the team is competitive at the Tier 1 level. *This information is due by the declaration deadline.*

3. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. Any team affiliated with their District Association and in good standing will be eligible to participate in any competition under the jurisdiction of Alberta Soccer, subject to declaration limits set out in this rule book.
- 3.2. No registered Youth team will be eligible to compete in more than one (1) Provincial Competition in any one (1) season.
- 3.3. A team must have participated in at least six (6) games against equal or higher-level competition during the season to compete in Provincials at that level. If the games are against higher-level competition, their outcome must demonstrate that the lower level is the more appropriate category of play.
 - 3.3.1. The Competitions Committee may accept or decline any declaration.
- 3.4. Youth teams are permitted to play up an age group, including playing in a Senior league, for developmental purposes and return to their original age for the Provincial Championships.
 - 3.4.1. Teams may only declare for the same tier of play or higher than that which they were playing in an older age group upon returning to their original age category.

- 3.5. All other teams must compete in the Provincial Championships at the same level at which they compete throughout the playing season.
- 3.6. High School teams in Alberta may not participate in any sanctioned Alberta Soccer league or be part of any Alberta Soccer clubs even under the guise of Alberta Soccer District Club teams appearing to have no direct affiliation with High Schools. Players may play for both a High School and a club team.
- 3.7. No Alberta Soccer registered team assembled by an unsanctioned academy by its own name or under any other guise will be permitted to participate in any Alberta Soccer league, club, or participate in any Alberta Soccer Championship.
- 3.8. The District will provide a certified team roster for each team participating in a Provincial Championship in the manner prescribed by Alberta Soccer by the roster submission deadline in section 8.2.
- 3.9. A District that places a team in another District's league, with the consent of both Districts, on a non-exhibition basis (where teams play for a Provincial berth) does not lose its right to declare a team for the same age/gender and category of Provincial Championship. The team playing for a Provincial berth in another District's league cannot return to its own District of domicile to challenge for that berth.
 - 3.9.1. The home district can allow the district where they are playing to use their declarations in addition to the ones they are allotted. This consent must be done in writing by the start of each season.
- 3.10. A District that places a team in another District's league, with the consent of both Districts, on an exhibition basis may use only its own District's berth to declare for Provincial Championships and not that of any other District.
- 3.11. Tier I teams are not eligible to compete in the Tier II, III or IV Provincial Championships. When a District is running a Tier I/II split league, it is the District's responsibility to submit to the Competitions Committee a description of the league and how the Provincial Representatives are determined for approval no later than the declaration deadline.
- 3.12. To be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship leading to a National competition, a team must have a minimum of ***seventeen (17)*** registered players who are eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1. Players must be registered with Alberta Soccer ***fourteen (14)*** days prior to taking part in a Provincial or Regional Competition. All players and teams are subject to Alberta Soccer's roster and transfer deadlines.
 - 4.1.1. In order to be eligible for a Provincial Championship leading to a Canada Soccer National Championship, players must be registered with Alberta Soccer by July 31st of the current year.
- 4.2. Registrations will be valid for one (1) season.
- 4.3. Players in age categories who reach the limiting age after the first day of January will continue to be eligible to play in that age category for the remainder of the playing season.
 - 4.3.1. U19: Players under nineteen (19) years of age before January 1st of the current year.
 - 4.3.2. U17: Players under seventeen (17) years of age before January 1st of the current year.
 - 4.3.3. U15: Players under fifteen (15) years of age before January 1st of the current year.

