

Tri-County Soccer Association

Rules & Regulations

Updated Jan 07, 2021

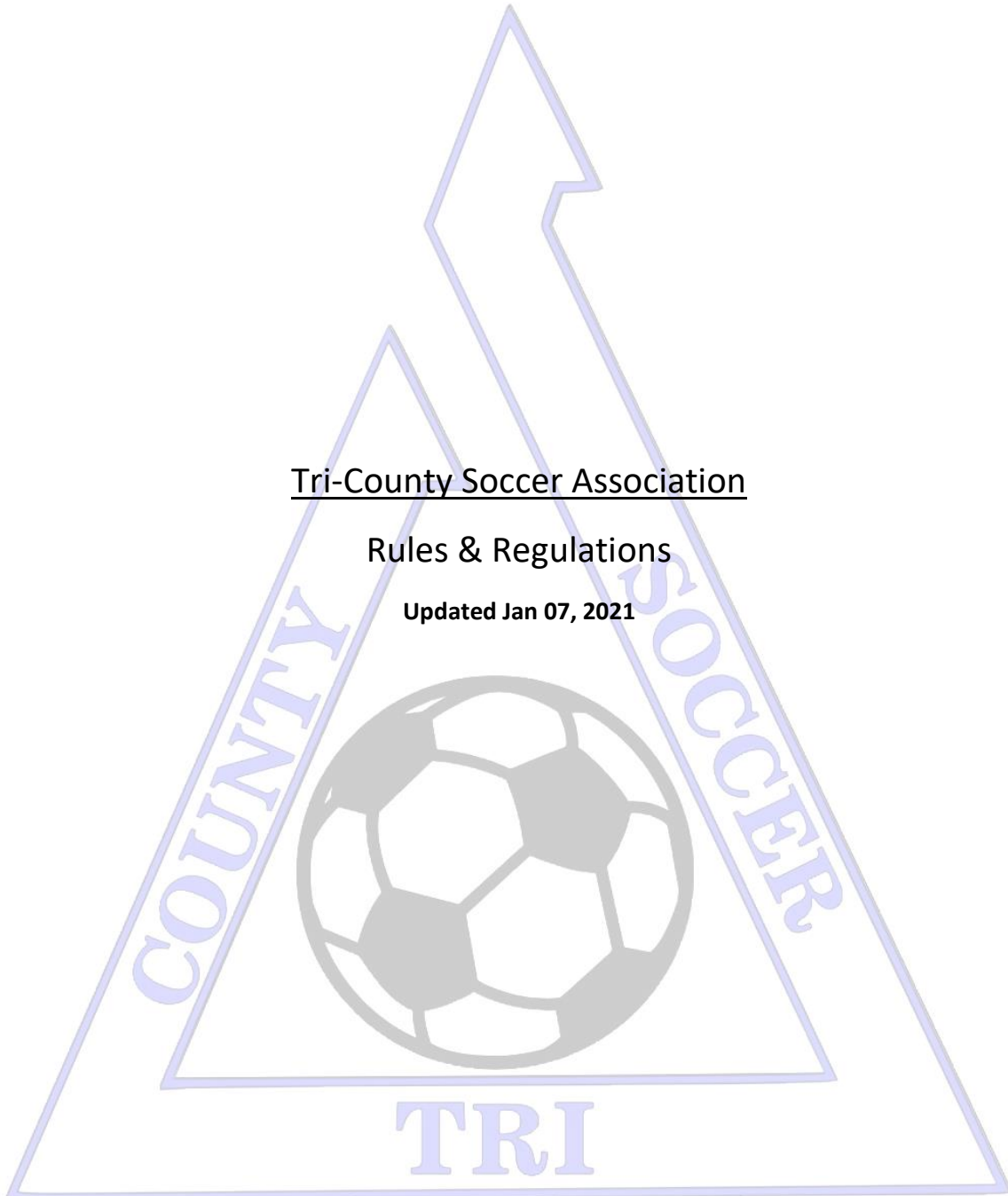
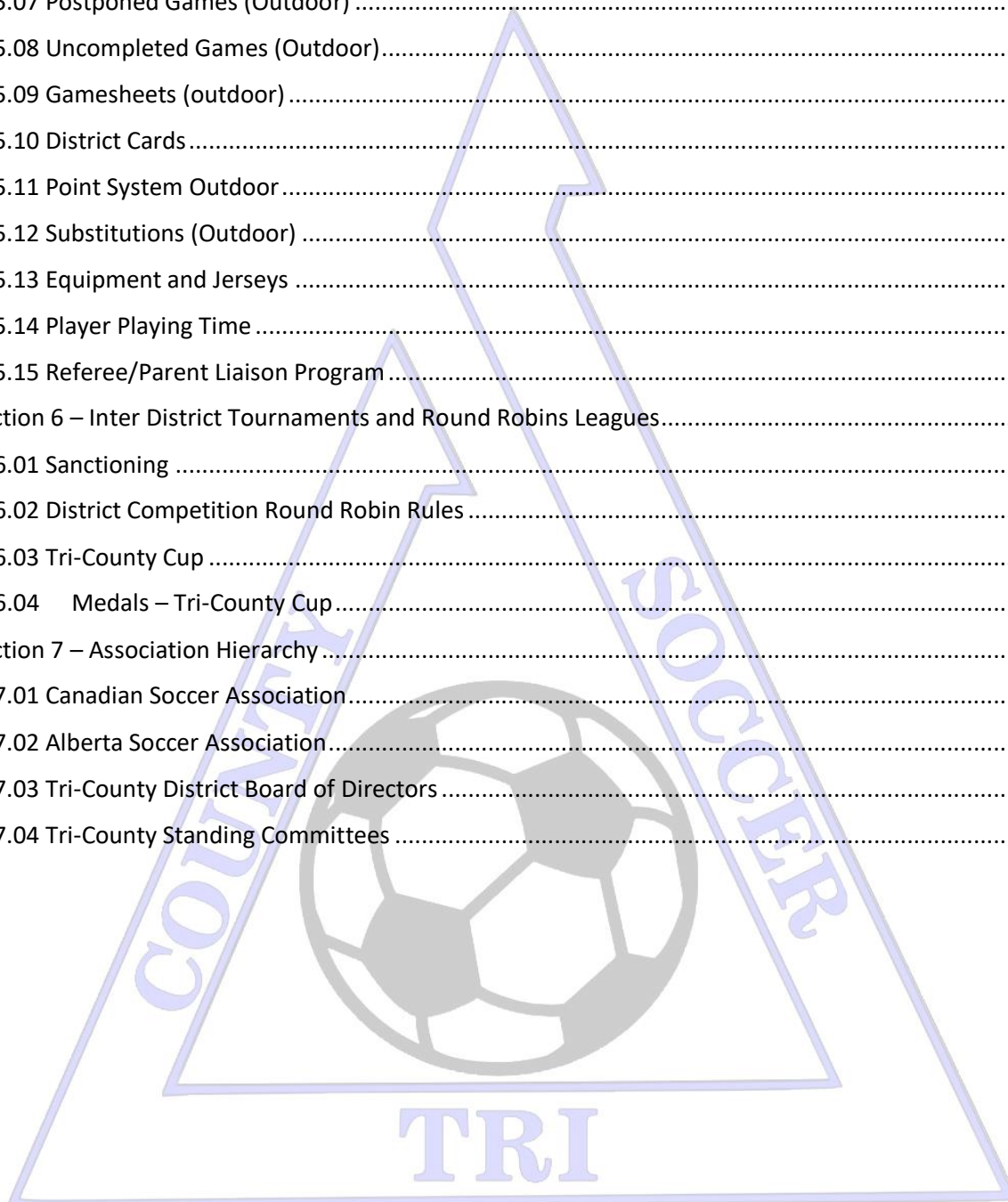


