



ASA General Rules & Regulations

Current as of the Alberta Soccer Annual General Meeting on February 28, 2021

Rule 1 – Membership

****MOVED TO RULES & REGULATIONS ON MEMBERSHIP****

Rule 2 – Membership

****MOVED TO RULES & REGULATIONS ON MEMBERSHIP****

Rule 3 – Registration of Season Players

- A. The outdoor season shall commence annually on the 1st day of May and end on the 31st of October and the indoor season shall commence annually on the 1st day of November and end on the 30th of April, recognizing that there may be minor variations on season start-up and end dates from District to District.
- B. For each registered senior team, the fee shall be such cost above the CSA fee that is determined annually by voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting of the ASA.
- C. For each registered youth team, the fee shall be such cost above the CSA fee that is determined annually by voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting of the ASA.
- D. Players must be registered seven (7) days before taking part in any Cup Competition. This rule does not apply to league games. All registration for league games must be made at least twenty- four (24) hours prior to participation.
- E. A player arriving from another province shall not be registered until he/she provides, in writing, clearance from the Registrar of the Province in which he/she previously registered. Such clearances must be copied to the ASA.
- F. All team and/or player fees shall be paid as directed, in writing, to the ASA office, as approved by the Membership at the Annual General Meeting.
- G. In as much as the basic player membership in the ASA/CSA is based on the outdoor season, if an indoor youth player was not registered for the previous outdoor season, the base ASA outdoor player registration fee must also be paid in addition to the player fee. Likewise, if a senior team was not registered for the previous outdoor season, the base outdoor senior team registration fee must also be paid in addition to the indoor player fee.

- H. All outdoor membership fees paid by a District on behalf of non-previously outdoor registered indoor players will be added to the total of outdoor players in calculating that Districts' votes for ASA General Meetings.

Rule 4 – Players and Team Officials

A. General

- i. All players and team officials in competitions sanctioned or conducted by the ASA or any District Association shall be registered each year on forms supplied by the ASA.
- ii. District to District Reporting
 - a. Individual youth players will be allowed to register for other District youth teams as always, provided they follow standard procedures (if applicable) in the new District. Once a youth player has registered with his / her new District, it will be the responsibility of the gaining (new) District to inform the losing District of the particulars of said youth player (s) to include: Last Name, First Name, DOB, Gender, City, Province, District, Club, Age Group, Tier and Team.
 - b. Lists to be supplied by December 1 (indoor registration) and June 1 (outdoor registration) with players registering after these dates to be forwarded upon receipt of registration. Lists to contain all players participating in the active season.
 - c. Entire teams will not be allowed leave a District that offers the level of competition they are playing in without the written permission of the home District. Individual releases cannot be used to form a team outside the District of domicile without the approval of the home (losing) District. In keeping with FIFA laws, the ASA Board of Directors has determined that a team under this rule must be considered to be a minimum of seven (7) players.
- iii. All senior players/teams are not restricted to play in their District of domicile. A multi- player release is to be used for all senior ASA players/teams.
- iv. All Coaches and Staff of ASA Member District Teams who are listed on a team roster of a team going to any youth age or gender level Provincial or Regional Championship are required to complete CPIC Security Clearance forms and satisfactorily pass police clearance or, not police cleared, pass their District

Review Committee process. Written confirmation of clearance must accompany each team roster submitted by Districts to ASA to compete in any Provincial Championship. Written declaration, that the process has been completed, submitted to ASA on District governing body's letterhead by an Executive Officer of the relevant District, to be acceptable.

