



2023

ALBERTA
SOCCER
ASSOCIATION

PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES - SENIOR

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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 Championship Rules.

1. PROVISIONAL RULES

- 1.1 These Rules shall apply to all Provincial Championships and Playdowns with the exclusion of Futsal. 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 Championships.
- 1.3 These rules are subject to Alberta Soccer Bylaws, Code of Conduct, Polices, and the ASA General 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 to which their teams are expected to adhere to.
- 1.8 In the event of a discrepancy between the current Alberta Soccer rule book and the current Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations for Regional/National Championships, the Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations will be followed. This only applies to teams competing in Provincial Championships leading to Regional/National Championships.

2. PROVINCIAL DECLARATIONS

- 2.1 The deadline for Districts to indicate their entries for the Provincial Championships is the second Friday in January for Indoor and the second Friday in June for Outdoor.
 - 2.1.1 The District will be assessed a non-refundable \$250 administrative fee per late declaration and the Competitions Committee will determine whether the late entry is to be accepted or denied.
- 2.2 In circumstances where a championship 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 in accordance with the ASA policies and procedures criteria.
 - 2.2.1 Priority for any additional declarations will be based on the following criteria: geographic distance from the host location and then the number of declarations already allocated.
 - 2.2.1.1 All additional requested declarations will be sent out to the districts within two weeks of the declaration deadline.
 - 2.2.2 Except for championships leading to a Canada Soccer Championships, Provincial Championships will not be run for categories where there are fewer than:

- 2.2.2.1 four (4) declarations received by the Declaration Deadline.
- 2.2.2.2 two (2) Districts declared by the Declaration Deadline.
- 2.3 Districts will be invoiced for their Provincial Championship declarations. There will be no refunds for a team that withdraws prior to the championship.
- 2.4 If the location of the Provincial Championships is confirmed and then changed after the Declaration Deadline, all competing Districts will be given the opportunity to adjust their Declarations without penalty.
- 2.5 Except for Men's and Women's Major, each District will be allowed to declare up to two (2) teams per competition.
 - 2.5.1 For Indoor Provincials Championship, Men's and Women's Major will comprise the top three (3) teams from the Edmonton District Soccer Association and either Calgary United Soccer Association or Calgary Women's Soccer Association, as determined after regular season play.
 - 2.5.2 For Outdoor Provincial Championship, Challenge Cup and Jubilee Trophy will comprise the top four (4) AMSL Men's and Women's teams, two (2) from the North and two (2) from the South, as determined by regular season play.
 - 2.5.2.1 Teams may challenge the second-place North or South team, for a position in the Major championship.
- 2.6 No Division, league, or tournament leading to the Provincial Championships can qualify teams into more than two (2) different Provincial Championships of the same age.
 - 2.6.1 No team competing in a division, league, or tournament leading to more than one (1) Provincial Championship can solely declare for the lowest available level of competition.
- 2.7 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.

3. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Any team affiliated with their District Association and in good standing will be eligible to participate in any championship under the jurisdiction of Alberta Soccer, subject to declaration limits set out in this rule book.
- 3.2 No registered Senior team will be eligible to compete in more than one (1) Provincial Championship in any one (1) season.
- 3.3 For teams declaring in any Classics Major or Masters Major Championships, the 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.
- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 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 that is playing for a Provincial berth in another District's league cannot return to its own District of domicile to challenge for that berth.
- 3.6 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.