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Section 1 – General Rules

1.01 The Association

The Tri-County Soccer Association (TCSA), registered as a Society, hereafter referred to as the "District", is the Governing Body of Soccer within District 10 of the Alberta Soccer Association (A.S.A) who, in turn, is under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Soccer Association (C.S.A.).

1.02 Objectives

The District's main objectives are:

- A. To promote soccer, both indoor and outdoor, by organizing or sanctioning leagues and playoffs for the District.
- B. To promote referee, player, coach, and volunteer development.
- C. To collect fees from Community Associations to pay expenses and forward player registrations and insurance fees to the A.S.A.
- D. To distribute information about soccer to the Community Associations.
- E. To provide means for resolving protests and grievances.
- F. To balance the needs of the individual soccer player with the needs of the District and soccer as a whole.
- G. To uphold the code of conduct (**Section 10**) so fair play and good sportsmanship can prevail.

1.03 Organization

The District is comprised of recognized constituted Community Associations, Clubs or Societies hereafter referred to as Community Associations.

Each recognized Community Association in good standing shall have the right to send a voting representative to sit as a Director on the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall elect at the Annual General Meeting an Executive to run the day to day business and affairs of the District.

1.04 Membership

Currently the District membership includes the following

Community Associations:

- Ardrossan Soccer Club
- Athabasca Minor Soccer Association
- Bon Accord Minor Soccer
- Bruderheim Minor Soccer
- Fort Saskatchewan Soccer
- Gibbons Minor Soccer
- Grassland Soccer
- Legal Soccer Club
- Morinville Soccer Association

- Redwater Minor Soccer
- Smoky Lake Soccer Association
- Thorhild Soccer Association
- Tofield Minor Soccer Association
- Westlock Soccer Association

Community Association Affiliates:

- Barrhead Soccer

1.05 Territorial Limits

The boundaries of the district are set by Alberta Soccer Association

1.06 Tri-County Executive Board

- To form leagues and to sanction district tournaments.
- To determine the day on which all league games, make up games must be completed.
- To participate as requested as a member of the Competition & Discipline Committees.
- To attend all District meetings or have a representative present if unavailable.
- To collect District registration forms, Coaches Certifications, Vulnerable Sector Checks, Certified Referee lists, as set out By the Executive Board

1.07 The Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

To remain a member in good standings a member must:

- Abide by all the Rules and Regulations as approved by the elected executive and board of directors in good standing of the District.
- Annually submit a complete and audited financial statement within 6 weeks of the community association year end.
- Annually submit the most current bylaws within 6 weeks after the community association's Annual General Meeting, or amendments to bylaws as voted in by there members. Must include the AGM sign in. (Only Applies to community association's whom are registered societies)

1.08 Standing Committees

The Executive shall use Standing Committees to Committee and will determine the scope and organization of each. See Section

1.09 Non-District Leagues

- If the District is unable to create a feasible community level league (minimum 4 teams) for any particular level due to low numbers of teams in an age group, the Board of Directors may request a suitable alternative for these teams to play in. In the event that these teams are in out of District leagues, the schedules and rules of these leagues will take precedent over District rules of game play only unless specifically stated elsewhere in these rules.

