



2022

ALBERTA
SOCCER
ASSOCIATION

INDOOR 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 Indoor Provincial Competitions and Playdowns. 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](#) 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.

2. PROVINCIAL DECLARATIONS

- 2.1. The final deadline for Districts to indicate their entries for the 2022 Indoor Provincial Championships in the manner prescribed by the Alberta Soccer office is January 14, 2022.
 - 2.1.1. 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.
- 2.2. In circumstances where a competition does not have a full complement of teams, the Competitions Committee 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.
 - 2.2.1. Priority for any additional declarations will be based on declaration fee, geographic distance from the host location and number of declarations already allocated.
 - 2.2.2. Except for competitions leading to a Regional or National competition, 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 Indoor Provincial Championships declarations as per their declaration form. There will be no refund for a team that withdraws prior to the competition.

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- 2.4. 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.
- 2.5. Each District will be allowed to declare one (1) Youth team per Youth category
 - 2.5.1. One (1) additional declaration will be allowed for each:
 - 2.5.1.1. District that exceeds 5,000 registered Youth players in the current season
 - 2.5.1.2. District hosting the Provincial Championship
 - 2.5.2. 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.
- 2.6. 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.
- 2.7. 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.
- 2.8. 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 competition under the jurisdiction of Alberta Soccer, subject to declaration limits set out in this rule book.
- 3.2. All Districts must identify the division/league/tournament that any teams potentially declaring for Provincials are participating in the manner prescribed by Alberta Soccer, no later than October 15.
- 3.3. No registered Youth team will be eligible to compete in more than one (1) Provincial Competition in any one (1) season.
- 3.4. 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.
 - 3.4.1. Upon request, teams must submit, through their district, to Alberta Soccer the results of these games (copies of game sheets) with rosters.
 - 3.4.2. Boarded indoor games played will qualify teams for participation in board indoor Provincial competitions;
 - 3.4.3. Any non-boarded indoor games played will qualify teams for participation in any non-boarded indoor Provincial competition.
 - 3.4.4. The Competitions Committee may accept or decline any declaration.
- 3.5. 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.
 - 3.5.1. 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.

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- 3.6. All other teams must compete in the Provincial Championships at the same level at which they compete throughout the playing season.
- 3.7. 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.
- 3.8. 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.
- 3.9. 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.
- 3.10. 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.
- 3.11. 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.
- 3.12. 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.

4. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 4.1. Players must be registered with Alberta Soccer seven (7) 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.
- 4.2. 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.
- 4.7. 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 at least seven (7) days ahead of the competition.

5. TRANSFER OF PLAYERS

- 5.1. [Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations - General](#) 5 and 6 apply to all competitions. 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.
 - 5.1.1. Under extenuating circumstances, a request may be made to the Competitions Committee to allow a player to transfer laterally or to a lower level of play after five games.
- 5.2. Players transferring to a higher level of play will not be considered cup tied if such transfer is completed by February 15.

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 unavoidable work, school, or family commitments; injury; or illness, and Districts may request proof of such prior to allowing the replacement
 - 6.2.1. Registered players who wish to play may not be replaced.
- 6.3. All replacement players, and replacement player requests, are under the jurisdiction of the team's District Association.
- 6.4. All replacement players must be clearly indicated as such on the Alberta Soccer roster.
 - 6.4.1. All replacement player additions to a roster must be accompanied by a [Replacement Player Form](#) submitted to Alberta Soccer prior to the roster submission deadline.
- 6.5. 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. Youth teams can only request replacement players if their roster is depleted to fifteen (15) players or less and may only use replacement players to bring their roster back up to sixteen (16) players.

