

# ALBERTA SOCCER ASSOCIATION

## GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

***(CURRENT AS OF June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006 –ASA Board Meeting)***

*(Beginning with 2005, dates at the beginning of articles herein indicate that the article was changed or written in that year, as per the usage of the Canadian Soccer Association. Only changes in article numbering are not so marked.)*

### **RULE 1 - MEMBERSHIP**

#### **A) GENERAL**

The Association will consider accepting into membership:

- i) District Associations, Provincial Leagues and such organizations operating on a provincial basis as school, college and university leagues;
- ii) As of the Association's 1984 Annual General Meeting, all District Associations must be integrated within one (1) Association;
- iii) Requirements:
  - a) A minimum of four (4) active clubs shall be required to form a District Association;
  - b) A District Association must register at least one (1) District League of at least four (4) teams;
  - c) Provincial League must consist of at least four (4) teams from at least three (3) District Associations with not more than 50% of their teams from any one (1) District Association;
- iv) Applications for new membership to this Association shall be made annually on a form to be provided by the Association. The applications must be accompanied by the required membership fee, together with a copy of the applicant's Constitution and a list of current officers;
- v) The jurisdictional areas and geographical boundaries of each member shall be defined by the Board;
- vi) Each member must hold its Annual Meeting by December 31<sup>st</sup> of the preceding year;
- vii) Each member must file with the Association within fourteen (14) days of its Annual General Meeting a copy of its most current financial statement, by-laws, rules and regulations and contact list of Board members;

- viii) Each member shall notify the Association, in writing, within seven (7) days of any change of officer or any change of address;
- ix) All members will comply with the Rules and Regulations laid down in the By-Laws of the Association;
- x) Within each District Association, particularly those covering large areas of the Province, there may exist a number of smaller zone associations;
- xi) The eighteen (18) District Association members shall be as follows:
  - a) District 1 Sunny South
  - b) District 2 Medicine Hat
  - c) District 3 Lethbridge
  - d) District 4 Calgary
  - e) District 5 Central Alberta
  - f) District 6 Big Country
  - g) District 7 Foothills
  - h) District 8 Edmonton
  - i) District 9 St. Albert
  - j) District 10 Tri-County
  - k) District 11 Northwest/Central
  - l) District 12 Lakeland
  - m) District 13 Northwest/Peace River
  - n) District 14 Northeast/Fort McMurray
  - o) District 15 Battle River
  - p) District 16 Sherwood Park
  - q) District 17 Airdrie
  - r) District 18 Red Deer
- xii) Life Members shall be admitted from time to time at the discretion of the Association;
- xiii) The admission of a Life Member shall require the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the voting delegates present at a General Meeting of the Association;
- xiv) All Life Membership nominations shall be submitted in writing thirty (30) days prior to the Annual General Meeting. Nominations may be permitted by the Board or an Active or Associate Member;
- xv) No incumbent Officer of the Association shall be eligible for nomination to Life Membership.

## **RULE 2 – MEMBERSHIP FEES**

The affiliation and Annual Membership Fees of the Association shall be as follows:

- A) District Association \$ 50.00
- B) Associate Member \$ 100.00

### **RULE 3 – REGISTRATION OF SEASON PLAYERS**

- A) The outdoor season shall commence annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of May and end on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October and the indoor season shall commence annually on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of November and end on the 30<sup>th</sup> 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 C.S.A. fee that is determined annually by voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- C) For each registered youth player, the fees shall be such cost above the C.S.A. fee that is determined annually by voting delegates at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.
- 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 was previously registered. Such clearance must be copied to the Alberta Soccer Association.
- F) All team and/or player fees shall be paid as directed, in writing, to the A.S.A. 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 Association or any District Association shall be registered each year on forms supplied by the Association;
- ii) a) (2006) Youth player/senior team registration dollars will always accrue to the A.S.A. District in which the youth player/team is domiciled (unless the District of domicile does not offer a program for that youth player/team), even if the youth player/team plays in another District's league. It is the responsibility of the youth player/team who wishes to play outside the District of domicile to obtain permission from both Districts involved. A program is defined as at least one (1) team, with a minimum of sixteen (16) youth players in a relevant age group;  
  
b) (2006) This rule (4.A.ii.a) is intended only to ensure that no player is denied an opportunity to play at his/her ability level when no program is available in his/her District of domicile.
- iii) (2006) Individual youth players will be allowed to obtain releases to register for other District youth teams as always, provided they follow standard procedures (if applicable) in the new District. Entire teams will not be allowed to 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 (transferring) 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.
- iv) (2005) 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 A. S. A. players/teams.
- v) (2006) 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, if 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, will be acceptable.