- B. Teams may participate as tournament teams, however they must produce 6 game sheets (copies of both home and away sheets for that game) from their Tournament games to qualify for Play downs and provincials. A deadline set by the Executive Board will be announced each season.

1.10 Sponsors

Any person, business or organization may be a sponsor of a team. The District will allow advertising; however, District reserves the right to reject advertising on the aspects of taste

1.11 Publicity – subject to code of conduct

Announcements to the media of any statistics or local activities may be made by any member. Release on any other subject must be authorized by the President or Vice President of the District.

1.12 Injury-Liability Insurance

The A.S.A. will be the contact for any information or claims.

1.13 Team Rosters

- A. In soccer up to 20 players may be dressed for any single game.
 - Minimum registered players for a U-9 team – 10
 - Minimum registered players for a U-11 team – 11
 - Minimum registered players for a U-13 team – 14
 - Minimum registered players for a U-15 team – 14
 - Minimum registered players for a U-17 team – 14
 - Minimum registered players for a U-19 team – 14
- B. Indoor Soccer - Minimum registered players for a U-11 to U-19 team – 11
- C. Communities/Teams submitting rosters with less than the minimum player requirement will be rejected.
- D. Each team shall consist of not more than 20 players registered at any one time in a single season. This applies to U-11, U-13, U-15, U-17 & U-19 age groups.
(See mini soccer rules for U-3 to U-9 age groups)

1.14 Age Group Categories

The age group categories set for all levels; Team & Provincial eligibility is as follows:
As per ASA age category listing.

** See TCSA player movement policy**

1.15 Jewellery and Non-Compulsory Equipment

In District and Provincial Competitions no player will be permitted to wear any jewellery, all jewellery

must be removed, taping of piercings is not permitted. Medic Alert bracelets are permitted but must be covered. Eyeglasses are permitted. Other than religious or medical reasons no headgear (headbands, bandanas etc) of any kind is permitted.

Additional Guidance on Jewelry and Non-Compulsory Equipment

No item of jewelry of any sort will be allowed on the field of play, even if it is 'taped'. I.E. covered. Game officials must set an example by removing all personal jewellery before entering the field of play (watches are allowed for game officials).

The rule of thumb should be 'if it can be seen, it's a problem'.

Earrings: no earrings of any kind are acceptable. The practice of taping is no longer acceptable.

Facial Rings: any kind of jewellery around the eyes, nose or any other part of the face must be removed.

Bracelets: all bracelets (including metal, rope, fabric ...) must be removed.

Medic Alert Bracelets: may be worn but must be covered or padded in order to be safe for all players.

Necklaces: all necklaces must be removed.

Body Piercing: any body piercing not visible to the referee is not of concern. Should the piercing become visible the referee will ensure it is removed.

Watches: players are not allowed to wear any kind of watches.

Beaded Hair: if a player is wearing hair beads the hair must be tied in a bun or covered by a hair net. Loose beaded hair is not permitted. Rings: must be removed.

Hats: no hats are allowed on the field of play. Goalkeepers may request to wear a soft brimmed hat as an eyeshade. The referee must ensure that it is not dangerous.

Bandanas: no bandanas are allowed.

Sweatbands: no sweatbands are allowed.

Head Protectors: only those permitted by FIFA are allowed.

Spectacles: are allowed if they are sports spectacles and / or regular glasses and are safe for the players themselves and for other players.

Pro Wrap: Single strand of Pro Wrap is permitted with no metal hair clips or bobby pins.

Orthopedic Supports: FIFA Circular 863 states that the vast majority of commercially manufactured supports are safe to use. These items pose less of a hazard than players accidentally banging heads, for instance.

The major concern is not the 'hardness' of the equipment alone, rather it should be whether any part of it could cut or wound another player.

Any support must be safe for all players, and adequately padded if necessary. Casts: Players wearing a hard cast are NOT permitted to play, even if it is padded.

Players wearing a soft cast may be permitted to play if the cast does not present a danger to him/herself or any other player. The soft cast must not contain any hard material.

The referee (or a Supervisor of Officials if one has been appointed to the match or competition) will make the final decision as to the acceptability of any soft cast.

Section 2 – Registration & Eligibility

2.01 Team Registration Form (CSV)

The Districts registration form must be completely filled out for each team and delivered to the Executive Board by the Community Association. Failure to deliver the form by the set deadline will result in a \$250 fine to be paid by the offending community association.

- A. All soccer players shall be registered with a recognized Community Association or Affiliate.
- B. In league play, once team registration forms have been submitted, any player additions can only be done on a weekly basis. New players can be registered during the season and must be submitted to the League by Friday at noon to enable league play the following week starting Monday. Confirmation must be received by the Community Association prior to that player dressing for a game or practice.
- C. Birth certificate or other evidence acceptable to the District are to be requested as proof of a player's age. Such proof of age is required only on the first occasion the player registers with the Community.
- D. It shall be the responsibility of the coach of a team and the Community Association to ensure that every player is duly registered and is of the correct age.