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- 6.5.2. Teams are eligible for a maximum of four (4) replacement players.
- 6.5.3. In exceptional circumstances, Districts can request the Competitions Committee consider allowing replacement of a goalkeeper when criteria in 6.4.1 and/or 6.4.2 are not met.
- 6.6. All replacement players must come from within your District Association. For the purposes of this rule the Edmonton Minor Soccer Association (EMSA) and the Edmonton Interdistrict Youth Soccer Association (EIYSA) are considered separate Districts.
 - 6.6.1. Replacement players must come from the team's club system if such a system is in place.
 - 6.6.2. If the season is incomplete, any replacement player must have the consent of the team/club for which they play.
 - 6.6.3. 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), except as noted below
 - 6.7.1. Teams attending Tier IV Provincials from a rural District may pick up a maximum of two (2) players from another Tier IV team of the same age, subject to Alberta Soccer cup tied rules.
 - 6.7.2. 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.
- 6.8. Once a player has been replaced, the player cannot participate in the Provincial Championships.
- 6.9. Replacement players must be added to the Alberta Soccer Provincial roster prior to the roster submission deadline.
 - 6.9.1. 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:
 - 6.9.1.1. The team was invited to attend the Provincial Championships by the Alberta Soccer Association after the roster submission deadline.
 - 6.9.1.2. 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. All players, team staff and other persons involved in the Alberta Soccer Provincial Championships are required to conduct themselves in a manner which will bring credit to themselves, their teams, the host Association, the Alberta Soccer Association and the sport of soccer.
- 7.2. Participants must be present and dressed appropriately at all official and civic functions associated with the competition.
- 7.3. 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.

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- 7.3.1. All teams with Youth female members must have an adult female on the official roster and bench at all games. All teams with Youth male members must have an adult male on the official roster and on the bench at all games.
- 7.3.2. Teams may name one (fifth) alternate team staff member who may replace one of the initial four (4) in the case of an absence.
- 7.4. 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.
- 7.5. All team staff listed on a Provincial Championship roster are required to obtain Criminal Record Check Clearance.
- 7.6. 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:

Competition	Coaching Requirement	Strongly Recommended
U15, U17 Tier 1	C License Trained <u>OR</u> Higher	Making Ethical Decisions
U13 Tier 1	Soccer For Life + MED <u>OR</u> Higher	Making Ethical Decisions
U15+, Tiers 2-4	Soccer For Life Trained	Making Ethical Decisions
U13, Tiers 2-4	Learn to Train <u>OR</u> Soccer For Life	Making Ethical Decisions

- 7.6.1. Teams that do not meet this requirement must apply, with the support of their District, to the Competitions Department for a one-time exemption using the Coaching Certification Exemption Request Form and must complete the required courses outlined therein.
- 7.6.2. 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.

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 Tier 1: February 23, 2022;
 - 8.2.2 Tier 2-4: March 2, 2022.
- 8.3 A team roster shall not exceed twenty (20) players and a team may dress all twenty (20) for any game.

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9. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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.

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.
- 12.2 As per Rule 4.9, for competitions 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 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.
- 13.4 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.

14. GAME DURATION AND BALL SIZES

- 14.1 The duration of the match and the ball size will be determined as per the most recently approved [Rules of Indoor Soccer](#).
 - 14.1.1 Any third game of a three (3) team round-robin (including in a six, nine, ten or twelve team format with groups of three (3) teams) that requires a result (see Rule 16.2) will go directly to penalty kicks.
 - 14.1.2 All medal/final seeding games that are tied at the end of regulation time will go directly to penalty kicks.
- 14.2 It is the responsibility of the home team to provide two (2) game balls for each game.

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, the home team shall be deemed the winner for scheduling purposes. 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 Most points in all group matches;

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- 16.4.2 Greater number of points in matches between the teams concerned;
- 16.4.3 Greater goal difference in matches between the teams concerned (if more than two (2) teams are tied);
- 16.4.4 Greater goal difference in all group matches;
- 16.4.5 Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;
- 16.4.6 Taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the [Rules of Indoor Soccer](#) (page 46).
- 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.

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.

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- 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 Any offense involving a game official – indefinite suspension and an automatic hearing;
 - 18.5.3 All other red cards – one (1) game

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- 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 or is ejected from the game by the referee will serve a minimum one (1) 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. No protests will be heard which are based on a game official's interpretation of the Laws of the Game.
- 18.11.1 The Alberta Soccer Representative will deal with all valid protests as outlined in the Discipline and Protests procedure in Appendix B.
- 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.

