



ALBERTA
SOCCER
ASSOCIATION

OUTDOOR PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP
RULES

YOUTH

2015

Introduction

All rules and “Laws of the Game” from FIFA will be adhered to except as set out in the following Competition Rules. The main exceptions to FIFA rules are as follows:

- Changes to the number of substitutions;
- Changes to the number of players allowed to dress per game;

1. Provisional Rules

- 1.1. These rules will apply to all Alberta Soccer Provincial or Regional Competitions. 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 and Regional Competitions.
- 1.3. These rules are subject to Alberta Soccer Bylaws and the General Rules and Regulations.
- 1.4. Within the constraints for Rule 1.3, the Alberta Soccer 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. In any Alberta Soccer Provincial Championship, the Competitions Committee is 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 insufficient teams compete.
- 1.6. The Competitions Committee will appoint to each competition an Alberta Soccer Representative, who will establish a three (3) person Discipline Committee. The Discipline Committee will act as an extension of the Competitions Committee. All decisions reached by the Discipline Committee on any competition-related matter will be final.
- 1.7. Prior to competing in a Provincial Competition leading to Nationals, Districts and team coaches must become familiar with the latest Canadian Soccer Association Rules for National Competitions.
- 1.8. Copies of the Canadian Soccer Rules and Regulations will be provided by the Alberta Soccer Competitions Coordinator to all teams entering an Alberta Soccer Provincial competition leading to National Championships.
- 1.9. In the event of a discrepancy between the current Alberta Soccer Rules book and the current Canadian Soccer Rules for National Competitions, the rules provided by Soccer Canada will be followed. This only applies to teams competing in Provincial Competitions leading to National Championships.
- 1.10. 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 in writing their entries for the 2015 Outdoor Provincial Championships to the Alberta Soccer Office, listing by age level and category the number of teams who will be competing, is June 12th, 2015 for all Youth Tier IV City and Rural teams and June 26th, 2015 for all Youth Tier I-III. The District will be assessed a \$250 administrative fee for late declarations and the Competitions Committee will determine whether the late entry is to be accepted or denied.
- 2.2. Districts will be invoiced for their entries for the Outdoor Provincial Championships as per their declaration form. There will be no refund for a team that withdraws prior to the competition.
- 2.3. In the event that 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.

All games will be played with an emphasis on fun, sportsmanship, development, education and respect for teammates, opponents and game officials.

- 2.4. Each District will be allowed to declare one (1) Youth team per Youth category, except in the case of those Districts that exceed 5,000 registered Youth players in the current season, or a District hosting the Provincial Championship, which will be entitled to two (2) declarations.
- 2.5. Teams from Calgary and Edmonton cannot compete in the Tier IV Rural Provincial Championships.
- 2.6. Rural Districts may declare to compete in both the Tier IV Rural and Tier IV City Provincial Championships. The same team may not compete in both Provincial Championships. No player may compete in both the Tier IV Rural and Tier IV City Provincials Championships.
- 2.7. In circumstances where the Competitions Committee 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 teams will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- 2.8. 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.
- 2.9. With the exception of 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.
- 2.10. Regular Tier I league teams are not eligible to compete in the Tier II, III or IV Provincial Championships. When a District is running a Tier I/II or Tier II/III split league, it is the District's responsibility to inform the Competitions Committee in writing, on or before June 1, 2015, to avoid any administrative conflict with any other Districts. This information must also include a brief description of the league and how the Provincial Representatives are determined.
- 2.11. 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. No registered Youth team will be eligible to compete in more than one (1) Provincial Competition in any one (1) season.
- 3.3. A team must have participated in at least six (6) games against equal or higher-level competition during the season in order to compete in Provincials at that level (Tiers I, II, III, IV).
- 3.4. 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. With the exception of Rule 3.4, all teams must compete in the Provincial Championships at the same level at which they compete throughout the playing season.
- 3.6. 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 as long as they are registered with the club team.
- 3.7. 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.
- 3.8. The following must be provided by each team participating in a Provincial Championship:
 - 3.8.1. Name of the team;
 - 3.8.2. Name, address and phone number of the team Manager or Coach;
 - 3.8.3. Name, address and phone number of the gender specific team staff member;
 - 3.8.4. Team colours and alternate colours;
 - 3.8.5. Team roster certified by the respective District Association.

All games will be played with an emphasis on fun, sportsmanship, development, education and respect for teammates, opponents and game officials.