2.02 Player Eligibility

- A. Infraction of these rules is considered an offence and shall be dealt with by the Discipline committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Coach in conjunction with the Community Association to ensure that each player on the team is eligible to play.
- B. Players from outside the District boundaries are permitted to register in the District
- C. When there are insufficient players in a particular age group in a community to form a team, the Community will work with another community to form a viable team. This can include co-coaches from each community, as well as alternating practices in each community.
- D. Players may be recruited from a lower age group on a trial basis to a maximum of 3 players per game. Any registered player may play an unlimited number of games for an older age category team within the same parent Community Association for league games only. Players are required to play with their registered team. It must be recorded on the game sheet that the player is a "Trialist" along with the Team and Age Group the player has been drawn from. A "Trialist" form (see download on website) must be retained by the team and **must also be submitted to the league when sending in game sheets for that particular game.** Failure to provide the necessary form will result in a forfeit for that team. No exceptions.
 - Prior written permission **must be obtained from a registered team coach or team official** with whom the player is currently registered.
- E. Players who reside within the boundaries of the District wishing to play in another District may do so. A District release is not required.
- F. ** See TCSA player movement policy**

2.03 Coach Eligibility

At least one age appropriate certified coach per team is registered in the District for U13 to U19 teams, and those certifications must be submitted with the teams ASA form at registration to the District. All teams must have a Coach/Asst coach or bench person of the same gender as the team on their ASA Roster form, and on the bench. Any team not submitting their Coaches Certification will have that coach removed or replaced by a certified coach from that community until proper certification is received.
All individuals listed on the ASA forms must submit a Criminal Record Check or they will be removed from the roster.

Section 3 – Fees

3.01 Membership Fees

Each recognized Community Association must pay by the Annual General Meeting a District membership fee of \$100.00. Voting rights may be withheld until the fee is paid as well as any outstanding charges for that Community

3.02 Player Registration and Fees

All Community Associations will be invoiced by the District for all registration fees including A.S.A. Insurance fees. Fee schedules will be available to the Community Associations for each Outdoor and Indoor season.

3.03 Provincial Tournament Fees

The District will send payment to the A.S.A. for Provincial team Tournament fees. The team and/or the team's Community Association is responsible for the fee and will be invoiced by the District.

Section 4 – Procedures & Equalizing Teams

An individual may not serve as an executive board member of their new club for a minimum of 2 Calendar years.

Does not apply under the following:

- A. Community Association or club dissolves
- B. individual moves 50km away making the commute to the existing club impractical
- C. Is agreed in writing to release the individual's the original club by:
 - i. The appropriate affiliate members executive board or
 - ii. The TCSA executive board.

4.01 Game Protests

All game protests are to be reported to the Competitions Chairperson for review within 48 hours of the infraction. Contact via email: GameReporting@tricounty.soccer

- A. Protests on games should be made according to the rules of the competition in which the game was played within 48 hours.
- B. An Affiliated Member, on behalf of a team, may protest a game to the Districts Competition Chairperson within 48 hours.
- C. A cheque for \$150.00 made payable to the District must accompany the game protest and received by the District within 7 days
- D. ** See Tri-County See Tri-County Rules & Regulations for Competitions**

4.02 District Meeting

Meetings will be held 4 times per year for all Communities. Regional meetings may be held as required with Communities, Referees or Coaches as required. Minimum 2 weeks notice will be given.

ALL MEETINGS ARE MANDATORY, failure to be represented at ANY meeting will result in a fine of \$250.00 per occurrence. If as president you are not able to attend you must send a representative on your behalf.

4.03 Method of Equalizing Teams

The Tier 4 level outdoor leagues will be made up of community league house teams composed of registered players from the community or communities in or near which they reside. If a Community Association has more than one team in an age group all such teams shall be made as equal as it is possible through techniques such as player evaluations and closed draft systems hopefully resulting in teams of equal composition of players of various skill levels both weak and strong.

There is a precedent within Alberta that a District shall have the right to take appropriate action to prevent any community association from forming unequal Tier 4 level teams of the same age group. The suggestions below on how to equalize teams are intended as information to the communities and may be modified to suit the needs of the community and the age group.

A. Player evaluations

Criteria to rank players

- a. 1st or 2nd year within the age group.
- b. Number of seasons played.
- c. Results of assessment camp.
- d. Evaluations should begin as soon as weather permits in mid April
- e. Coaches and volunteers with some soccer knowledge to be involved.-4 to 7 skill stations with same number (4-7) of groups of players rotating to each skill station; evaluator teams stay at one station and rate all players on a skill and fill in a skill sheet.
- f. Split groups alphabetically, it is much easier to keep track of players.
- g. Use of easily read name tags with last names is an option.
- h. Equipment: balls, nets, cones and stop-watches.
- i. Rank all players from 1 to 5 with 5 being the highest skilled, 3 as average and 1 with the least skills. 80- 90% of the players should be in the 2-4 range.
- j. Skill testing suggestions:
 - {1} time the length of soccer field run
 - {2} ball control around cones
 - {3} hard long kick
 - {4} passing and receiving skills using side of foot 10-20 metres
 - {5} partners passing to each other through a length of cones
 - {6} receiving a pass, controlling the ball and shooting on net
 - {7} any other skills suitable for the age group.
- k. Evaluate players in a game playing situation by holding a series of small sided scrimmages. Scrimmages of 10-15 minutes duration should suffice.