- 4.3.4. U13: Players under thirteen (13) years of age before January 1st of the current year.
- 4.4. Any team that includes a player who is over the age limit as defined in 4.3 will forfeit all games concerned and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 4.5. Only players listed on the District certified roster will be considered eligible to participate in the Provincial Competition.
- 4.6. A Youth player may register with and play for both a Youth team and a Senior team and maintain their eligibility to compete in both Youth and Senior Provincials if they register with the Youth team prior to the transfer deadline.
- 4.6.1. The player has first registered with the Youth team.
- 4.6.2. If a player has first registered with a Senior team, they register with the Youth team prior to the transfer deadline.
- 4.7. A registered Youth player will not be considered cup tied for Provincial purposes to any team they have participated with as a trialist prior to having registered with a Senior team.
- 4.8. Eligible players properly registered with both a Youth and a Senior team may compete in one (1) Youth Provincial Championship and one (1) Senior Provincial Championship.
- 4.9. Every player at all Provincial Championships must present a District Photo ID Card or valid government photo ID, electronic player cards or printed player cards on district approved forms will be accepted to the referee prior to participating in the game. The burden of proof of eligibility will rest with the player. All player cards must have a photo.
- 4.10. A player who has been a professional or a non-amateur player will not be eligible to compete in any Provincial Competition unless properly reinstated as an amateur player by the roster deadline of the competition they are wishing to compete.
- 4.11. **Any registered Alberta Youth Soccer League player is not eligible to participate at any Provincial Competition outside of the AYSL.**
- 4.12. A Youth player who has signed for both a Youth team and a Senior team, and who qualifies for both the Youth and Senior National Championships must attend the Youth National Championships.
- 4.13. No player can compete in more than one (1) Youth Provincial Championship, except as outlined below:
- 4.13.1. Rural players who compete in a Tier IV Rural Provincial Championship will not be considered cup tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier 1, II or III team. Such players will be considered eligible to compete in a Tier I, II or III Provincial competition, but not more than one (1).
- 4.13.2. Rural players who declare to compete in Tier II or III Provincials will not be considered cup tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I team.
- 4.14. As per Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations for National Championships, all players participating in a Provincial Championship leading to a National competition must be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or a Protected Person.
- 4.14.1. Each player must present proof of eligibility or CSA exemption documentation to Alberta Soccer by the deadline set by Canada Soccer. Players from whom proof has not been presented are not eligible to participate. Proof of eligibility is as follows:
- 4.14.1.1. Canadian Citizen – valid passport or birth certificate;

- 4.14.1.2. Permanent Resident – valid permanent resident card; or proof of permanent residency as provided by the Government of Canada;
- 4.14.1.3. Protected Person – documents as provided by the Government of Canada;
- 4.14.1.4. Or legible copies of these documents.

5. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- 5.1. Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations apply to all competitions.
- 5.2. Players transferring laterally or to a lower level of play will not be considered cup tied if the transfer takes place prior to their fifth league game, **subject to local rules.**
- 5.3. Players transferring to a higher level of play will not be considered cup tied if such transfer is completed by:
 - 5.3.1. All Indoor Competitions by February 15.
 - 5.3.2. Tier IV Rural – June 16, 2023
 - 5.3.3. Tier IV Cities – June 30, 2023
 - 5.3.4. Tier II & III – July 24, 2023
 - 5.3.5. Tier I – July 31, 2023
- 5.4. Prior to the transfer deadline a player from the same club, can transfer to the higher club team, in the event the lower tier team did not qualify for provincials.

6. REPLACEMENT PLAYERS

- 6.1. Under exceptional circumstances a team may request, through their District, special permission to replace players after the player transfer deadline, under the following guidelines:
- 6.2. Players may only be replaced due to injury; or illness, or family commitments and Alberta Soccer will request proof of such prior to approving the replacement
- 6.3. All replacement players, and replacement player requests, are **authorized** by the team's District Association, **pending** approval from Alberta Soccer.
- 6.4. All replacement players must be clearly indicated as such on the Alberta Soccer roster.
 - 6.4.1. Each replacement player must have a [Replacement Player Form](#) submitted to Alberta Soccer by/on the roster submission deadline.
- 6.5. All replacement players must come from within your District Association.
 - 6.5.1. Replacement players cannot increase the roster above the original number of registered players. A replacement player must replace a registered member of the team.
 - 6.5.1.1. Youth teams can only request replacement players if their roster is depleted to sixteen (16) players or less and may only use replacement players to bring their roster back up to seventeen (17) players.
 - 6.5.1.2. Teams are eligible for a maximum of four (4) replacement players.
 - 6.5.1.3. In exceptional circumstances, Districts can request the Competitions Committee consider allowing replacement of a goalkeeper when criteria in 6.5.1.1 and/or 6.5.12 are not met.