19. FINES

- 19.1 No competition fees will be refunded if a District withdraws from a competition after the declaration deadline.
- 19.2 All withdrawals of a team from Provincial competition must be submitted in writing by the District Association to the Alberta Soccer office. An administrative fee based on the number of days out from the competition will be assessed for each withdrawal by the Competitions Committee.
- 19.2.1 45+ days prior – up to \$250
- 19.2.2 Thirty-one (31) to forty-five (44) days prior – up to \$500
- 19.2.3 Thirty (30) to fifteen (15) days prior – up to \$1,000

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19.2.4 Fourteen (14) days or less prior – up to \$2,500.

19.3 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.

19.4 Any team found to have played an ineligible player will be assessed a fine of up to \$2,500.

19.5 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.

19.6 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.

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](#).



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Appendix B

Discipline and Protest Procedure for Provincial Championships

1. Discipline Offences

- a. Violating Laws of the Game, Alberta Soccer Bylaws, Rules & Regulations, and/or Competition Rules
 - i. Red card offences against players or team officials ejected by match officials shall be dealt with according to the currently published provincial championships rulebook including this Appendix;
 - ii. Suspensions against team officials shall be dealt with according to the [currently published Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals](#)
- b. Any individual offering or attempting to offer or accepting an offer to influence the result of any game, whether directly or indirectly.

2. Protests

- a. 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 minutes of the end of the match in question.
 - i. No protest based on the match official's interpretation or application of the Laws of the Game will be heard.

3. Discipline / Protest Hearings

- a. Timelines and Notices
 - i. Any individual accused of misconduct shall be given notice of pending discipline and provided with:
 1. Either the proposed suspension and opportunity to attend a discipline hearing, or;
 2. The proposed suspension and procedure for accepting the suspension without a hearing.
 - ii. Any individual accused of misconduct shall be given at least one (1) hours' notice of any scheduled hearing.
 - iii. Written notice of the results of any hearing shall be provided to the accused individual upon completion of the hearing.
- b. Representation
 - i. The accused individual may self-represent or provide an alternate representative.
 - ii. The accused's representative may provide up to three (3) witnesses, unless circumstances require additional witnesses, as determined by the Competition Discipline Committee.
 - iii. Where the accused is under the age of majority, a legal guardian or team official must also be present.

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- iv. Failure to appear at a properly called discipline hearing shall result in suspension of the accused individual from the remainder of the Provincial Championship.
- c. Evidence
- i. All documentation and other evidence associated with the protest shall be provided to the representative at the hearing.
 - 1. At a minimum this shall include the relevant discipline report(s) for which the hearing has been called, the [currently published Alberta Soccer Rules & Regulations on Discipline and Appeals](#), and any other relevant documents to be considered by the Competition Discipline Committee.
 - ii. All documents submitted must be signed and dated to be deemed valid.
 - iii. The accused may compile evidence to support their defense and submit such relevant evidence at the hearing.
- d. Competition Discipline Committee
- i. The Competition Discipline Committee shall be comprised of the Alberta Soccer Representative, the Referee-in-Chief, and at one additional member.
 - 1. The Alberta Soccer Representative shall act as Chairman;
 - 2. Another member shall act as recording secretary;
 - ii. The protester and the accused shall provide names of the individual(s), club(s), team(s) and/or Affiliated Member(S) involved in the protest ahead of the hearing so that Competition Discipline Committee can determine if any perceived or actual conflict of interest may exist.
 - 1. If the Competition Discipline Committee identifies a perceived or actual conflict of interest or bias, the hearing panel can be reduced to two (2) members, if agreed to in writing by the accused
 - a. If no agreement can be reached, the hearing may be re-scheduled according to the required timelines.
- e. Discipline Procedure
- i. The Chairman of the Competition Discipline Committee shall read the report aloud and state the misconduct outlined in the report (unless the accused waives the reading of the report);
 - ii. The accused shall be allowed to ask relevant questions of the author of the report, through the Chairman, if they are present or make submissions on the report and testify on their own.
 - iii. The accused and the report author shall have the opportunity to call their witnesses;
 - iv. The Competition Discipline Committee may question the accused, author(s) of the report(s) and/or any witnesses presented;
 - v. The author(S) of the report(s) and the accused shall be allowed to make final summations before concluding the hearing;
 - vi. The Competition Discipline Committee shall consider all evidence provided then make a final decision.



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