B. Players

i. Proof of Age

- a. Where necessary, birth certificates, passports or other evidence acceptable to the Board shall be accepted as proof of age and evidence shall accompany all registration forms. The burden of proof of age shall rest with the player.

ii. Eligibility

- a. No player shall be deemed registered for league competition nor shall he/she compete in league competition unless his/her registration form is in the hands of the District Association not less than twenty-four (24) hours before participation.

iii. Eligibility – Cup Competitions

- a. No player shall be deemed registered for Cup competitions nor shall he/she compete Cup Competitions unless his/her registration form is in the hands of the District Association's Registrar not less than seven (7) days before participation.
- b. Any youth player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered to be cup-tied if such transfer is effected by the dates identified in the ASA Competition Rules Book for that current year, subject to local rules.
- c. Any Senior player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered to be cup-tied if such transfer is effected by the dates identified in the ASA Competition Rules Book for that current year, subject to local rules.
- d. A player shall only be registered on one active registered team at any time during a season with the following exceptions:
 - 1. Provincial all-star team, National all-star team, or an Alberta Summer Games team;

2. A youth player may register with, and play for, both a youth team and a senior team.
 - a. The player will maintain their eligibility to compete in youth and senior provincials if the player has met the conditions outlined in the current Rules & Regulations on Provincial Competitions.
3. Players competing in ASA Provincial Futsal Championships are not considered cup tied to Provincial Cup Competitions.
4. Subject to agreement between Youth and Senior Leagues within a District, a youth player, duly registered with a youth team within that District, may play, for developmental purposes, an unlimited number of games within the Senior League within that District without affecting his/her youth status, or eligibility for Youth Provincials;
5. Players who compete in “Tier III” Provincials will not be considered to be cup-tied, and will be eligible to also participate in either Tier II or Tier I Youth Provincials but not both.
6. Players who compete in “Tier IV” Provincials will not be considered to be cup-tied, and will be eligible to also participate in any one of Tier III, Tier II and Tier I Youth provincials.

iv. Jewelry and Non-compulsory Equipment

- a. In all competitions the FIFA Laws of the Game and individual Competition Rules will be followed in regards to jewelry and equipment. Any exemptions granted to the FIFA Laws of the Game or individual Competition Rules shall be as follows;
 1. FIFA, CSA or ASA exemptions publicly posted / distributed.
 2. FIFA, CSA or ASA individual exemption letter as provided by the respective Association.
- b. The referee shall not allow anything to be worn by any player for any reason if the referee determines that it is, or has become, dangerous to himself or another player.

1. Any individual exemption letters provided by a Governing Body should be available for presentation at games and competitions within that Governing Bodies jurisdiction.

v. Eligibility – General

a. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules and Regulations, an amateur player is bound to the club through which he/she has registered until the end of the league’s current playing season and is subject to the regulations governing the movement of players.

vi. Player – Team Limit

a. No youth team shall be permitted to register more than a total of twenty (20) players at any one time during the course of the season and no senior team shall be permitted to register more than a total of twenty-five (25) players

C. Definitions and Age Limits

i. Definitions and Age Limits

a. Outdoor season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her nineteenth (19th) birthday before the 1st of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

b. Indoor Season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her eighteenth (18th) birthday before the 1st of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

ii. Age Group Qualifying Date

a. Outdoor season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her nineteenth (19th) birthday before the 1st of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

b. Indoor Season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her eighteenth (18th) birthday before the 1st of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

iii. Age Grouping

- a. Outdoor season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her nineteenth (19th) birthday before the 1st of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;
 - b. Indoor Season - A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her eighteenth (18th) birthday before the 1st of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;
- iv. Divisions shall be comprised of the following age groups:
- a. 19th birthday U-19
 - b. 17th birthday U-17
 - c. 15th birthday U-15
 - d. 13th birthday U-13
 - e. 11th birthday U-11
 - f. U10 and under will be a district by district decision
- v. Youth Provincial Competitions
- a. U19 Tier 2, 3 and 4
 - b. U17 Tier 1, 2, 3 and 4
 - c. U15 Tier 1, 2, 3 and 4
 - d. U13 Tier 1, 2, 3 and 4

Rule 5 – Transfer of Players

- A. A registered player wishing to transfer shall make application on a form supplied by the ASA and to be obtained from his/her District Registrar.
- B. ASA Rules 4.B.iii.a and 4.B.iii.b will apply to any request for transfer of a player
- C. A registered player shall not be allowed to transfer his/her services during the year of such registration without consent of the club for which he/she is registered. A player being refused his/her transfer by his/her Club shall be allowed to appeal, without fee, to the District Association. No person, Association, League or Club shall limit unreasonably the right of an amateur player to transfer to the teams of his/her choice. A player shall be granted a transfer within seven (7) days of the receipt of his/her appeal by the member unless the appeal is contested. In the event that the appeal is contested, the District Association will deal with the matter within fourteen (14) days and will render its decision immediately thereafter.
- D. Transfer deadline dates are outlined in the current Competitions Rule book as per 4.B.iii.a and 4.B.iii.b.