- 6.5.2. Replacement players must come from the team’s club system if such a system is in place.
- 6.5.3. If the season is incomplete, any replacement player must have the consent of the team/club for which they play.
- 6.5.4. Teams cannot choose replacement players from a team that has qualified for a Provincial Championship.
- 6.5.5. Replacement players must come from a lower level of competition (see Appendix A), except as noted below
- 6.5.6. Under exceptional circumstances, where there is no lower level team to draw replacement players from, Tier I, II and III teams, and Tier IV teams from city Districts, may apply through their District Association to the ASA Competitions Committee, for special dispensation to use players from the same level of play.
- 6.6. Once a player has been replaced, the player cannot participate in the Provincial Championships.
- 6.7. Under exceptional circumstances, a team may apply through their District Association to the Competitions Committee to add replacement players to their roster after the roster submission deadline when:
 - 6.7.1.1. The team was invited to attend the Provincial Championships by the Alberta Soccer Association after the roster submission deadline.
 - 6.7.1.2. The team’s goalkeeper became ill or injured after the roster submission deadline, but before the start of the Provincial Championships.

7. TEAM STAFF

- 7.1. A maximum of four (4) non-playing personnel may be on listed on the team’s official roster and are the only team personnel allowed on the team bench during the competition.
 - 7.1.1. **All teams must adhere to the Rule of Two. For the rule of two, teams must have at least two adults who are registered to the team.**
 - 7.1.2. Teams may name one (fifth) alternate team staff member who may replace one of the initial four (4) in the case of an absence.
 - 7.1.3. **Injured players may sit on the bench (not dressed) with the permission of the Alberta Soccer Competitions Committee Representative**
- 7.2. All team staff must have a District Photo ID Card or valid government photo ID, and present this to the referee prior to participating in each game. The burden of proof will rest with the team staff member.
- 7.3. All team staff listed on a Provincial Championship roster are required to obtain Criminal Record Check Clearance, **obtained with the last two years from the start of the Competition.**
- 7.4. One staff member from each team involved in the Indoor Provincial Championships must fulfill the coaching requirements for the appropriate level as per the chart below. This qualified staff member must be present at each game of the Provincial Championships:

Competition	Coaching Requirement
U15, U17 Tier 1	C License Trained <u>OR</u> Higher

U13 Tier 1	Soccer For Life <u>OR</u> Higher
U15+, Tiers 2-4	Soccer For Life Trained <u>OR</u> Higher
U13, Tiers 2-4	Learn to Train <u>OR</u> Soccer For Life <u>OR</u> Higher

7.4.1. In the event of non-compliance with any team staff regulations, the Competitions Committee through the Alberta Soccer Board of Directors will decide the appropriate course of action.

7.5. **Coaches can only coach one (1) team per competition.**

8. TEAM ROSTERS

8.1 By submitting any Provincial Roster, the District Association is certifying that all players are in good standing and properly registered, that all coaches and team staff are qualified and Police Record Check cleared and that the team is properly registered and has fulfilled the necessary requirements to compete in the Provincial Championships.

8.2 District Associations must certify all team rosters and submit them in the manner prescribed by Alberta Soccer by:

8.2.1 Indoor all rosters are due March 7, 2023.

8.2.2 Tier IV Rural – June 29, 2023.

8.2.3 Tier IV Cities – July 12, 2023

8.2.4 Tier II-III – August 3, 2023

8.2.5 Tier I – July 31, 2023

8.3 A team roster shall not exceed twenty (20) players and a team may dress all twenty (20) for any game.

8.4 **All rosters are frozen 72 hours before the start of the competition.**

9. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

9.1 Teams competing in Provincial Finals are responsible for travel, accommodation and other similar expenditures incurred.

9.2 Teams representing the Province at a National Championship will receive financial assistance for travel, as established annually by Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer. The home Districts of these teams assume ultimate financial responsibility for payment of **airline** tickets issued for travel to National Championships.

10. EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

10.1 When the colours of competing teams are similar, home teams shall use alternate colors. Each team must have a set of pinnies with them at each game if they do not have alternate jerseys

10.1.1 Goalkeepers must carry three (3) pairs of socks that differ in colour. At least one (1) pair must be a colour other than black, white, or navy.