- 3.9. All teams participating in a competition leading to a Regional/National Championship must have proof of Canadian citizenship, permanent residency, CSA exempt status, or Protected Person status for each player.
- 3.9.1. Proof must be presented (either by way of original or photocopy) to the Provincial Representative at check-in prior to the team's first game. Players from whom proof has not been presented are not eligible to participate.
- 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 and must declare its intentions in writing to the host District and the Alberta Soccer office prior to the start of the season, and by June 1, 2015.
- 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. Districts must declare their intention to do so in writing, to the Alberta Soccer Office, prior to the start of the season, and by June 1, 2015.

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.
- 4.1.1. In order to be eligible for a Provincial Championship leading to a National Championship, players must be registered with Alberta Soccer by July 31st of the current year
- 4.2. Registrations will be valid for one (1) season.
- 4.3. Players must have competed in at least one (1) league game during the current playing season in order to compete in a Provincial Championship.
- 4.4. As per Canadian Soccer Rules, all players competing in a Tier I competition leading to a National Championship must be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or a Protected Person.
- 4.5. Only players listed on the District certified roster will be considered eligible to participate in the Provincial Competition.
- 4.6. Players in age categories who reach the limiting age on or after the first day of January will continue to be eligible to play in that age category for the remainder of the playing season.
- 4.6.1. U18: Players under eighteen (18) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 4.6.2. U16: Players under sixteen (16) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 4.6.3. U14: Players under fourteen (14) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 4.6.4. U12: Players under twelve (12) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- NOTE: CSA Rules for National Championships require players to be under the age of their category before January 1st of the current year. Players born on January 1st would be over the defined age limit.
- 4.7. Any team that includes a player who is over the age limit as defined in 4.6 will forfeit all games concerned and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 4.8. 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 provided he or she has first registered with the Youth team. However, when a Youth player has first signed with a Senior team, there will be no further opportunity to sign with or transfer to a Youth team.
- 4.8.1. Eligible players properly registered with both a Youth and a Senior Team may compete in one (1) Youth Provincial Championship and one (1) Senior Provincial Championship.

- 4.8.2. A Youth player who has signed for both a Youth team and a Senior team, and who qualifies for both the Youth and Senior National Championships, must attend the Youth National Championships.
- 4.9. No player can compete in more than one (1) Youth Provincial Championship, except as outlined below:
- 4.9.1. Rural players who compete in a Tier IV Rural Provincial Championship will not be considered cup tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I, II or III team. Such players will be considered eligible to compete in Tier I, II or III Provincials, but not more than one (1).
- 4.9.2. Rural players who declare to compete in Tier III Provincials will not be considered cup tied if their District wishes to form a legally declared Tier I or II team. Such players will be considered eligible to compete in Tier I or II Provincials, but not both.
- 4.10. Every player at the Tier I, Tier II and Tier III Provincial Championships must have a District Photo I.D. Card, and present that card to the referee prior to the start of each game. At all other Youth Provincial Championships players are required to have satisfactory proof of age available to present, upon request, to the Alberta Soccer Representative. The burden of proof will rest with the player.
- 4.11. A player who has been a professional or a non-amateur player will not be eligible to compete in any Provincial or Regional Competition unless properly reinstated by July 31 of the current playing season. The reinstated amateur player will subsequently be eligible to participate in an Alberta Soccer Provincial Competition.

5. Transfer of Players

- 5.1. Alberta Soccer Rules and Regulations 5 and 6 apply to all competitions.
- 5.2. Youth players may transfer laterally within the same competition within the same club in the U14, U16 and U18 Tier I categories, subject to the usual Alberta Soccer cup-tied rules and transfer deadlines.
- 5.3. Prior to the Alberta Soccer transfer deadline for each category of play, a Youth club team may transfer a player from a lower division within the club, as long as the lower team is not proceeding to a Provincial Championship.
- 5.3.1. Players cannot be transferred to a lower level team.
- 5.4. Any Youth player who wishes to move from one team to another will not be considered cup tied if such transfer is completed by:
- 5.4.1. Tier IV Rural – **June 19, 2015**
- 5.4.2. Tier IV Cities – **July 10, 2015**
- 5.4.3. Tier III – July 31, 2014
- 5.4.4. Tier II – July 31, 2014
- 5.4.5. Tier I – July 31, 2014
- 5.5. All players competing in a regional play down or qualification tournament leading to the Provincial Championships shall be considered cup tied for that age and tier, regardless of when the regional play down or tournament occurs. This does not apply to regular league play.
- 5.6. A player will not play for more than one (1) team in any one (1) Provincial competition.
- 5.7. A registered Alberta Soccer Youth player who plays up for more than one (1) Senior team in the same Senior League and subsequently transfers to a Senior team will not be considered cup tied for Provincial purposes to the team on which they first appeared on a game sheet in a league or cup used to qualify for Provincials.