- E. A registered player shall not be allowed to transfer his/her services to any other club unless he/she shall first have given his/her club seven (7) days notice, in writing, of his/her intention to transfer.
- F. A player shall be entitled to the benefits of Two (2) transfers only during the current season within the jurisdiction of a District Association. However, a player once transferred cannot be transferred back to the club for which he/she originally registered until a period of thirty (30) days has elapsed.
- G. It is an offence for any Club, through its responsible officers or representatives to induce or attempt to induce a registered player of a team under the jurisdiction of the ASA to leave his/her team before the end of the current season. The offence shall be dealt with by the ASA or League in Membership concerned, if the Club and the players are under the same jurisdiction and by the ASA in all other cases.

Rule 6 – Movement of Players – Youth to Seniors

- A. A youth team comprised of legal youth age players may register and play in a senior league in its own district (provided that all players on the team are signed on youth player forms) if a program is not available for that youth age group.
- B. Subject to agreement between youth and senior leagues within a District, a youth player duly registered with a youth team within that District may play, for developmental purposes, an unlimited number of games within the senior league within that District, without affecting his/her youth status, or eligibility for youth Provincials.
- C. Any registered youth players playing for a senior team must be recorded on league game sheets with a notation of juvenile status and the senior team must have a letter of approval from the coach of the youth team.

Rule 7 – Competitions Rules

- A. All rules for ASA Competitions will be determined by the ASA Competitions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of the ASA. They must be officially presented, in writing, to the membership at least two (2) months before the intended implementation date and the start of the playing season, except for FIFA and CSA rule changes. The latest date for presentation for the upcoming outdoor season will be February 28th, and the latest date for presentation for the upcoming indoor season will be August 31st.
 - i. For complete rules on indoor and outdoor competitions, please refer to the ASA's Outdoor Competition Rules and the Indoor Competitions Rules.

Rule 8 – Games and Competitions

- A. Competitions or Exhibitions games of the ASA and/or the CSA shall take precedence over all other games or competitions.

Rule 9 – Discipline

**** MOVED TO RULES & REGULATIONS ON DISCIPLINE & APPEALS ****

Rule 10 – Protests

- A. Protests on games shall be made according to the rules of the competition in which the game was played.

Rule 11 – Appeals

**** MOVED TO RULES & REGULATIONS ON DISCIPLINE & APPEALS ****

Rule 12 – Notice

**** MOVED TO RULES & REGULATIONS ON MEMBERSHIP ****

Rule 13 – Referees

- A. No person shall officiate as a Referee in any competitions under the jurisdiction of the ASA except mini-soccer, unless he is on the Official List of Referees.
- B. If for unforeseen circumstances a referee is unable to act, Districts, Leagues or Teams shall have the right to agree on some other person to officiate.
- C. Effective the beginning of the 2001 Outdoor season, each Senior Team in Alberta will provide at least one (1) individual to a Class III Referee Course.
- D. Failure to comply with C Above will result in disciplinary action being applied to the team and/or district
- E. No ASA-registered referee may officiate in any unsanctioned game, competition or tournament, whether in or out of Alberta. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action being applied to the individual concerned.
- F. No ASA registered referee may accept an appointment in any capacity in a game that involves a member of his/her immediate family as a member of one of the teams involved.