- 10.2 All jerseys must be clearly numbered. The number of the jersey worn by a player must correspond to the number listed with the player's name on the game sheet.
- 10.3 Visible undergarments such as compression shorts or long-sleeve tops may be worn.
- 10.4 In competitions leading to a national competition:
- 10.4.1 Undershirts must be the same colour of the main colour of the shirt sleeve; undershorts/tights must be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts of the lowest part of the shorts – players of the same team must wear the same colour.
 - 10.4.2 Where tape or similar material is applied externally to a sock it shall be the same colour as the part of the sock to which it is applied.
 - 10.4.3 ***Teams must have two pairs of socks, which are different colors.***
 - 10.4.4 ***Substitute and substituted players must have a pinnie on which is different than the players on the field. Nonplaying personal must be disguisable from the players on the field. In some circumstances nonplaying personal will be requested to wear a pinnie.***

11. JEWELRY AND BRACES

- 11.1 FIFA approved modern protective equipment such as headgear, facemasks, and knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight, padded material are permitted. If any question arises as to whether a piece of equipment can be worn, it may be presented to the head official for approval.
- 11.2 All items of jewelry cannot be worn.

12. TOURNAMENT CHECK-IN

- 12.1 At least one representative from each team competing in the Provincial Championships must:
- 12.1.1 check in with the Alberta Soccer Representative prior to the team participating in their first game;
 - 12.1.2 complete and submit a [Team Information Sheet](#) in the manner prescribed by Alberta Soccer; and
 - 12.1.3 attend the pre-competition meeting as scheduled, unless alternate arrangements are made before the competition begins.
 - 12.1.4 Failure to do so will eliminate the team's right to protest or appeal any decision made by the Alberta Soccer Representative during the competition.

13. SCHEDULES AND FORMATS

- 13.1 The format for all competitions will be determined by the Competitions Coordinator following a review of the declarations received.
- 13.2 Seeding shall be determined by the Competitions Coordinator by random draw with consideration given to travel requirements.
- 13.3 Where there are two (2) or more groups of three (3), or two (2) or more groups of four (4) crossing over, no two (2) teams from the same District will be seeded into the same group whenever feasible.

13.3.1 **When there are teams playing in another district's league, standing will be taken into consideration when the groups are being determined.**

13.4 Whenever possible, competitions will start on Friday night.

13.5 Whenever possible, all teams competing will play a minimum of three (3) games.

13.6 All schedules, to the extent possible, will be determined with a minimum of three (3) hours rest between scheduled games.

13.7 In the event of that a team drops out of a competition and no replacement team can be found, the changes to the groups, format and schedule shall be determined by the Competitions Coordinator and duly communicated to the affected Districts.

13.8 Seeding for Tier 1 competitions leading to a National Championships will be determined by the Competitions Committee.

13.8.1 To the extent possible, teams competing in a in a Provincial Championship leading to a National Championship will not play more than one (1) game per day.

13.8.2 **Whenever possible Tier 1 to Nationals will start on Thursday**

13.9 **Indoor only, all boardless games will be 7v7.**

14. GAME DURATION AND BALL SIZES

14.1 The duration of an **outdoor match** will be as followed:

Age Group	Game Duration	Extra Time (if required)
U13	Two 35 minute halves	Two 10-minute halves
U15	Two 35 minute halves	Two 10- minute halves
U17	Two 40 minute halves	Two 10 minute halves
U19	Two 40 minute halves	Two 10 minute halves

14.2 Extra time will only be played when the following games are tied at the end of regulation time:

14.2.1 Gold Medal Games.

14.2.2 Games in competitions leading to National competitions requiring a result where, advancing to a gold-medal final is still possible.

14.2.3 If the game is still tied at the end of extra time, the winner will be determined through the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

14.3 **All indoor games will be 2X25 minute halves**

14.4 For all other games that require a result and are tied at the end of regulation time, the winner will be determined through the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game or the Rules of Indoor Soccer (whichever is applicable)