B. Draft systems

Open draft systems by coaches is definitely not recommended for use in dividing up teams. Knowledge of player's skills may vary among coaches and could easily result in unequal teams. Dividing up teams by 1st or 2nd year players is also definitely not recommended and again could easily end in uneven teams. The old adage of keeping

players together every year does not apply to the philosophy of community level soccer but is more suitable for select teams,

Once players have been evaluated and ranked by points players may be drafted for teams by the "out of a hat" method using the ranked group system as below:

- a. All players to be ranked from #1 down based on the above 4 evaluation criteria.
- b. All players so ranked are placed in groups composed of the same number of players as there are teams in that age group from #1 down.
- c. Coaches then pick one player from each group out of a hat.

EXAMPLE, in an age group with 4 teams the players are picked as follows:

[Group 1] -consists of #1 #2 #3 & #4 ranked players

The four coaches each pick these players out of a hat

[Group 2] -consists of #5 #6 #7 & #8 ranked players

and so on

Variation: In a 4 team scenario each coach draws# 1 through 4; then:

#2 coach gets #2 ranked player / #4 coach gets #4 ranked player / #3 coach gets #6 ranked player

#1 coach gets #1 ranked player / #3 coach gets #3 ranked player / #4 coach gets #5 ranked player

#1 coach gets #1 ranked player / #1 coach gets #8 ranked player / #1 coach gets #9 ranked player

#2 coach gets #7 ranked player / #2 coach gets #10 ranked player
and so on.

- d. Older age groups may be split by rank into forwards and defenders and each group drafted separately.
- e. No trades allowed except for coaches' children and accepted special requests by parents.
- f. The trade must occur within the same group of ranked players and before the teams are formed.
- g. It would be advisable to arrange exhibition games between teams of the same age group in a community and make any adjustments necessary to even teams before the league games start.

Section 5 – Inter District Game Rules

5.01 Laws of the Game

The Laws of the Game of soccer, except where modified herein by the District, are the laws most recently approved by I.F.A.B. (International Football Association Board).

5.02 Game Officials

Per ASA Specifications:

- Youth District ASA registered referees (14 or 15 year olds) must be at least two years older than the age group they are officiating and may be linesmen for all age groups.
 - District ASA registered referees (16 years and older) may referee and be linesmen for all age groups.
 - Mini ASA registered referees may referee U9 and younger only and/or be linesmen for all age groups.
- A. The home community will provide the game official (s) (referee & assistant referee(s) registered and qualified at the appropriate age level for league games.
 - B. If no official (s) (referee/assistant referee) are available both coaches will agree on an appropriate substitute official (s) (referee/assistant referee) and play the regular league game; in this case the result will stand. Both coaches will sign the game sheet with notation agreeing to the substitution of the official (s) (referee/assistant referee) prior to the game commencing.
 - C. All games where the home community is unable to provide a registered and qualified referee are to be reported within 48 hours, to the Competitions Chairperson for further investigation.
 - D. Any community unable to provide a registered referee for at least two games will lose its home game privileges at the discretion of the Competitions Committee.
 - E. The referee, assisted by his assistant referees, enforces the Laws of the Game as soon as he enters the area surrounding the field of play and up to the time he leaves the area. The decisions of the referee regarding facts connected with the play ARE FINAL as far as the result of the game is concerned.
 - F. The referee and Referee/Parent Liaisons' must introduce themselves to each other before the start of the game at center field and sign the game sheet. The game will not proceed until such time as the game sheet signing takes place. The referee may expel from the field of play and the immediate surroundings any team official, player or spectator.
 - G. All Red and Yellow Cards must be reported within 48 hours to the Discipline Chairperson for further investigation. See TCSA Rules and Regulations on Discipline & Appeals for information regarding Red and Yellow Card offences.

5.03 Team Officials

- A. All team officials are responsible in conducting themselves in a responsible manner in all team activities (See section 4; Referee/Parent Liaison (Armband) Program)

- B. Coaches must strongly insist that no one show dissent to any calls by a referee; if questioned courteously most referees will give a brief explanation of a call. Coaches should never criticize or evaluate a referee.
- C. On mixed teams a male and female team official is required to be on the bench.
 - On female teams, a female team official is required to be on the bench.
 - On a male team, a male team official is required to be on the bench. This is a requirement for indoor and outdoor games, practices, and any team activity.
- D. In addition to town by-laws and in accordance with club rules and regulations smoking, drinking, or possession of any alcoholic beverages or other banned substances, vaping or smoking tobacco or marijuana products in the vicinity if any youth soccer game is prohibited.
- E. When allergies/asthma is apparent a Referee/Parent Liaison may request a “pet” be removed from the sidelines for League games. In the interest of the players’ health and well being, Parents/Spectators are expected to co-operate.