- G. No ASA registered referee may officiate in any capacity in a game of a division in which he/she is also a player on any team in that same division, unless dispensation has been obtained, in writing, from the ASA office.
- H. While officiating games under ASA or ASA Member jurisdiction, no ASA registered referee may wear any badge on his / her uniform other than the respective ASA, CSA or FIFA badge indicating any of his/her prevailing referee classification level. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action being applied to the individual concerned. This rule does not apply to brand logos applied to the uniform by a recognized manufacturer of referee uniforms.

Rule 14 – Cup Competitions

- A. Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Cup Competitions shall be held annually in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, which may be obtained from the ASA.

Rule 15 – Competitions

- A. Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Championship competitions shall be held in each age category annually in the province and shall be open to District Members in good standing, in accordance with the current prevailing Eligibility Rules for such Championships.
- B. Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Championship competitions shall be held in each age category annually in the province and shall be open to all District Members in good standing, in accordance with the currently prevailing Eligibility Rules for such Championships.
- C. Rules of the ASA's Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Championship competitions for each year shall be announced by the Competitions Committee.

Rule 16 – Game Rules

- A. In all ASA sponsored competitions not covered in Rule 7.A (ASA Competition Rules), CSA rules will apply.

Rule 17 – Tournaments

- A. Tournaments are to be conducted as per ASA Tournament Guidelines, which may be obtained from the ASA and must be sanctioned by the ASA.
- B. No registered Alberta Team may participate in any Invitational Tournament inside Alberta, unless the tournament is sanctioned. Any deviation will result in disciplinary action being applied to the team.

- C. No registered Alberta Team may participate in any Invitational Tournament outside of Alberta, unless (A) the tournament is sanctioned and (B) prior approval to participate has been granted by the ASA. Any deviation from (A) or (B) above will result in disciplinary action being applied to the team
- D. Where an Alberta Team desires to participate in a sanctioned tournament that allows the use of “guest” players, that team who wishes to add players to its tournament roster who are not part of its regular roster, must acquire written permission from the team from whence the guest player (s) will be drawn. In the case of players from outside the District of domicile of the team who wishes to use them for tournament participation, then written permission must also be obtained from the District in which the “guest” player is registered

Rule 18 - General

- A. All finals played in ASA sponsored competitions shall be played on fields that are marked and have nets and corner flags;
- B. Players playing in ASA sponsored competitions shall be properly dressed at all times, i.e., shirt, shorts, socks and appropriate footwear.
- C. Any Club, District Association or League desiring to arrange an exhibition game involving a team from another National Association shall follow the requirements of the CSA, sending such request through the ASA.
- D. In all games played under the jurisdiction of the ASA, all registered players shall wear numbered shirts. No two (2) players on a team shall wear the same number. No player may change his/her number during the game without the permission of the referee.
- E. All clubs under the jurisdiction of the ASA shall place their players at the service of the ASA.
- F. Any team (except an AMSL team) having four (4) or more players selected to Regional, Provincial or National team duty, may have those affected games postponed, provided that ten (10) calendar days’ notice has been given. No appeals for clemency will be entertained. Games affected must not be scheduled/rescheduled within 24 hours prior to the departure or 24 hours after the return of the effected player(s).

Rule 19 – Expenses Allowance Guide

**** MOVED TO ALBERTA SOCCER FINANCIAL CONTROL STANDARDS ****

Rule 20 – Interpretations

- A. Any reference to these Rules and Regulations in the singular shall also be acknowledged to apply to the plural. All questions regarding males shall apply equally to females, and vice-versa.

Rule 21 – Qualification

****MOVED TO RULES & REGULATIONS ON PROVINCIAL COMPETITIONS****

Rule 22 – Length of Game

- A. Length of games, not covered by CSA rules are as follows: U-12 years of age – two (2) equal halves of thirty-five (35) minutes; Extra-time, where appropriate, shall be two (2) equal halves of ten (10) minutes each. (Can be found in Competitions Rules for U-12 Competitions)

Rule 23 – University, College and High School Teams

- A. The Alberta Universities Athletic Association, the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference and Metro Edmonton High School Athletic Association are Associate Members of the Association and their soccer teams are therefore subject to CSA and ASA Rules as are all other teams in the Province.
- B. Amateur players registered with Alberta Club teams are able to play with Alberta College, University or School teams without affecting their Club eligibility and vice versa.
- C. All ASA-affiliated College, University and High School teams in Alberta must file a copy of their team roster, and any changes thereto, with the ASA and be an affiliate of the District in their City of domicile.