14.5 It is the responsibility of the home team to provide two **size 5**, (2) FIFA approved game balls for each game.

14.5.1 Match balls will be provided by Alberta Soccer for all games in competitions leading to National competitions.

15. SUBSTITUTIONS

15.1 All Provincial Championships will allow for unlimited substitutions.

16. TIE BREAKING PROCEDURE

- 16.1 Three (3) points will be awarded for a win, and one (1) point for a tie. Standings will be determined by total points won at the completion of the round robin.
- 16.2 In any three (3) team round robin, whether part or whole of the competition, the third game played in each pool will be played to a decision if the team not participating has zero (0) points, has been suspended, or has withdrawn.
- 16.2.1 The team that eventually loses the game will still be awarded one (1) point for the tie. For the purposes of Goals For and Goals Against, the score at the end of regulation time will be used.
- 16.3 In any three (3) team round robin, when the first game ends in a tie, **not completed due to weather or scheduling constraints. For scheduling purposes, the winner will be determined by a coin toss. The coin toss will be completed by the Alberta Soccer Representative. A team representative from each team will be invited to witness the coin toss.** Each team will receive one point of the tie, and for the purposes of Goals For and Goals Against, the score at the end of regulation time will be used.
- 16.4 The following criteria will be used to determine the final standings if two (2) or more teams have an equal number of points at the end of the round robin. This tie breaking procedure must be carried through in its entirety; no tie breaking rule will be used twice:
- 16.4.1 Greater number of points in matches between the **tied teams**
- 16.4.2 Greater goal difference in matches between the **teams tied** (if more than two (2) teams are tied);
- 16.4.3 Greater goal difference in all group matches;
- 16.4.4 Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
- 16.4.5 Taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the Game or [Rules of Indoor Soccer](#) whichever is applicable
- 16.5 If required, tie breaking kicks from the penalty mark will be conducted as follows:
- 16.5.1 Two (2) teams tied: at a time and place decided by the Alberta Soccer Representative
- 16.5.2 Three (3) teams tied: Each team is designated A, B or C as determined by random draw by the Alberta Soccer Representative.
- 16.5.2.1 Three (3) mini-games will be played; A vs B, B vs C, C vs A.
- 16.5.2.2 Each mini-game will consist of five (5) penalty kicks at a time and place determined by the Alberta Soccer Representative.
- 16.5.2.3 All five (5) penalty kicks must be taken
- 16.5.2.4 Three (3) points will be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie.

16.5.2.5 The standings after these three (3) mini-games will be determined per the criteria above.

16.5.3 Four (4) teams tied: Each team is designated A, B, C, or D as determined by random draw by the Alberta Soccer Representative.

16.5.3.1 Six (6) mini-games will be played; A vs B, C vs D, A vs C, B vs D, D vs A and C vs B.

16.5.3.2 All five (5) penalty kicks must be taken.

16.5.3.3 Three (3) points will be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie.

16.5.3.4 The standings after these six (6) mini-games will be determined per the criteria above.

16.6 **When teams are tied on points but have played an uneven number of group games the tie breaking procedure will be conducted as followed:**

16.6.1 **Total points divided by number of games played**

16.6.2 **Total goals scored divided by number of games played**

16.6.3 **Plus/Minus divided by the total number of games played**

16.6.4 **Kicks from the Penalty Mark**

17. GAME ABANDONMENT AND SUSPENSION

17.1 All games involving a team that does not fulfill all its playing obligations within the round robin portion of the competition will be recorded as a 3-0 win for the opposing team

17.2 If at the time of kick-off, a team does not have enough players to begin the game, the referee may delay for a maximum of ten (10) minutes. At the end of that time, if the team is still unable to field the minimum number of players, they will lose the game by a score of 3-0.

17.3 Where a game must be stopped due to any cause beyond the control of the participating teams, games will be restarted wherever possible.

17.3.1 When a game cannot be restarted and more than seventy percent (70%) of the game has been played, the result at the time of abandonment will be recorded as the final score.

17.3.2 If a game is abandoned and the score is tied but the competition requires a winner, the winner shall be determined by penalty kicks. If, at the discretion of the Alberta Soccer Representative, a penalty shootout cannot be conducted, a winner shall be determined by the flip of a coin.

17.3.3 When a game cannot be restarted and less than seventy percent (70%) of the game has been played, the following shall occur:

17.3.3.1 the Alberta Soccer Representative will attempt to re-schedule the game. Only the remaining time shall be played, and the score at the time of abandonment shall carry forward.

17.3.3.2 If, at the discretion of the Alberta Soccer Representative, the game cannot be rescheduled, a winner will be determined using kicks from the penalty mark.

17.3.3.3 If, at the discretion of the Alberta Soccer Representative, kicks from the penalty mark cannot be scheduled, a winner will be determined using a coin toss.