6. Replacement Players

6.1. Under exceptional circumstances a team may request, through their District, special permission to replace players under the following guidelines:

6.1.1. All replacement players, and replacement player requests, are under the jurisdiction of the team's District Association.

6.1.2. All replacement players must be clearly indicated as such on the ASA roster.

6.1.2.1. All replacement player additions to a roster must be accompanied by a Replacement Player Form

6.1.3. 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.

6.1.3.1. Replacement players must not increase the roster above the original number of registered players. A replacement player must replace a registered player of the team.

6.1.4. Teams are eligible for a maximum of four (4) replacement players.

6.1.5. All replacement players must come from within your District Association.

6.1.5.1. Replacement players must come from the team's club system if such a system is in place.

6.1.5.2. If the season is incomplete, any replacement player must have the consent of the team/club for which they play.

6.1.5.3. Teams cannot choose replacement players from a team that has qualified for a Provincial Championship.

6.1.6. After the Provincial Tournament, **all replacement players** will return to **their** original team unless they have qualified for a National Championship.

6.1.7. Once a player has been replaced, he/she cannot return to the team to participate in the Provincial Championships, or if applicable, the National Championships.

6.1.8. Registered players who wish to play may not be replaced. Teams are expected to properly manage their players prior to the Transfer Deadline. 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; the burden of proof shall rest with the player.

6.1.9. Replacement players must not enhance team strength, which would cause the overall integrity of the competition to be jeopardized. Any call ups must come from a lower level of competition, except as noted below.

6.1.9.1. In Youth Tier IV (Rural and City), teams may pick up up to two (2) players from another Tier IV team of the same age, subject to ASA Cup Tied Rules.

6.1.9.2. Under exceptional circumstances, where there is no lower level team to draw replacement players from, Tier I, II and III teams may apply through their District Association to the ASA Competitions Committee for special dispensation to use replacement players from the same level of play.

6.1.10. Replacement players must be added to the ASA Provincial roster prior to the ASA roster submission deadline (see Rule 8.2 for roster deadlines). Replacement players added after this deadline will not be eligible to compete in the Provincial Championships

6.1.10.1. Under exceptional circumstances, a team may apply, through their District Association, to the ASA Competitions Committee, to add replacement players to their roster after the ASA roster submission deadline under the following conditions:

6.1.10.1.1. The team was invited to attend the Provincial Championships, by the Alberta Soccer Association, after the ASA roster submission deadline.

6.1.10.1.2. The team's goal keeper became ill or injured after the ASA 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. At all official and civic functions associated with the competition, participants must be present and dressed appropriately.
- 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.
- 7.4. 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. Further, all teams going to Nationals with mixed rosters (players and team officials) must have an adult of each gender on the official roster and bench. Failure to comply will lead to assessment of administration fees of up to \$500 and advisement to the team's District.
- 7.5. All Coaches and Staff listed on an Alberta Soccer roster competing in a Regional or Provincial Championship are required to complete and obtain CPIC Security Clearance, or if not police cleared, pass their District Review Committee Process.
- 7.6. One staff member from each team involved in the Outdoor Provincial Championships must fulfill the coaching requirements for the appropriate level as per the chart below:

Competition	Coaching Requirement
U14, U16 and U18 Tier I	Full Community Coach Certificate OR Soccer for Life + MED
U14, U16 and U18 Tiers II-IV	Community Coach Senior OR Soccer for Life
U12 Tiers I-IV	Community Coach Youth OR Learn to Train OR Soccer for Life

Note: While not required for all Competitions, Alberta Soccer recommends all coaches take the online MED module.

- 7.7. If a new (non-certified) coach takes over a team leading into a Provincial Championship, dispensation is granted for six (6) months from the time his/her name appears on the team's registration.
- 7.8. In the event of non-compliance, the Competitions Committee through the Alberta Soccer Board of Directors will deal with appropriate actions.