Rule 24 – Soccer School Instruction

- A. The ASA shall be the sole authority for the organization and conduct of indoor and outdoor soccer schools within Alberta. From time-to-time, the ASA may enter into cooperative profit-sharing soccer skills instructional programs with members of the ASA.
- B. No member of the ASA may conduct indoor or outdoor soccer skill camps, schools or clinics by whatever name without the written consent of, and in conjunction with, the ASA.
- C. No participant in a program of a member may conduct indoor or outdoor soccer skills instruction unless in the direct employ of the ASA or in the employ of a member engaged in an approved instructional program with the ASA.

- D. The technical content and technical delivery of any part of an indoor or outdoor soccer skills program proposed under Rule 24.A, 24.B or 24.C above are subject to prior written approval of the ASA.
- E. No applicant for ASA sanctioning of a soccer instructional venture will be considered unless such applicant has first received endorsement of their application by the ASA member District for the community in which the proposed instructional venture would be conducted.

Rule 25 – School Soccer (Elementary School, Junior High School, High School)

- A. The ASA sanctions all soccer in registered schools in the following school boards in the province of Alberta;
 - i. Alberta Public School Boards
 - ii. Alberta Separate School Boards
 - iii. Alberta Francophone School Boards
 - iv. Alberta Charter School Boards
- B. School Soccer will be considered secondary development to Active Member and Associate Member programs.
- C. School Soccer does not cover School Academy Based Programs that must be endorsed according to the ASA Endorsement Guidelines and Application procedures.
- D. School Soccer programs must be restricted to the registered students at each individual educational institution.
- E. Registered Game Officials cannot accept School Soccer assignments in lieu of ASA Assignments, Regular Member Assignments or Associate Members Assignments;
 - i. Failure to comply with Rule 25.E can result in disciplinary action against the Game Official involved.
- F. Registered Game Officials with the ASA will be covered by ASA insurance while refereeing School Soccer.
- G. Players and Team Officials are not covered by ASA insurance while participating in School Soccer.
- H. ASA Commercial General Liability, including facilities, does not cover School Soccer.

Rule 26 – Minimum age of Adult (Senior) Soccer Eligibility

- A. Any youth player must have attained his / her 16th birthday in order to become eligible to participate in adult league / exhibition games with the following exceptions;
 - i. Participation in the Alberta Major Soccer League (AMSL) which will be open age.
 - ii. Rural Regular Members can apply for exemptions for approval by the Board of Directors.

Rule 27 – Gender Identity and Registration

- A. For the purpose of registration on gender-based amateur teams, a player may register with the gender team with which the player identifies.
 - i. This policy will not apply where restricted by other governing bodies rules for participation in specific competitions, including but not limited to the CSA and FIFA.

Rule 28 – Camps, Academies & Leagues

- A. Camp & Academy Endorsement
 - i. Camps & Academies must be endorsed by a minimum of 1 Regular Member, operating in the same District Area as the Camp & Academy is operating.
 - a. If a Camp & Academy is operating in multiple District Area's the Camp & Academy must be endorsed by a minimum of 1 Regular Member, responsible for that Age Category, in each of the District Area's in which it operates.
 - ii. Camp & Academy Endorsement will be subject to the Camp & Academy Endorsement Guidelines as published by the ASA in addition to the following rules;
 - a. Provide Supplementary, to the club and community, skill training by;
 - 1. Scheduling around club and community games and practices;
 - 2. Encourage camp and academy players to participate in Regular Member programming by offering information about local programs in registration packages and on academy websites.