18. DISCIPLINE

- 18.1 Any specific matter related to a tournament may only be acted on by the established Competition Discipline Committee for the duration of each tournament.
- 18.1.1 Any decision made by the Competition Discipline Committee will be final as far as the competition is concerned.
- 18.1.2 Any District or team concerns must be brought before the Competition Discipline Committee for a decision.
- 18.2 Misconduct by players or team officials reported by the referee will be dealt with by the Competition Discipline Committee prior to the next game.
- 18.2.1 Any misconduct in a team's final game in any competition may be delegated to the Alberta Soccer Discipline Committee or District which the player or team official represents.
- 18.3 If a hearing is requested, or if the Alberta Soccer Representative at their discretion so decide, the Competition Discipline Committee will conduct a hearing to deal with misconduct in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Constitution and General Rules
- 18.3.1 Notice periods will be waived, and Alberta Soccer mandatory suspensions will be applied. The District of the player or team official involved will be informed of the decision.
- 18.3.2 Failure to attend after notification by the Competition Discipline Committee may result in immediate suspension until the player or team official involved requests a further hearing in writing and appears at that hearing
- 18.3.3 The Competition Discipline Committee will hold a hearing for behavior off the field for any player or team official alleged by the Alberta Soccer Representative to have brought the game into disrepute. The Committee may take any disciplinary action it sees fit including suspension from all soccer activity.
- 18.4 Three (3) yellow cards in a Provincial Championship will automatically generate a one (1) game suspension.
- 18.5 All Red cards in a Provincial Competition are subject to review by the Alberta Soccer Representative. If the situation warrants, the Alberta Soccer Representative may call a hearing to suspend the offending player for additional games above the following minimums:
- 18.5.1 Violent Conduct – two (2) games;
- 18.5.2 Offensive, Insulting, Abusive, Language and/or gestures - minimum of two (2) games suspension & hearing at the request of the Alberta Soccer Competitions Representative
- 18.5.3 All other red cards – one (1) game
- 18.6 Any team staff who receives a yellow card will serve a one (1) game suspension, during which they will not be allowed on the bench.
- 18.7 Any team staff who receives a red card by the referee will serve a minimum two (2) game suspension, during which they will not be allowed on the bench. If the situation warrants, based on the referee's report or other relevant evidence, the Alberta Soccer Representative may call a hearing to determine if additional sanctions are appropriate.
- 18.8 All suspensions must be served at the next Alberta Soccer sanctioned match the suspended individual would otherwise participate in.

- 18.9 Any individual serving a suspension may not participate in any other match until their suspension is served with the team where the suspension originated.
- 18.10 Any Youth player serving a suspension will be required to sit separate from the team and may not be dressed in team kit. It is the responsibility of the team staff to supervise any players serving suspension and if requested by the officials or the Alberta Soccer representative, a team staff member will be required to sit with the suspended player.
- 18.1 Threats and Assaults on officials during a Provincial Championship will generate an immediate suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Committee action, in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Rules and Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.
- 18.11 Protests may be lodged with the Alberta Soccer Representative only on alleged deviation from these published rules. Protests must be in writing, clearly outline the complaint, and must be lodged within sixty (60) minutes of the game's end. All protests must be accompanied with a non-refundable protest fee of \$250. No protests will be heard which are based on a game official's interpretation of the Laws of the Game or Rules of Indoor Soccer.
- 18.11.1 The Alberta Soccer Representative will deal with all valid protests as outlined in the Alberta Soccer Rules and Regulations and Appeals .
- 18.12 In the case that an Alberta Soccer Representative at a Provincial Championship discovers, after team check-in, that a team has inserted an ineligible player, the Alberta Soccer Representative/Discipline Committee will declare that team's participation illegal and adjust the results of the competition accordingly.
- 18.12.1 Individuals who have been listed on a game sheet will be deemed to have participated in that game.
- 18.13 When a referee is required to submit a written report on a game incident it must be submitted on an ASA Misconduct Report form within three (3) hours after the end of the final officiating responsibility for that game. This period may be extended up to four(4) hours if the referee is on another assignment.