5.04 Guidelines for Scheduling Outdoor League Games

- A. One or more complete round robins must be used to determine league results. When using two round robins the home and away games must be flipped on the second.
- B. All league and make up games (from field closures only) must be completed within 7 days after the original game date. Failure to do so will result in a 0-0 game with no points awarded to either team.
- C. No league Games will be played on May long weekend with the exception of Monday, which will be included in the schedule. This is the only non-scheduled weekend for the season.
- D. Re-scheduling of games is only permitted if agreed to in advance by the requesting team and their opponents, and must be completed prior to the end of the season. (See website for “Notice to Change Scheduled Game Time” forms) All forms must be received by the District 72 hours before the game is scheduled and all arrangements for referees and fields are the responsibility of the teams involved. If the opposing team is unable to accommodate the requesting team then the original game will proceed as scheduled.

5.05 Outdoor Game Schedule

- A. Teams must adhere to the schedules as issued with the exception of Rule 5.04-D above. Any team found not complying with this rule will forfeit their game.
- B. League games will be scheduled for age groups as follows:

- U-3, U-5, U-7, U-9 In-house at the discretion of the Community Association.
- U-11 Tuesday, and alternating Weeks Tuesday & Thursday at 7:30 pm
- U-13 Monday: 7:30 pm & Wednesday 7:30pm
- U-15 Tuesday: 7:30 pm & Thursday 7:30pm
- U-17 Monday: 7:30 pm & Wednesday 7:30pm
- U-19 Thursday 7:30pm

At team declaration, changes may be made depending on the team numbers, and at the discretion of the Executive and Board of Directors.

- C. Teams playing outside the District (Tier 3 and above) will play at times provided by the league they are playing in. Any teams not participating in the District league must be declared as such and have District approval.
- D. Rainout updates will be posted on the Tri-County Facebook Page for those communities that are forced to close fields by their municipalities. All other games are played rain or shine.

5.06 Game Duration

- A. The duration of the games in District leagues and County Cup & overtime in the County Cup is:

Age Group	Duration (minutes)
U19	90
U17	90
U15	80
U13	70
U11	60
U9	50
U7, U5, U3	Mini Soccer Guidelines

- B. The duration may be altered at the discretion of the referee but such an altered game will be valid only if 75% of the game is played. (i.e.: severe weather, lightning)
- C. Games shall consist of two equal halves with a minimal half time interval of 5 minutes
- D. In all games, each team will be situated on opposite sides of the field
- E. Parents and spectators will be situated on the same side of the field as their team; on the other side of the half line. Parent liaisons will be situated at the “half line” in between the parents/spectators and the team to ensure visibility for the Referee.
- F. Overtime periods will be played according to rule 3.06A (above) for Play down games only.

- G. Overtime will be as follows: If at the end of regulation time teams are tied, there will be 2 neutral overtime halves. If at the end of 2 overtime halves the teams are still tied, a shootout will occur using only the players on the field. 5 shooters per side will be used then alternating 1 player per side until all players on the field have shot. If still tied, begin sequence again.

5.07 Postponed Games (Outdoor)

- A. Any team that forfeits a game will be assessed a \$100.00 fine per game. The Community Association will be invoiced accordingly.
- B. All postponed league games for U11 and older leagues must be scheduled within 7 days of the original game date and be reported to the District Competitions Director using the “Notice to Change Scheduled Game Time” available on the website. Any league game not scheduled and reported within this time will result in zero points awarded to both teams; all make up games must be completed 2 weeks before the end of league play. The Competitions Director must be notified of the re-scheduled game results within the 48-hour score reporting period, or the game will result in a 0-0 score.

C. **Severe Weather**

The safety of players, coaches, management and spectators is the primary concern in any weather event that occurs during all matches sanctioned by Canada Soccer. By understanding and following the below information, the safety of everyone shall be greatly increased. Ultimately, the referee has the final say over delaying or restarting a match due to weather. Waiting to stop play or not waiting to start play may result in a serious injury or loss of life. Referees are expected to act responsibly when dealing with such events during matches they are controlling. If you can hear thunder, you can get hit by lightning. Refer to the most current ASA lighting policy.

D. **Air Quality**

Below 3 – continue training as normal; 4 to 6 – prepare to alter practice/end game play; 7 & up – reschedule practice & games

District to post game cancellations and practice advisements on website and social media pages

- Games
 - If the Affiliated Member has not cancelled games in advance all teams and match officials should arrive ready to play.
 - If the AQHI is still above “7” at the next calculation the teams involved, and the match official should consider delaying kick-off or cancelling the game.

- The match official reserves the final right to cancel the game if the conditions are considered dangerous, in the match official's opinion.
 - Referee to write on game sheet reason for abandonment with the Index calculation, time & date number calculated and AQHI station used.
 - If air quality changes dramatically during a game (e.g. sudden smoke event caused by wind direction change) referees and team officials are advised to use their discretion. Record all decisions and relevant information on the game sheet.
- For Practices
 - Team officials should consider a rescheduled practice or postponing practice until a later time

5.08 Uncompleted Games (Outdoor)

- A. There must be a minimum of 8 players per team on the field to start an official game except for mini soccer.
- B. The referee must write on the game sheet the reason for terminating the match, the score at termination and the time already played and ensure a copy is sent to the Competitions Director within 48 hours.
- C. If the non-completion of a game is due to misconduct of players, team officers or spectators the result of the game shall be decided by the Disciplinary Executive Review Panel within 48 hours. If a team refuses to attend or finish a game that team will forfeit the match and be penalized as per the Tri-County Rules & Regulations for Discipline and Appeals.
- D. If a team does not show up by game time, they are considered late and they will forfeit the game. If the team is in contact with the home team and are in agreement, then the game may proceed if there are extenuating circumstances for them being late. The game time may then be shortened (at the discretion of the referee.)