- b. Register all players with the Regular Member who endorsed the program and pay associated fees, including Regular Member, ASA and CSA fees for any non-registered players.
 - c. Must not promote one Regular Member, Club or Community over another
- iii. Camps & Academies who are in full compliance with the Rules & Regulations on Camps & Academies and the Camp & Academy Endorsement Guidelines, according to Alberta Soccer, cannot be unfairly denied endorsement by a Regular Member and decisions to not endorse can be appealed to the ASA Discipline Committee

B. Un-registered and/or un-sanctioned Academies, Camps & Leagues

- i. The ASA will not provide any services to unregistered or unsanctioned leagues, camps, academies or other unregistered entities.
- ii. No Regular Member or Associate Member of the ASA will provide any services to leagues, camps, academies or other entities who do not register all their players or sanction their programs.
- iii. No individual, who is the age of majority, who is registered as a player, coach, team manager, Board Member or is employed, with a Member of the ASA (or otherwise falls under the discipline authority of the ASA or a Member) at the time of violation of this clause, can be involved in the organizing, administration or governance structure of an unregistered and/or unsanctioned academy, league or camp. Being involved in “organizing, administration or governance structure” means that an individual is a coach, team manager, board member, director or shareholder of that unregistered and/or unsanctioned academy, league or camp.
- iv. Duty to Report
 - a. Any person may report a breach of Rule 28.B.iii and must do so in writing on the form provided by ASA.
 - 1. Any reported breach must identify and submit evidence to ASA of the individuals that have breached Rule 28.B.iii.
 - b. The ASA will not start the process of Investigation, Warning and Suspension from Access to Services without evidence being included in the complaint.

- c. It is an offense for a Regular Member to register an individual who has been identified to them, in writing by ASA, to be in breach of Rule 28.B.iii.
 - d. It is an offense for any Member to, knowingly, withhold reporting information that would be evidence of a breach of Rule 28.B.iii.
 - 1. If a member comes to know of a breach affecting another member they are responsible for informing the affected member.
- v. Investigation
 - a. ASA has 14 days, at maximum, to confirm the content of the complaint before a warning is issued.
 - b. All ASA Members that are known to be potentially impacted by the breach of Rule 28.B.iii will be notified during the investigation period.
 - c. If at anytime before the Warning time period or Suspension process, including a hearing, is completed the process can be paused to allow for alternative methods of resolution, including but not exclusive to;
 - 1. Open Membership application process begins with a Regular Member or ASA (if applicable).
 - 2. Alternative Dispute Resolution process agreed to by one of the affected Regular Members and the respondent.
- vi. Warning
 - a. Upon receipt of the required evidence of a breach of Rule 28.B.iii, ASA will issue a written warning to the individual, notifying them to cease and desist any behaviour and actions causing the breach within 14 days of notice.
- vii. Suspended from Access to Services
 - a. Individuals that fail to provide sufficient proof to ASA that they have stopped the behaviour and actions causing the breach, will be sent a second written notice (“Final Notice”) advising the individual that they will be Suspended from Access to Services within 30 days of receipt of the notice unless they file a written letter of appeal, without fee, to the ASA Discipline Committee.

1. A copy of the process to file an appeal, along with the name and number of an ASA individual that can answer questions, will be included with the Final Notice.
- b. Suspension of Access to Service will not be put into effect unless the 30-day appeal period has expired without a letter of appeal having been filed; or unless the ASA Discipline Committee upholds the finding.
- c. Any individual found by ASA to have breached Rule 28.B.iii while they were registered as a player, coach, team manager, or employed, with a Member of the ASA (or otherwise fell under the discipline authority of the ASA or a Member) at the time of violation of Rule 28.B.iii, will no longer be able to access any Member or ASA programs, services or benefits until such time as that individual can prove they are no longer in breach of Rule 28.B.iii (“Suspension from Access to Services”).

viii. Penalties

- a. 1st Offence
 1. 6 months Suspension after the date that unsanctioned services are ceased
- b. 2nd Offence
 1. 1 year Suspension after the date that unsanctioned services are ceased
- c. 3rd Offence
 1. Suspended from Access to Services Indefinitely
 - i. Eligible for application for re-instatement after 2 years minimum