## **B) PLAYERS**

### **i) Proof of Age**

Where necessary, birth certificate, 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**

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 in 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) (2006) 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 A.S.A. Competition Rules Book for that current year, subject to local rules.
- c) (2006) 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 A.S.A. Competition Rules Book for that current year, subject to local rules.
- d) (2006) A player shall only be registered on one active registered team at any time during a season with the following exceptions:
  - 1) (2006) 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, and maintain his/her eligibility to compete in both youth and senior provincials provided he/she has first registered with a youth team. However, when a youth player has first signed with a Senior team, there will be no eligibility to sign with or transfer to a youth team. Should a youth player who has signed for both a youth and a senior team see both his/her youth and senior teams qualify for National Championships, then that player must go to the youth National Championship.
  - 3) Except for players on the roster of a designed Alberta Major Soccer League (AMSL) Reserve Team, who are exempted from this Rule, no senior player shall sign for more than one (1) senior team in any season, unless properly transferred in accordance with ASA rules.

- 4) (2005) 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) **(2006) Jewelry and Non-compulsory Equipment**

- a) (2006) In District and provincial competitions leading to national competitions, no player will be permitted to wear any jewelry, as outlined in the jewelry policy of the Canadian Soccer Association, with the exceptions that bandanas and sweatbands will be allowed for religious or medical reasons, and prescription eye glasses will be permitted.
- b) (2006) In all other competitions in Alberta, the wearing of jewelry by players will be permitted as long as it is taped to the satisfaction of the referee. This is not to be interpreted to mean that all jewelry is allowed provided that it is taped. The referee shall not allow anything to be worn by any player for any reason if the referee determines that it is a potential danger to another player.

v) **Eligibility – General**

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**

No youth team shall be permitted to register more than a total of twenty (20) players at any one (1) time during the course of the season, and no senior team more than twenty-five (25) players.

## C) DEFINITIONS and AGE LIMITS

### i) a) (2006) Outdoor Season

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

### b) (2006) Indoor Season

A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her seventeenth (17th) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

### ii) Age Group Qualifying Date

#### a) (2006) Outdoor Season

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

#### b) (2006) Indoor Season

A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her seventeenth (17th) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

### iii) Age Grouping

#### a) (2006) Outdoor Season

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

#### b) (2006) Indoor Season

A youth player shall mean an amateur who has not attained his/her seventeenth (17th) birthday before the 1<sup>st</sup> of January in the current year of his/her application for registration;

#### c) Divisions shall be comprised of the following age groups:

<b>Age Group</b>	<b>Known As</b>
18 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-18
16 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-16
14 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-14
12 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-12
10 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-10
8 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-8
6 <sup>th</sup> birthday	U-6

## **RULE 5 - TRANSFER OF PLAYERS**

- A) A registered player wishing to transfer shall make application on a form supplied by the Association and to be obtained from his/her District Registrar.
- B) ASA Rules 4 (B) (iii) (b) and (c) 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 the 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) (2006) Transfer Deadline dates are outlined in the current Competitions Rule book as Per 4B) 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 the transfer as follows:  
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 this Association to leave his/her team before the end of the current season. The offence shall be dealt with by the Association or League in Membership concerned, if the Club and the players are under the same jurisdiction and by this Association in all other cases.

## **RULE 6 - MOVEMENT OF PLAYERS – YOUTH TO SENIORS**

- A) Any senior team desiring to sign a registered player from a youth team during the current season shall remit the sum of twenty-five (\$25) dollars to accompany the registration form. This amount is to be reimbursed to the youth team concerned.
- B) 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.