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, all coaches and team staff are qualified and CPIC cleared or a District equivalent, and that the team is properly registered and has fulfilled the necessary requirements to compete in the Provincial Championships.
- 8.2. Teams must be registered through their District Association on Alberta Soccer approved forms. District Associations must certify the team rosters and submit them to the Alberta Soccer office by:
 - 8.2.1. Tier IV Rural (U12, U14, U16, U18) – July 2, 2015
 - 8.2.2. Tier IV Cities (U12, U14, U16, U18) – July 16, 2015

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8.2.3. Tier III (U12, U14, U16, U18) – August 6, 2015

8.2.4. Tier II (U12 Tier I and II, U14, U16, U18) – August 6, 2015

8.2.5. Tier I (U14, U16, U18) – August 12, 2015

8.3. A Youth team cannot exceed twenty (20) players and may dress all twenty (20) for each game.

8.4. To be eligible to compete in a Provincial Championship leading to a National Championship, a team must have a minimum of fifteen (15) registered players who are eligible to participate in the Provincial Championships.

9. Financial Responsibilities

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

9.2. Teams representing the province at National Championships will receive financial assistance for travel, as established annually by the Alberta and Canadian Soccer Associations. The home Districts of these teams assume ultimate financial responsibility for payment of tickets issued for travel to National Championships.

10. Equipment and Uniforms

10.1. When the colours of competing teams are similar, home teams will use alternate colours. Each team must have a set of pinnies with them if they do not have alternate jerseys.

10.1.1. Goalkeepers must carry three pairs of socks that differ in colour. One pair must be a colour other than black, white, or navy.

10.2. All jerseys must be clearly numbered as per FIFA rules. The number of the player's jersey must correspond to the number listed with the player's name on the game sheet.

10.3. Visible undergarments such as compression shorts are authorized, however they must be the same colour as the team's shorts and must not extend farther than the top of the knee.

10.4. The wearing of shin guards is mandatory in all Provincial Competitions.

11. Jewelry and Braces

11.1. A player must not use equipment or wear anything that is dangerous to himself/herself or another player.

11.2. 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.

11.3. All items of jewelry are potentially dangerous and cannot be worn. Players are not allowed to use tape to cover jewelry.

12. Tournament Check-In

12.1. All teams must check in with the Provincial Representative prior to participating in their first game. Failure to do so will eliminate the team's right to protest or appeal any decision that occurs during the competition.

12.2. As per Rule 3.9, for tournaments where proof of eligibility must be presented, any player whose eligibility has not been validated is considered to be ineligible to participate.

13. Schedules and Formats

13.1. Where there are two or more groups of three (3), or two or more groups of four (4) crossing over, two teams from the same District will not be seeded into the same group, whenever feasible.

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- 13.2. Seeding for all Youth competitions, with the exception of Tier I to Nationals, will be determined by random draw as outlined in Appendix I.
- 13.3. Seeding for Tier I competitions leading to National Championships will be determined by last year's results.
- 13.4. Whenever possible, Provincial Competitions will start on Friday night.
- 13.5. Whenever possible, teams competing in Provincials will play a minimum of three (3) games.
- 13.6. All Provincial Tournament schedules, to the extent possible, will be determined with a minimum of four (4) hours rest between scheduled games.
 - 13.6.1. To the extent possible, teams competing in a Provincial Tournament leading to a National Championship will not play more than one (1) game per day.
- 13.7. U12 Provincial Competitions will be "8-A-Side" or "8 vs 8" adhering to the Long Term Player Development Program.
 - 13.7.1. All games will be played in the 8 vs 8 format and will follow the published rule book, U12 Laws of the Game.

14. Game Duration and Ball Sizes

14.1. The following apply to all games at all Outdoor Provincial Championships:

Age Group	Duration of Play	Overtime	Ball Size
U18	Two 45 minute halves	Two 15 minute halves	#5
U16	Two 45 minute halves	Two 15 minute halves	#5
U14	Two 40 minute halves	Two 10 minute halves	#5
U12	Two 30 minute halves	No overtime	#4

- 14.2. It is the responsibility of the home team to provide two (2) game balls for each game.
 - 14.2.1. Balls will be provided for all games in Tier I to Nationals Provincial Championships
- 14.3. Gold medal games that are tied at the end of regulation time will play two additional halves of overtime, except for U12. If the game is still tied at the end of overtime, the winner will be determined through the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 14.4. In all U12 games requiring a result, the winner will be declared by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 14.5. In all Bronze Medal games and non-medal games on the final day requiring a result, the winner will be declared by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.
- 14.6. All other games requiring a result that are tied at the end of regulation time will play two additional halves of over time, except for U12. If the game is still tied at the end of over time, the winner will be determined through the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