- 3.7 To be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship leading to a Canada Soccer Championship, a team must have a minimum of seventeen (17) registered players who are eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship. Rosters with less than seventeen (17) registered players will not be accepted.
- 3.8 For the Challenge Cup or Jubilee Trophy (outdoor only) non-AMSL League teams may challenge for the second (2) spot from the north or the south (whichever is applicable).
 - 3.8.1 Challenging teams must submit their intent to challenge for a provincial spot to their home District by May 1st
 - 3.8.2 Teams must play and win the highest division available to them.
 - 3.8.3 Challenging teams cannot be a reserve team of a Major League team.
 - 3.8.4 Challenging team rosters are frozen as of the last business day of July.
 - 3.8.5 Proof of eligibility is required to the Competition Coordinator 5 days before the game, as per the Canada Soccer championship criteria.
 - 3.8.6 Coaching Certifications as per the Provincial Championship Rules are due to the Competition Coordinator five (5) days before the game.
 - 3.8.7 The challenge game will take place at the home of the AMSL team. The challenging team will be responsible for all costs associated with the challenge game.
 - 3.8.8 All challenge games are single-elimination games. Details will be confirmed by an ASA Competition Coordinator.
 - 3.8.9 When there is more than one challenge from the North or South, the challenging teams will be required to have a playdown to determine who will challenge the Major League team. Teams will be responsible for the cost of those playdown games.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1 Players must be registered with Alberta Soccer seven (7) days prior to taking part in a Provincial Competition. All players and teams are subject to Alberta Soccer's roster and transfer deadlines.
 - 4.1.1 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 All players competing in the Senior Provincial Championships must have attained their sixteenth (16) birthday at least seven (7) days prior to the start of the competition.
 - 4.3.1 Youth players competing in Men's or Women's Major competitions are exempt.
 - 4.3.2 All Masters players must have attained their thirty-fifth (35) birthday before January 1st of the current year.
 - 4.3.3 All Classics players must have attained their thirtieth birthday (30) before January 1st of the current year.
- 4.4 Any team that includes a player who is under the age limits will forfeit all games concerned and will be subject to disciplinary action.

- 4.5 Only players listed on the District's certified roster will be considered eligible to participate in the Provincial Championship.
- 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 in accordance with District registration deadlines.**
- 4.7 A registered Youth player will not be considered cup-tied for Provincial Championships purposes to any team they have participated with as a trialist prior to having registered with a Senior team.
- 4.8 No player can compete in more than one (1) Senior Alberta Soccer Provincial Championship.
- 4.8.1 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.
- 4.8.2 A player will not play for more than one (1) team in any Provincial Championships.
- 4.9 Every player at all Provincial Championships must present a District approved photo ID card or valid government photo ID to the referee prior to participating in the game. The burden of proof of eligibility will rest with the player.
- 4.10 A player who has been a professional or a non-amateur player will not be eligible to compete in any Provincial or Canada Soccer Championship unless properly reinstated as an amateur player by the roster deadline for the championship they are wishing to participate in.
- 4.11 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.
- 4.12 As per Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations for Regional / National Championships, all players participating in a Provincial Championship leading to a Canada Soccer Championships must be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or a Protected Person. Each player must present proof of eligibility or Canada Soccer 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.

5. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- 5.1 Any Senior player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered cup-tied if the transfer is completed on or before January 31st for indoor or July 31st for outdoor of the current year, subject to local rules.
- 5.2 No Senior player will sign for more than one (1) Senior team in any season unless properly transferred in accordance with Alberta Soccer rules.

6. REPLACEMENT PLAYERS

- 6.1 A team may request, through their District, special permission to replace players after the player transfer deadline.
- 6.1.1 Registered players who wish to play may not be replaced.
- 6.2 Replacement player requests are approved by the district and authorized by Alberta Soccer.
- 6.3 All replacement players must be clearly indicated on the team roster submitted by the District.
- 6.3.1 All replacement players must have a [Replacement Player Form](#) submitted with the roster.

- 6.3.2 A team may apply, through their District, to the Alberta Soccer Competitions Committee to add replacement players to their roster after the roster submission deadline when:
 - 6.3.2.1 The team was invited to attend the Provincial Championships by the Alberta Soccer Association after the roster submission deadline.
 - 6.3.2.2 The team's goalkeeper became ill or injured after the roster submission deadline, but before the start of the Provincial Championships.
- 6.4 Replacement players cannot increase the roster above the original number of registered players. A replacement player must replace a registered member of the team.
 - 6.4.1 Teams can only request replacement players if their roster is depleted to seventeen (17) players or less and may only use replacement players to bring their roster back up to eighteen (18) players.
 - 6.4.2 Teams are eligible for a maximum of four (4) replacement players.
- 6.5 Teams participating in a Provincial Championship that leads to a Canada Soccer Championship must follow the Canada Soccer call-up rules.
- 6.6 All replacement players must come from within your District Association.
 - 6.6.1 If the season is incomplete, any replacement player must have the consent of the team/club for which they play.
 - 6.6.2 Teams cannot choose replacement players from a team that has qualified for a Provincial Championship.
- 6.7 Replacement players must come from a lower level of competition (see Appendix A).
 - 6.7.1 Under exceptional circumstances, where there is no lower-level team to draw replacement players from, Senior teams may apply, through their District Association, to the Alberta Soccer Competitions Committee for special dispensation to use players from the same level of play.
- 6.8 Once a player has been replaced, that player cannot participate in the Provincial Championships.