- C) 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.
- D) 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 - COMPETITION RULES**

All rules for A.S.A. Competitions will be determined by the A.S.A. Competitions Committee and approved by the Board of Directors of this Association. 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 28<sup>th</sup>, and the latest date for presentation for the upcoming indoor season will be August 31<sup>st</sup>.

For complete rules on indoor and outdoor competitions, please refer to the Association's Youth and Senior Outdoor Competition Rules and the Indoor Rules.

## **RULE 8 - GAMES AND COMPETITIONS**

Competitions or Exhibition games of this Association and/or the Canadian Soccer Association shall take precedence over all other games or competitions.

## **RULE 9 - DISCIPLINE**

### **A) GENERAL**

- i) Players, officials and spectators may only take part in or attend games on condition that they observe the By-Laws, Rules and Regulations of the Association;
- ii) Every Club is responsible for the actions of its players, officials and spectators;
- iii) Every Club and League is required to take all precautions necessary to prevent its players, officials and spectators from threatening or assaulting anyone present at games and especially the referee and lines. Clubs and Leagues are expected to provide security for players and officials;
- iv) Districts and Leagues in Membership shall ensure that their disciplinary Rules, Regulations and Procedures are consistent with those of the Association;
- v) Failure to observe timelines established in this Rule shall render any disciplinary action taken after the expiration of the time null and void;

- vi) (2005) An official's report accusing a person of misconduct shall be filed according to the following time lines: the initial "tombstone" information, which shall include player information and the nature of the infraction or offence, shall be required to be submitted within a 48 hour period following the incident, with a full report to follow, to be submitted within seven working days from this date of offence.
- vii) An accused person has the right to attend any hearing at his/her own expense;
- viii) The report provided by the game official to the Association having jurisdiction shall be regarded as his/her affidavit to a Discipline Hearing Committee. The presence of the game official is not required at any hearing unless the accused so wishes and then only on condition that the accused notify the Association of his/her wishes and pay in advance of such attendance all related expenses incurred by said official. Related expenses are specified annually by the Board of Directors. An Association or League in Membership may require attendance of a game official in accordance with the Rules, Regulations and Procedures of the Association or League in Membership;
- ix) Any misconduct report from another Provincial Association shall be regarded as an affidavit to the Discipline Hearing Committee on the same basis as contained in 9 A) vii) above.

## **B) JURISDICTION**

- i) Any person or organization reported for misconduct shall be dealt with by the Association or League in Membership or their delegate except as otherwise stipulated herein;
- ii) All cases of misconduct involving alleged physical assault, attempted physical assault or threatening behaviour towards a game official by any person shall be dealt with by a Discipline Hearing Committee of the Association;
- iii) The Association shall have direct jurisdiction only in the following circumstances:
  - a) complaints or inquiries referred to it by another Provincial Association;
  - b) misconduct by any person arising from participation in the Select Team Program of the Association;
  - c) misconduct at Provincial or Regional Competitions of the Association;
  - d) misconduct by an Association or League in Membership or any of its officers and officials;
  - e) misconduct arising from any international event (in or outside of Canada) where participation is given prior approval by the Association;
  - f) any other matter directly related to the Association, which the Association, in its sole discretion, deems should be dealt with by it;

- iv) The Association, at its sole discretion, may delegate its jurisdiction under Rule 9 B) iii) to an Association or League in Membership.

### **C) MISCONDUCT**

- i) In addition to matters referred to in any other By-Law, Rule or Regulation of the Association, it shall be misconduct if any person or organization is proved at a hearing to the satisfaction of a Discipline Hearing Committee of the Association to have done, or permitted or assisted in doing or permitting any of the following:
  - a) Violated the Laws of the Game or the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Association or an Association or League in Membership;
  - b) Bet on any game other than on registered lotteries or pools;
  - c) Offered or attempted to offer, directly or indirectly, any consideration whatsoever to any Association, Club or League or to any player or official of any Association, Club or League or to any game officials with a view to influencing the result of any game or accepting any such consideration;
  - d) Committed any act or made any statement either verbally or in writing, or been responsible for conduct, continuing misconduct or any other matter which, in the opinion of the Association, is considered to be ungentlemanly, insulting or improper behaviour or likely to bring the game into disrepute.

