



ASA Tournament Sanctioning Guidelines (Including Festivals)

Updated April 2020

All soccer tournaments occurring within the Province of Alberta must be sanctioned. Having your tournament sanctioned ensures safe participation for teams from outside of your District and out of the Province. Tournament sanctioning also ensures that your players, coaches and referees will be protected under the Alberta Soccer Association insurance policy.

Do I Need Sanctioning For My Tournament/Festival?

An event is considered a tournament/festival if:

- a) It involves four or more teams
- AND**
- b) At least one team is from outside the hosting District

What Kind of Tournament Am I Running?

- Small – 4-10 teams (at least one team from outside the hosting District)
- Large (New) – 11+ teams (at least one team from outside the hosting District) and the tournament has not been held previously
- Large (Renewal) – 11+ teams (at least one team from outside the hosting District) and the tournament was held in the previous year **on the same dates**

Sanctioning Your Tournament – District/Club

There are four steps for sanctioning and running a sanctioned tournament:

1. Fill out the tournament sanctioning application form
2. Submit the completed form and applicable tournament sanctioning fee, along with any Laws of the Game exemptions, if applicable, **to the District where your tournament is being run** for approval and submission to ASA
 - a. Applications for tournaments being run by a club will only be accepted if submitted via their District
 - b. When approved, a sanctioning letter will be sent out via the District
3. If your tournament is being run a club, your referee assignor must contact Carmen Charron (programs@albertasoccer.com) a minimum of five weeks in advance of your tournament to discuss referee requirements
 - a. You will also need to provide a full list of officials to be used in your tournament a minimum of one week prior, **AND** a full list of officials used in your tournament no later than one week after your tournament.
4. If applicable, submit any additional fees for player insurance. A list of non-registered players requiring temporary registration must be provided to Carmen Charron (programs@albertasoccer.com) two days in advance of the tournament's start date

Team and Player Eligibility

All participating teams and players must be members of an affiliated soccer club or community with their respective District, Province, State or Country. All teams and players must be in good standing with the respective District Soccer Association. Teams from another Province or State must have written permission to participate from their respective



Soccer Association. Teams from outside Canada or the United States must have written permission to participate from their National Soccer Association.

Any Alberta team using a guest player at a tournament must obtain written permission to use that player from the player's regular team. If the guest player is from another District, written permission from that District is also required.

Independent Groups, Charity or Special Events

Tournaments run by independent groups, charity, or special events with open participation will be approved on a case-by-case basis. Any group wishing to host an independent tournament, charity or special event must still receive approval from the District Association in that area to be eligible to hold their event.

Timelines

Previously sanctioned tournaments **renewing in the same time period as in years prior**, as determined by Alberta Soccer, can seek sanctioning up to one year in advance of their tournament date. In order to maintain priority status, tournaments must be submitted by the following dates:

- Outdoor Tournaments: October 1
- Indoor Tournaments: March 1

New tournaments will be sanctioned a maximum of six months in advance of their tournament date, unless the dates present no conflict with re-occurring tournaments.

Conflicts with Provincial Competitions

Districts are discouraged from holding tournaments on the same weekends as Provincial, National or Multi-Sport competitions. In the event of a conflict, no tournament may offer the same age, gender, or tier of a Provincial, National or Multi-Sport competition occurring on the same dates, regardless of location, and will be sanctioned at the discretion of Alberta Soccer.

Conflicts with other Tournaments

In order to ensure the success of sanctioned tournaments, the Alberta Soccer Association limits the number of tournaments that occur at any one time.

- The ASA will not sanction any new tournaments at the Tier II level and below that are scheduled during the same time period, at the same level of play, and occurring within a 100km radius of a previously sanctioned tournament
 - The tournament holding precedent will be given the option to waive their priority status when a new tournament asks for sanctioning that would breach this rule
- The ASA will not sanction any new tournaments at the Tier I level that are scheduled during the same time period, and at the same level of play as any previously sanctioned tournament
 - The tournament holding precedent will be given the option to waive their priority status when a new tournament asks for sanctioning that would breach this rule

- In order to maintain historical precedence, tournament sanctioning renewal requests must be received a minimum of six months prior to the tournament

Rules and Regulations

All tournaments must follow the current Rules/Laws for the style of soccer being played. Indoor tournaments must follow the current Rules of Indoor Soccer; Outdoor 11v11 tournaments must follow the FIFA Laws of the Game. 8v8, 7v7, 4v4, 3v3, all must follow the current rules for that game. In addition, all U12 games will be played 8-a-side, all U10 games will be played 7-a-side, all U8 games will be 4-a-side, and all U6 games will be 3-a-side. U6 and U8 divisions must be Long Term Player Development (LTPD) compliant and played festival style; there can be no results and no standings.

Certain deviations from the Rules of Indoor Soccer or the FIFA Laws of the Game may be allowed, however these changes must be submitted along with your tournament’s sanctioning request and must be approved by Alberta Soccer. The Laws of the Game can only be modified in any or all of the following ways:

- Size of the field of play
- Size, weight and material of the ball
- Width between the goalposts and the height of the crossbar from the ground
- Duration of the periods of play
- Substitutions

Referees

Tournaments must only use Alberta Soccer referees who are on the most current list of eligible officials. Alberta Soccer will provide tournament organizers with a list of current eligible referees in their area upon request.

Please refer to the following chart to determine the level of official required at each level of play:

Game Format	Referee Requirements	Assistant Referee Requirements	Eligible List Location
Outdoor - U10 and younger (7v7)	Any referee on the current Eligible Outdoor List	n/a	District Refcentre account
Outdoor - U11 and older (8v8 or 11v11)	Any referee on the current Eligible Outdoor List - except Mini referees	Any referee on the current Eligible Outdoor List - except Mini referees	District Refcentre account
Indoor - U10 and younger	Any referee on the current Eligible Indoor List	Any referee on the current Eligible Indoor List	District Refcentre account
Indoor - U11 and older	Any referee on the current Eligible Indoor List - except Mini referees	Any referee on the current Eligible Indoor List - except Mini referees	District Refcentre account
Futsal	Any Futsal qualified referee	n/a	By request to Alberta Soccer



Sanctioning Fees

Large Tournament (New):	\$288.75 (\$275 + GST)
Large Tournament (Renewal):	\$157.50 (\$150 + GST)
Small Tournament (4-10 Teams):	\$78.75 (\$75 + GST)
Charity Tournament:	To be determined on a case by case basis
Unregistered Player:	\$20 per player (+ GST if over 14)

For more information contact Geraldine Ratcliffe, ASA Office Administrator at gratcliffe@albertasoccer.com