5.09 Gamesheets (outdoor)

- A. On the game sheet all players along with their jersey numbers shall be listed. The Referee/Parent Liaison must sign the game sheet only prior to the game at centre field, in the presence of the referee or the game will not proceed.
- B. REFEREES are responsible for scanning and emailing the game sheets (for both teams) to the Scheduler within 48 hours of game completion. If the game sheets are not sent in within the 48 hours, the scores will be posted as a loss for home team.

Community will receive a reminder after 1 week, if game sheets are not submitted after 2 weeks the home community will be considered a forfeit and fined as per Tri-County Rules & Regulations for Discipline and Appeals.

IF GAME SHEETS ARE INCOMPLETE THEY WILL BE REJECTED. Please ensure they are complete and include the game number.

Game sheets are to be submitted to gamereporting@tricounty.soccer

5.10 District Cards

All players must produce their district issued cards by the end of the game. All team officials must produce their district issued card by kick off.

All district issued cards are property of Tri-County Soccer Association to be held by the individual the card was issued to. All cards must be returned to the rightful individual before the end of season. Any cards not returned or have a signed release to their community association will be subjected to a \$50 fine per card and/or legal action to the offending team official and/or community association.

Tri-County Executive Board has the right to request the return of the District issued card at their discretion. District card replacements not due to expiry will be subject to a \$25 fee. All card requests require a minimum five (5) business days turn around.

5.11 Point System Outdoor

For all District competitions the awarding of points for a game shall be

- 3 points for a win
- 1 point for a tie
- 0 points for a loss
- 3 point deduction for a forfeit
- Mercy Rule 5 points

5.12 Substitutions (Outdoor)

- A. An unlimited number of substitutions may be made during League games. An unlimited number of players may be substituted at one time but only at the discretion of the referee who may limit the number.
- B. Substitutions must be made at the centre line only at a stoppage of play and only with the permission of the referee.
- C. Substitutions will normally be allowed only on your team's possession.

- D. Players on the sidelines must cover their colors (pinnies) and remain 3 feet from the sideline so that they do not distract the referee. If pinnies are not available then the use of a jacket or sweater can be substituted.

5.13 Equipment and Jerseys

- A. Soccer shin-pads secured and covered with socks are mandatory for all players
- B. Soccer shoes or running shoes are recommended footwear; the referee shall be checking all player equipment for safety.
- C. The game ball shall be supplied by the home team to the referee for inspection. The size of ball for each age group is as follows.

U17	Size 5 ball
U15	Size 5 ball
U13	Size 5 ball
U11	Size 4 ball
U 9	Size 4 ball
U 7	Size 3 ball
U 5/U 3	Size 3 ball
- D. Four corner flags, or cones for younger teams, are strongly recommended. When centre flags are used they must be placed 1 meter away from the sideline.
- E. Each team, U13 and older, is required to supply and install one net for all home and away games.
- F. Pinnies must be worn by all players on the sidelines at games and must be a different color than their team's jersey color. (If pinnies are not available a jacket or sweater can be substituted)

5.14 Player Playing Time

The intent of community league soccer is to allow everyone to participate and have fun. Coaches are to ensure fair playing time for all team members. Players should be given a minimum playing time of one third (1/3) of a game's duration. This requirement does not preclude a coach's privilege of using playing time as a means of enforcing team discipline.

5.15 Referee/Parent Liaison Program

Referee abuse and harassment by spectators and coaches is the main reason why referees, particularly those in their early teens, drop out of the development program resulting in severe shortages of officials at all levels. This unacceptable behavior towards our youth must be addressed as a priority particularly if soccer is to have an adequate supply of referees.

All teams participating in Tri-County league must designate an individual (does not have to be the same person for each game) at each game (home and away) to act as a referee/parent liaison. The referee/parent liaison for each team shall be a person, usually a parent who is NOT a team official (coach/manager/bench person) and their main role will be to act as a deterrent to possible acts of misbehaviour by their teams' Parents, Spectators or Team Officials. The referee/parent liaison will also be available to the referee should a request to do so be made or if a potential problem exists.