7. TEAM OFFICIALS

- 7.1 A maximum of four (4) non-playing personnel may be listed on the team's official roster and are the only team personnel allowed on the team bench during the championship.
 - 7.1.1 When there are minors on the roster, teams must follow the ASA Rule of Two.
- 7.2 All team officials must have a District approved 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 official.
- 7.3 All team officials listed on a Provincial Championship roster are required to obtain Criminal Record Check Clearance, within the last three years from the start of the competition
- 7.4 One team official from each team involved in a Provincial Championships must fulfill the coaching requirements for the appropriate level as per the chart below:

Competition	Coaching Requirement
Men/Women Major	Soccer For Life Trained OR Higher
Masters/Classics Major	Soccer For Life Trained OR Higher
Premier and Lower	NONE

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

7.6 Coaches can only coach one (1) team within the same tier of a Provincial Championship.

8. TEAM ROSTERS

8.1 By submitting any Provincial Roster, the District is certifying that all players are in good standing and properly registered, all coaches and team officials 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 Districts must certify all team rosters and submit them in the manner prescribed by Alberta Soccer by the Monday prior to the start of Provincials.

8.2.1 For Provincial Championships leading to a Canada Soccer Championships, Districts must certify all team rosters and submit them in the manner prescribed by Alberta Soccer by July 31st of the current year.

8.3 A team roster shall not exceed twenty-five (25) players and a team may dress only twenty (20) players for any game.

8.3.1 Teams competing in Challenge Cup and Jubilee Trophy Championships must designate twenty (20) players to compete in the Provincial Championships. The designated twenty (20) players cannot change once the tournament has commenced. Teams may dress all twenty (20) players for each game.

8.4 No roster changes will be accepted within three (3) business days of the start of the Provincial Championships. In extenuating circumstances, changes may be made with the approval from the Competitions Committee.

9. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

9.1 Teams competing in District, Regional, or Provincial Championships are responsible for travel, accommodation and other similar expenditures incurred.

9.2 Teams competing in a Canada Soccer Championships are responsible for travel, accommodation, and other similar expenditures incurred.

9.2.1 Teams will receive financial assistance for these expenditures as established annually by Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer.

10. EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

10.1 Districts must provide the colours of 2 sets of uniforms (jersey, shorts, socks) per team, submitted at the roster deadline.

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

10.2 In the event of a conflict of jersey colours, the visiting team must change.

10.3 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.

10.4 Visible undergarments such as compression shorts or long-sleeve tops may be worn.

10.4.1 For Provincial Championships leading to a Canada Soccer Championships:

10.4.1.1 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 or the lowest part of the shorts; players of the same team must wear the same colour.

10.4.1.2 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.

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 No jewelry is permitted.

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-championship meeting as scheduled, unless alternate arrangements are made before the championship begins.

12.1.3.1 Teams are required to present complete uniforms (jersey, shorts, and socks) at the check-in meeting, complete with goalkeeper uniforms and socks.

12.1.4. Failure to comply with the above will eliminate the team's right to protest or appeal any decision made by the Alberta Soccer Representative during the championship.

12.2. For championships, where proof of eligibility must be presented, any player whose eligibility is not validated is considered to be ineligible to participate.

13. SCHEDULES AND FORMATS

13.1. The format for all championships will be determined by the Competitions Coordinator following a review of the declarations received **in accordance with ASA policy and procedures.**

- 13.2. In the event 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.

14. GAME DURATION

- 14.1. The duration of the outdoor match will be as follows:

Age Group	Duration of Play	Extra Time (if required)
Masters/Classics	Two 40-minute halves	Two 15-minute halves
Senior Open Age	Two 45-minute halves	Two 15-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. Games in Provincial Championships leading to Canada Soccer Championships requiring a result where advancing to a gold-medal final is still possible.
- 14.2.1.1. 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 FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 14.3. The duration of the indoor match and the ball size will be determined as per the most recently approved [Rules of Indoor Soccer](#).
- 14.3.1. Any third game of a three (3)-team round-robin (including a six (6), nine (9), ten (10), or twelve (12) team format with groups of three (3) teams) that requires a result (see Rule 16.2) will go directly to penalty kicks.
- 14.3.2. All medal games that are tied at the end of regulation time will go directly to penalty kicks in accordance with the Laws of the Game or the Rules of Indoor Soccer (whichever is applicable)
- 14.4. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide two (2) game balls for each game.
- 14.4.1. Match balls are provided by Alberta Soccer for all games in championships leading to a Canada Soccer Championships.