15. Substitutions

- 15.1. For U14, U16 and U18 Tier I to Nationals, Canadian Soccer Rules will apply:
 - 15.1.1. There will be a maximum of five (5) substitutions per game, with unlimited substitutions at half time and full time (if overtime is required).
 - 15.1.2. A player who has previously been replaced by a substitute will be eligible to return to the game, but his/her return will be considered one (1) of the five (5) allowed substitutions unless done at half time or at full time before over time.
 - 15.1.3. Teams will be provided with and required to use Alberta Soccer substitution slips for all substitutions made during the game, excluding half time and full time substitutions. Sub-

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slips are to be filled out and handed to the referee or fourth official when a player enters the field of play.

- 15.2. In all other Youth competitions there will be unlimited substitutions.
- 15.3. Substitutions can be made at any stoppage of play, at the referee's discretion, and must be made at the halfway line.
- 15.4. No substitutions will be allowed for a player who has been ordered from the field for misconduct.

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 of the competition will be played to a decision if the team not participating has zero (0) points, has been suspended or has withdrawn. Any third game of a three (3) team round robin that requires a result shall go to extra time, as per 14.6, **with the exception of U12.**
 - 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:
 - 16.4.1. Most points in all group matches;
 - 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. Penalty Shots.
- 16.5. The above tie breaking procedure must be carried through in its entirety; no tie breaking rule will be used twice.
- 16.6. Tie break Rule 16.4.6 Penalty Shots, will be conducted as follows:
 - 16.6.1. Two (2) teams tied:
 - 16.6.1.1. As per FIFA Laws of the Game, at a time and place decided by the Alberta Soccer Representative
 - 16.6.2. Three (3) teams tied:
 - 16.6.2.1. Each team is designated A, B or C as determined by random draw by the Alberta Soccer Representative. Three mini-games will be played; A vs B, B vs C, C vs A. Each mini-game will consist of five (5) penalty kicks at a time and place determined by the Alberta Soccer Representative. All five (5) penalty kicks must be taken. Three (3) points will be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie. The standings after these three (3) mini-games will be determined according to the criteria above.
 - 16.6.3. Four (4) teams tied:
 - 16.6.3.1. Each team is designated A, B, C, or D as determined by random draw by the Alberta Soccer Representative. Six mini-games will be played; A vs B, C vs D, A vs C, B vs D, D vs A and C vs D. All five (5) penalty kicks must be taken. Three (3) points will

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be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie. The standings after these three (3) mini-games will be determined according to the criteria above.

17. Game Abandonment and Weather

- 17.1. 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.
- 17.2. Where a game must be stopped due to floodlight failure, weather, or any cause beyond the control of the participating teams, the game may be delayed a maximum of thirty (30) minutes. During the thirty (30) minute period play may be restarted if the referee, the Referee in Chief, and the ASA Representative agree it is safe to do so.
- 17.3. Where a game is abandoned due to floodlight failure, weather, or any cause beyond the control of the participating teams, 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.
 - 17.3.1. 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 ASA Representative, a penalty shootout cannot be conducted, a winner shall be determined by the flip of a coin.
- 17.4. Where a game is abandoned due to floodlight failure, weather, or any cause beyond the control of the participating teams, and less than seventy percent (70%) of the game has been played, the following shall occur:
 - 17.4.1. If after thirty (30) minutes play may not be restarted, the ASA 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.
 - 17.4.2. If, at the discretion of the ASA Representative, the game cannot be rescheduled, a winner will be determined through the use of a penalty shootout.
 - 17.4.3. If, at the discretion of the ASA Representative, a penalty shootout cannot be scheduled, a winner will be determined through the use of a coin toss.