- A. Both Referee/Parent Liaisons are to meet at centre field, introduce themselves to each other and to the referee prior to the start of the game, sign your game sheet in the presence of the referee and tell them that you are here to help them if they require it.
- B. Wear the identifying armband provided by your team. (This armband will be available from your team officials)
- C. Situate yourself at "centre field" in between your team and your parents/spectators. Monitor the behaviour of your teams' parents & spectators and Coaches/Team Officials.
- D. You are now visible at half time, full time, or at any time during the game if the referee needs your assistance.
- E. Quickly diffuse potential problems before they arise by either being visible or calmly speaking with the individual(s) involved including coaches.
- F. Deal with, and act on, inappropriate comments, gestures and/or general unsporting behaviour directed at referees, players or any other individual by your teams' Parents, Spectators or Coaches but please avoid getting into a confrontation.
- G. Any individual be it Spectator, Parent or Coach must adhere to the Program. You are within your right to ask anyone who is not complying with the intent of this Program to leave the field of play including Coaches if necessary. Please note this involves YOUR team only. At no time are you to approach the other team. Your only goal is to ensure that your teams Parents, Spectators & Coaches are acting in a sportsmanship like manner.
- H. Submit a brief report in writing (via email) to the Discipline Chairman of any incident that you feel the district should be aware of involving inappropriate behaviour by ANY individual. Based on any official report, the Discipline Chairman will conduct an investigation into the incident and penalties will be levied if necessary. Refer to all reports to: tricity.discipline@yahoo.ca within 48 hours of the occurrence.

Section 6 – Inter District Tournaments and Round Robins Leagues

6.01 Sanctioning

Any tournament held in the District must be approved by the District and if the tournament involves any out of district teams it must also be sanctioned by the A.S.A. The ASA sanctioning fees are the responsibility of the Community hosting the tournament and will be invoiced accordingly. The A.S.A deadlines for tournament sanctioning is June 30th for Indoor tournaments and December 1st for outdoor tournaments. Any requests received after this deadline will not be accepted by the District or the A.S.A.

6.02 District Competition Round Robin Rules

** See Tri-County See Tri-County Rules & Regulations for Inter District Competitions**

6.03 Tri-County Cup

Will be held as determined by the Districts' Executive Board and will be held as follows:

- 2nd weekend in June for U11 & U15,
- 3rd weekend in June for U13, U17 & U19

Note: All dates are tentative and will be confirmed each year for the upcoming season. (refer to the Districts' Calendar of Events for exact dates at www.Tricounty.soccer)

6.04 Medals – Tri-County Cup

Gold, Silver and Bronze for 3 teams or more

Section 7 – Association Hierarchy

7.01 Canadian Soccer Association

7.02 Alberta Soccer Association

Districts

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Sunny South | 2. Medicine Hat | 3. Lethbridge |
| 4. Calgary | 5. CASA (Red Deer & Rural | 6. Big Country |
| 7. Foothills | 8. Edmonton | 9. St. Albert |
| 10. Tri-County | 11. North West Central | 12. Lakeland |
| 13. North West Peace | 14. Fort McMurray | 15. Battle River |
| 16. Sherwood Park | 17. Airdrie | 18. Canal Links |

Affiliates

Alberta Colleges, Alberta Universities, Metro High Schools, North Central

7.03 Tri-County District Board of Directors

Ardrossan Soccer Club 2005
Athabasca Minor Soccer Association
Bon Accord Minor Soccer
Bruderheim Soccer
Boyle Minor Soccer
Fort Saskatchewan Soccer Association
Gibbons Minor Soccer
Grassland Soccer
Legal Soccer Club
Morinville Soccer Association
Redwater Minor Soccer
Smoky Lake Soccer
Thorhild Soccer Association
Tofield Minor Soccer Association
Westlock Soccer Association

Affiliates

Barrhead Soccer Association

7.04 Tri-County Standing Committees

A. Outdoor League

The Competition Director will be responsible for forming all league schedules in the Tri-County District's outdoor Tier 4 league. **All Communities must be in attendance at the Pre- Declaration and final Team Declaration Meetings**, and supply the Committee with a Declaration for teams participating in the upcoming soccer season, a completed Coaches list for all teams declared along with their Certifications and Criminal Record Checks (if not already on file), a list of ASA registered referees, and supply a current list of home fields for scheduling. **Any team that withdraws after this final declaration has been submitted is subject to a \$250.00 penalty fee from the district and will also incur the cost of the declaration fees to ASA and any further penalties levied by the out of District League registered in. Failure to attend will mean the teams in your community will not participate in any league play and therefore will not qualify in any manner to advance to the Tri-County Cup or the districts berth to Provincials.**

B. Indoor League

All Communities must be in attendance at the Team Declaration Meeting and must supply the Committee with a Declaration for teams participating in the upcoming soccer season, and a completed Coaches List for all teams declared along with their Certifications, and a list of ASA registered referees. **Any team that withdraws after this declaration has been submitted is subject to a \$250.00 penalty fee from the**

District, and will also incur the cost of the declaration fees to ASA, and any further penalties levied by the out of District League registered in. **Failure to attend will mean the teams in your community will not participate in any league play.**

C. **Competitions**

The District will form a neutral Competition Committee Panel to investigate any complaints of unequal teams in a community. If the complaint is deemed to be valid, and the Community does not rectify the situation, a Discipline Committee hearing will be called. Penalties to be imposed are at the recommendation of the Competitions Committee Panel and can range from a 6 months suspension to a lifetime ban.

D. **Discipline**

The District will deal with any violation, complaints or grievances pertaining to Discipline. This includes but is not limited to Carding Offences. When necessary, the Discipline Chairperson will form a neutral Discipline Committee Panel to investigate any complaints. If the complaint is deemed to be valid then penalties will be imposed as per the Tri-County Rules and Regulation on Discipline & Appeals.