15. SUBSTITUTIONS

- 15.1 Outdoor Provincial Championships will allow for unlimited substitutions.
- 15.1.1. Men's and Women's Major Championships, Canada Soccer substitution rules will apply:
- 15.1.1.1. There will be a maximum of five (5) substitutions per game, with unlimited substitutions at half-time and the end of full-time if extra time is required.
- 15.1.1.2. Substitutes can be made at any stoppage of play, at the referee's discretion, and must be made at the halfway line
- 15.1.1.3. A player who has previously been replaced by a substitute will be eligible to return to the game, but the player's return will be considered one (1) of the five (5) allotted substitutions unless done at half-time or full-time before extra time.
- 15.1.1.4. Teams will be provided with substitution slips for all substitutions made during the game, excluding half-time and full-time before extra-time substitutions. Substitution slips are to be filled out and handed by the substitute to the fourth official before entering the field of play.

15.2 All Indoor 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 the 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 championship, 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, is not completed due to weather or scheduling constraints, for scheduling purposes, the winner will be determined by a coin toss. A team representative from each team will be invited to witness the coin toss. Each team will receive one (1) point for 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 (head-to-head)
 - 16.4.2. Greater goal difference in matches between the tied teams (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. **Fewest number of yellow cards in all group matches;**
 - 16.4.6. **Fewest number of red cards in all group matches;**
 - 16.4.7. Taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the Laws of the games or Rules of Indoor Soccer, whichever is applicable.
 - 16.4.8. If required, tie-breaking kicks from the penalty mark will be conducted as follows:
 - 16.4.9. Two (2) teams tied: at a time and place decided by the Alberta Soccer Representative
 - 16.4.10. Three (3) teams tied: Each team is designated A, B, or C as determined by random draw.
 - 16.4.10.1. Three (3) mini-games will be played; A vs B, B vs C, and C vs A.
 - 16.4.10.2. Each mini-game will consist of five (5) penalty kicks at a time and place determined by the Alberta Soccer Representative.
 - 16.4.10.3. All five (5) penalty kicks must be taken.
 - 16.4.10.4. Three (3) points will be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie.
 - 16.4.10.5. The standings after these three (3) mini-games will be determined per the criteria above.
 - 16.4.11. Four (4) teams tied: Each team is designated A, B, C, or D as determined by a random draw by the Alberta Soccer Representative.

- 16.4.11.1. 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.
- 16.4.11.2. All five (5) penalty kicks must be taken.
- 16.4.11.3. Three (3) points will be awarded for a win, and one (1) point for a tie.
- 16.4.11.4. The standings after these six (6) mini-games will be determined per the criteria above.

16.5. When teams are tied on points but have played an uneven number of group games the tie-breaking procedure will be conducted as follows:

- 16.5.1. Total points divided by the number of games played.
- 16.5.2. Total goals scored divided by the number of games played.
- 16.5.3. Plus/Minus divided by the total number of games played.
- 16.5.4. 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 championship will be recorded as a 3-0 win for the opposing team.

17.1.1 If a team drops out during the championship all games against that team are forfeited and will be recorded as a 3-0 win for their opponent.

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 for any reason 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 championship requires a winner, the winner shall be determined by kicks from the penalty mark. If at the discretion of the Alberta Soccer Representative, penalty kicks cannot be conducted, a winner shall be determined by a coin toss.

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 reschedule 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 **The Competitions Discipline Committee shall have three (3) members.**