18. Discipline

- 18.1. An appointed Alberta Soccer Representative will establish and chair a Discipline Committee for every Provincial Competition. The Discipline Committee will comprise of the Chairman and two other Alberta Soccer Directors wherever possible. The Discipline Committee will deal with all cases of discipline relating to players and/or team staff during the tournament.
- 18.2. Any specific matter related to a tournament may only be acted on by the established Discipline Committee for the duration of each tournament. Any decision made by the Discipline Committee will be final as far as the competition is concerned. Any District or team concerns must be brought before the Discipline Committee at the Tournament Meeting for a decision.
 - 18.2.1. As per the October 24, 2009 Planning Meeting, all matters pertaining to cyber-bullying will also fall under the jurisdiction of this rule.
- 18.3. Misconduct by players or team officials reported by the referee will be dealt with by the Discipline Committee prior to the next game.
 - 18.3.1. 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.
- 18.4. If a hearing is requested, or if the Alberta Soccer Representative at their discretion so decide, the Discipline Committee will conduct a hearing to deal with misconduct in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Constitution and General Rules.

All games will be played with an emphasis on fun, sportsmanship, development, education and respect for teammates, opponents and game officials.

- 18.4.1. 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.
- 18.5. Failure to attend after notification by the 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.
- 18.6. The Discipline Committee will hold a hearing for behaviour 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.
- 18.7. Three (3) yellow cards in a Provincial Championship will automatically generate a one (1) game suspension.
- 18.8. All Red cards in a Provincial Competition will automatically generate a minimum one (1) game suspension. If the situation warrants, the Alberta Soccer Representative may call a hearing to suspend the offending player for additional games.
- 18.9. All team staff 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, the Alberta Soccer Representative may call a hearing to suspend the offending team staff member for additional games.
- 18.10. All suspensions must be served at the first available opportunity.
- 18.11. Any Youth player serving a suspension will be required to sit separate from his/her team at the edge of the team's technical area. The player 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 ASA representative, a team staff member will be required to sit with the suspended player.
- 18.12. Threats and Assaults on officials during a Provincial Championship will generate an immediate suspension pending Alberta Soccer Discipline Committee action, in accordance with Rule 9 of the Alberta Soccer Rules and Regulations.
- 18.13. Protests may be lodged with the Alberta Soccer Representative only on alleged deviation from these published rules. Protests must be in writing on the game sheet, clearly outlining the complaint and must be lodged immediately after the game. No protests will be heard which are based on a game official's interpretation of the Laws of the Game.
- 18.14. The Alberta Soccer Representative will deal with all valid protests immediately, and their decision will be final.
- 18.15. 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.
- 18.15.1. Individuals who have been listed on a game sheet will be deemed to have participated in that game.
- 18.16. A referee who wishes to or is requested by an Alberta Soccer Tournament Representative to submit a written report on a game incident must do so within two (2) hours after the end of the final officiating responsibility for that day. The report must be submitted on an ASA Misconduct Report.

19. Fines

- 19.1. A District whose team withdraws from the Provincial Competition thirty (30) to fifteen (15) days prior to the provincial competition date will be assessed an administration fee to a maximum of \$500, as determined by the ASA's Competitions Committee. A District whose team withdraws from the Provincial Competition less than fourteen (14) days prior to the provincial competition

date will be assessed an administration fee to a maximum of \$2,500. All withdrawals must be submitted in writing from the District Association to the Alberta Soccer office.

- 19.2. No competition fees will be refunded if a District withdraws from a competition after the declaration deadline.
- 19.3. All games involving a team that does not fulfill all of its playing obligations within the round robin portion of the competition will be recorded as a 3-0 win for the opposing team.
- 19.4. All teams are expected to attend their scheduled games with a minimum of 7 players, and are expected to compete in every game until completion. Any team failing to do so will be assessed an administration fee of up to \$2,500. All decisions with regards to the Administrative fees will be the responsibility of the Competitions Coordinator in conjunction with the Competitions Committee and notice of all Administrative fees will be sent out to the District that the team was representing.
- 19.5. Any team/club found to have played an ineligible player will be assessed an administration fee to a maximum of \$2,500.
- 19.6. All teams receiving a medal are expected to attend medal ceremonies. Any medal-winning team that does not attend medal ceremonies without receiving prior permission from the Provincial Representative will be assessed an administrative fee of \$500.

20. Trophies

- 20.1. The winners of the Tier I to Nationals Provincial Championships will be responsible for the safe-keeping and return of the trophies to their District Soccer office by the date set by the Competitions Committee.
- 20.2. The winners of Youth Provincial Championships will be awarded keeper trophies that they are not required to return to the Alberta Soccer Association.
- 20.3. National Championship trophies must be returned as per Canadian Soccer published rules.