19. FINES

- 19.1 All withdrawals of a team from Provincial competition must be submitted in writing by the District Association to the Alberta Soccer office. An administrative fine based on the number of days out from the competition will be assessed for each withdrawal by the Competitions Committee.
- 19.1.1 **45+ days prior – \$300**
- 19.1.2 **Thirty-one (31) to forty-five (44) days prior – \$550**
- 19.1.3 **Thirty (30) to fifteen (15) days prior – \$1,200**
- 19.1.4 **Fourteen (14) days or less prior – \$2700.**
- 19.1.5 **Seven (7) days or less - \$3000**
- 19.2 For Outdoor all teams are expected to attend their scheduled games with a minimum of seven (7) players and are expected to compete in every game until completion. Any team failing to do so will be assessed a forfeiture fine of up to \$2,500, **per game**
- 19.2.1 For Indoor, all teams are expected to attend their scheduled games with a minimum of four (4) players and are expected to compete in every game until completion. Any team failing to do so will be assessed a forfeiture fine of up to \$2,500, **per game**

- 19.3 Any team found to have played an ineligible player will be assessed a fine of up to \$2,500
- 19.4 All teams receiving a medal are expected to attend medal ceremonies. Any medal-winning team that does not attend medal ceremonies without receiving prior permission from the Provincial Representative will be assessed a fine of up to \$500.
- 19.5 Notice of any fines administered by the Competitions Coordinator in conjunction with the Competitions Committee will be sent to the District that the team was representing. The home District assumes ultimate financial responsibility for payment of any fines. **Fines are not appealable**

20. AWARDS

- 20.1 The winners of Youth Provincial Championships will be awarded keeper trophies that they are not required to return to Alberta Soccer.

21. BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

- 21.1 If bleeding occurs where other participants may be exposed to blood, the individual's participation must be interrupted until the bleeding has stopped the wound must be securely covered.
- 21.2 All clothing soiled with blood must be replaced prior to the athlete resuming competition.
- 21.3 If a player must replace a blood-stained jersey with one of a different number, the player may only enter after the referee has been advised of the change.

22. INJURY POLICY

- 22.1. A player who receives medical attention from an Emergency Medical Technician or Doctor during the competition is deemed an ineligible player until the player has provided to the Alberta Soccer Representative a duly completed [Return to Play Form](#) **or a doctor's** letter allowing the player to resume participation.

APPENDIX A - YOUTH REPLACEMENT PLAYER GUIDELINES

YES denotes a level replacement players can be drawn from
NO denotes a level replacement players CANNOT be drawn from

Level being drawn from → Level drawing players ↓	U13T1	U13T2	U13T3	U13T4+	2009 U14 AYSL	2008 U15 AYSL	2007 U16 AYSL	U15T1	U15T2	U15T3	U15T4+	2006 U17 AYSL	U17T1	U17T2	U17T3	U17T4+	U19T1	U19T2	U19T3	U19T4+
U13T1	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U13T2	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U13T3	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U13T4	NO	NO	NO	YES*	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
2009 U14 AYSL	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
2008 U14 AYSL	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
2007 U15 AYSL	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T1	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T2	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T3	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T4	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES*	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
2006 U16 AYSL	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U17T1	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
U17T2	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
U17T3	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO
U17T4	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES*	NO	NO	NO	NO
U19T1	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES*	YES*	YES*	YES*	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
U19T2	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES*	YES*	YES*	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
U19T3	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES*	YES*	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
U19T4	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES*	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES*

*Replacement players into U19 the district will have final say on player movement.

APPENDIX B - AGE GROUPS GUIDELINE (Rule 3.4)

YES denotes a level of league play the team can compete in and remain eligible to declare for Provincial Championship at the level of play in the leftmost column.
NO denotes levels of league play that would make a team ineligible for the Provincial Championship in the leftmost column.

Category drawing players → Category being drawn from ↓	U13T1	U13T2	U13T3	U13T4	U15T1	U15T2	U15T3	U15T4	U17T1	U17T2	U17T3	U17T4	U19T1	U19T2	U19T3	U19T4	Senior Premier	Senior T1	Senior T2	Senior T3	Senior T4
U13T1	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U13T2	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U13T3	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U13T4	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T1	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T2	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T3	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U15T4	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
U17T1	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO
U17T2	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES
U17T3	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
U17T4	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES
U19T1	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
U19T2	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO
U19T3	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES
U19T4	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES

Notes: Youth teams may play up one age group - i.e. a U13 team playing up in a U17 league is not eligible for U13 Provincial competition.
 Senior Premier is equivalent to Youth Tier 1; Senior Tier 1 is equivalent to Youth Tier 2; etc.