- 18.1.1 **One of the members shall act as Chairman.**
- 18.1.2 **One of the members shall act as recording secretary.**
- 18.2 **If, through introductions, it is determined a conflict of interest or bias exists, the panel can be reduced to two (2) members if agreed to in writing by the accused.**
- 18.3 Any specific matter related to a tournament may only be acted on by the Competition Discipline Committee for the duration of each tournament.
- 18.3.1 Any decision made by the Competition Discipline Committee will be final.
- 18.4 Misconduct by players or team officials, reported by the referee, will be dealt with by the Competition Discipline Committee prior to the team's next game.
- 18.4.1 Any misconduct in a team's final game will be delegated to the Alberta Soccer Discipline Committee or District in which the player or team official represents.
- 18.5 If a hearing is requested, or if the Alberta Soccer Representative, at their discretion decides, the Competition Discipline Committee will conduct a hearing to deal with misconduct in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Rules and Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.
- 18.5.1 Notice periods will be waived, and Alberta Soccer mandatory suspensions will be applied. The District and the team representatives of the player or team official involved will be informed of the decision.
- 18.5.2 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.
- 18.5.3 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 Competition Discipline Committee may take any disciplinary action it sees fit including suspension from all soccer activity.
- 18.6 Three (3) yellow cards in a Provincial Championship will automatically generate a one (1) game suspension.
- 18.7 All Red cards in a Provincial Championship 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:
- 18.7.1 Violent Conduct – two (2) games;
- 18.7.2 Offensive, Insulting, Abusive, Language and/or gestures – minimum of 2 games & a hearing at the request of the Alberta Soccer Competitions Representative
- 18.7.3 All other red cards – one (1) game
- 18.8 Any team official who is ejected from the game 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.
- 18.9 Any team official who receives an accumulation of two yellow cards will serve a one (1) game suspension, during which they will not be allowed on the bench.

- 18.10 All suspensions must be served at the next Alberta Soccer sanctioned match the suspended individual would otherwise participate in. For clarity, all Provincial Championships and league games with any Regular Member District are considered Alberta Soccer sanctioned matches.
- 18.11 Any player serving a suspension will be required to sit separately from the team and may not be dressed in a team kit.
- 18.11.1 It is the responsibility of the team official to supervise any Youth players serving suspension and if requested by the officials or the Alberta Soccer Representative, a team official will be required to sit with the suspended player.
- 18.12 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](#).
- 18.13 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 by 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.
- 18.13.1 The Alberta Soccer Representative will deal with all valid protests as outlined in the Alberta Soccer Rule and Regulations on Discipline and Appeals.
- 18.14 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 / Competition Discipline Committee will declare that team's participation illegal and adjust the results of the championship accordingly.
- 18.14.1 Individuals who have been listed on a game sheet will be deemed to have participated in that game.
- 18.15 When a referee is required to submit a written report on a game incident, it must be submitted on an Alberta Soccer Misconduct Report form within three (3) hours after the end of the final officiating responsibility for that game.

19. FINES

- 19.1 A declaration withdrawal of a team from a Provincial Championships must be submitted in writing by the District 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+ (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 – \$1200
- 19.1.4 Fourteen (14) days or less prior – \$2700
- 19.1.5 Seven (7) days or less - \$3000
- 19.2 **If a District can provide a replacement team, in accordance with Player and Team eligibility, fines may be reduced at the discretion of the Competitions Committee.**
- 19.3 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 and disallowed to attend Provincial Championship the following year.

- 19.4 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 and disallowed to attend Provincial Championship the following year.
- 19.5 Any team found to have played an ineligible player will be assessed a fine of \$2,500, per ineligible player.
- 19.6 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 an administrative fee of \$500.
- 19.7 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 Districts assumes ultimate financial responsibility for payment of any fines
- 19.7.1 Fines are not appealable.
- 19.8 Teams who do not fulfill their championship obligations will not be eligible to participate in a Provincial Championship for one (1) calendar year.

20. AWARDS

- 20.1 **The winners of Provincial Championships will be responsible for the safekeeping and return of the trophies to their District Soccer office by November 1.**
- 20.2 **The District will be responsible for the return of the trophies to Alberta Soccer at the next scheduled Member meeting.**
- 20.2.1 There will be a late trophy return fee of \$250 for any trophies returned after the next scheduled Member meeting.
- 20.3 Teams will be responsible for the cost of any repairs to a trophy, up to and including replacement.

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 been stopped and the wound is 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 championship 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 – Replacement Player

Level being drawn from → Level drawing players ↓	Major	Premier	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3	Classics/ Masters Major	Classics/ Masters Premier	Classics / Masters / Open Tier 4+	All other levels of Women's / Men's	AYSL + Youth Tier 1	Youth Tier 2+
Major	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Premier	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES [^]	YES [^]
Tier 1	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES [^]
Tier 2	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES [^]
Tier 3	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	YES [^]
Classics/Masters	NO	NO	NO	YES*	YES*	NO	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO
Classics/Masters Premier	NO	NO	NO	YES*	YES*	NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	NO

* Players must meet age requirement to play in Classics/Masters league.

[^] Any youth or AYSL player must be at least 16 years of age to play as a trialist with any senior team.

* Major Classics and Majors is indoor only