21. Blood-Borne Pathogens

- 21.1. If bleeding occurs where other participants may be exposed to blood, the individual's participation must be interrupted until the bleeding has been stopped. The wound must be cleansed with antiseptic and securely covered.
- 21.2. All clothing soiled with blood must be replaced prior to the athlete resuming training or competition. Clothing soiled with blood and other body fluids must be washed in hot, soapy water.
- 21.3. If an athlete leaves the field, has his/her injury treated and covered, and wishes to re-enter the game in another, differently numbered jersey that replaces a blood-stained jersey, he/she may only enter after the referee has been advised of the change.
- 21.4. All equipment and surfaces contaminated with blood and other body fluids should be cleaned with a solution of one part household bleach to nine parts water. This solution should be prepared fresh daily. This is particularly important on the artificial turf of indoor arenas.
- 21.5. While cleaning blood or other body fluid spills, the following must be done:
 - 21.5.1. Wear waterproof gloves;
 - 21.5.2. Wipe up fluids with paper towels or disposable cloths;
 - 21.5.3. Disinfect the area;
 - 21.5.4. Place all soiled waste in a plastic bag for disposal;
 - 21.5.5. Remove gloves and wash hands with soap and water.
- 21.6. Other wounds must be reviewed by medical personnel, including abrasions, skin lesions and rashes on athletes, coaches and officials. All wounds, skin lesions and rashes must be confirmed as non-infectious and be securely covered prior to the athlete starting or continuing participation.

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Appendix I – Random Seeding for Youth Provincials

Rule 13.2 - Seeding for all Youth Provincial Competitions will be determined by a random draw as follows:

1. Each team will be placed into a pot for random draw.
2. The number of pots will be determined by the number of teams in the competition divided by the number of groups.
 Ex. 12 teams ÷ 4 groups = 3 pots
 Ex. 9 teams ÷ 3 groups = 3 pots
3. The first seed is always the home team.
 - a. Home team is determined by District and not by location. If the tournament is held in Camrose, the first seed will be CASA I, not necessarily Camrose.
4. Pot 1 will consist of teams representing Districts closest to the host location.
5. Pot 2 will consist of teams representing Districts farthest from the host location.
6. Pot 3 will consist of the remaining teams representing Districts closest to the host location.
7. Pot 4 will consist of the remaining teams representing Districts farthest from the host location.
8. Teams drawn from Pot 1 will be seed 1 in their respective groups, teams drawn from Pot 2 will be seed 2 in their respective groups, teams drawn from Pot 3 will be seed 3 in their respective groups, and teams drawn from Pot 4 will be seed 4 in their respective groups.
 - a. Distance measurements will be made from the host location to a District's centre
 - b. If a District consists of multiple towns and cities, the centre will be determined as the location of their association's headquarters; if no such location is available, the centre will be the town or city in which the District President currently resides.
9. The Competitions Committee reserves the right to break away from the above procedures under any of the following conditions:
 - a. To the benefit of travelling teams.
 - b. To avoid regional play.
 - c. To create an even schedule, balancing time between games and number of games per day.
 - d. To create the best overall competition.
 Ex. To avoid potential "Groups of Death".

Example of the Random Seeding Process

2010 Youth Indoor Provincials

U14 Tier III Girls – Spruce Grove

District	Number of Teams	District	Number of Teams
Sunny South	1	Battle River	1
Lethbridge	1	Sherwood Park	1
CMSA	2	Airdrie	1
EMSA	3	Red Deer	1
Tri-County	1	Total Teams	12

All games will be played with an emphasis on fun, sportsmanship, development, education and respect for teammates, opponents and game officials.

12 Teams ÷ 4 Groups = 3 Pots

Pot 1	Pot 2	Pot 3
EMSA I (1)*	Sunny South (3)	Red Deer (3)
EMSA II (2)	Lethbridge (1)	Battle River (1)
EMSA III (4)	CMSA I (2)	Tri-County (2)
Sherwood Park (3)	CMSA II (4)	Airdrie (4)

* Number in brackets refers to the order in which the teams were drawn

Resulting Seeding:

Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
EMSA I (Home Team)	EMSA II	Sherwood Park	EMSA III
Lethbridge	CMSA I*	Sunny South	CMSA II*
Battle River	Tri-County	Red Deer	Airdrie

*In accordance with Point 9 above, the Competitions Committee could switch CMSA I and CMSA II in the interest in creating a better tournament.