### **D) HEARING**

Each Discipline Hearing held within the jurisdiction of the Association and its Members shall be conducted in accordance with the following:

- i) A Discipline Hearing Committee shall have no less than three (3) members, one (1) of who shall act as Chairman;
- ii) One (1) of the Committee shall act as recording secretary or a non-voting recording secretary (not one of the Committee) shall be appointed to be present for the whole Hearing;
- iii) An accused may be accompanied by legal counsel only with the permission of the Association or the Association or League in Membership with jurisdiction over the discipline;
- iv) The accused or his/her accredited representative shall be present or the Hearing shall not proceed;
- v) Failure to appear at a Discipline Hearing when due notice has been given shall result in suspension of the accused until he/she requests, in writing, and attends another Hearing;
- vi) A request for a Hearing under v) above shall be accompanied by a non-refundable fee set by the Association or its member, in the form of a certified cheque or money order;

vii) Postponement of the Hearing may be granted by the Committee on terms published in advance of the Hearing;

viii) Timelines and Notices

a) Any person or organization accused of misconduct shall be given at least ten (10) working days' notice of any scheduled Hearing into the allegation. A copy of such notice shall also be sent to the organization if the person is one of their registered players or is their official representative;

b) Notwithstanding a) above, Associations and Leagues in Membership or their Members may publish, in advance, the dates of regularly scheduled Hearings and the giving of notice in a) above is thereupon waived;

c) Any person or organization shall be given at least ten (10) working days' notice of any scheduled Hearing if their presence is required by the Discipline Hearing Committee;

d) Requests for postponement of a Hearing scheduled by The Association must be received by The Association at least five (5) working days prior to the date of the Hearing, accompanied by the approved fee in the form of a certified cheque or money order, which shall be refunded if the request is denied;

e) In cases where an accused stands suspended pending a Hearing or for any adjourned Hearing, the date for the Hearing shall be set within fifteen (15) working days of the receipt of the misconduct report (or previous Hearing), for a date no later than twenty-five (25) working days of the receipt of the misconduct report (or previous Hearing);

f) The result of any Hearing shall be sent to the accused no later than fifteen (15) working days after the Hearing;

ix) By mutual consent, in writing, of the accused and the Discipline Hearing Committee, any terms in d) above may be waived;

x) Procedure

With all required persons present, the Hearing shall proceed as follows:

a) The Chairman shall read the report and state the charge;

b) The person(s) writing the report(s), if present, shall be given the opportunity to amplify or qualify the report(s);

c) The accused shall be allowed to ask relevant questions of the author of the report if he/she is present or make submissions on the report and testify on his/her own;

d) The accused and the person(s) writing the report(s) shall have the opportunity to call witnesses to the incident;

- e) The Chairman and any Discipline Hearing Committee member may question the accused or any witnesses;
- f) The person(s) writing the report and the accused shall be allowed to make final summations before withdrawing;
- g) The Discipline Hearing Committee shall consider the report and any further evidence provided and shall either decide on the case or adjourn the hearing in accordance with viii) e) above;
- h) The accused shall be notified, in writing, of the result of the hearing, in accordance with viii) f) above.

## **E) PUNISHMENT**

- i) On misconduct being proved to its satisfaction, a Discipline Hearing Committee shall have the power to order the offender:
  - a) to be suspended from all specific soccer activities either permanently, indefinitely or for a stated period of time;
  - b) to be suspended for a specific number of scheduled games in a designated competition(s);
  - c) to be fined and/or bonded (with or without suspension), where the player is not a registered youth player, the fine amount to be at the discretion of the Association;
  - d) to be censured;
  - e) to pay all expenses of the Discipline Hearing Committee which may be incidental to consideration of the matter (with or without any other punishment);
- ii) A Discipline Hearing Committee shall set timelines for the payment of any costs, fines or bonds and may set further terms of punishment for non-compliance;
- iii) Notwithstanding E) i) above, in all cases of alleged physical assault of attempted physical assault of, or threatening behaviour towards a game official, the accused shall be suspended from all soccer activities until the case has been decided by The Association;
- iv) Notwithstanding E) i) above, in all cases where a person has been charged in Criminal Court as a result of soccer activities there shall be no Discipline Hearing until the case has been concluded in Criminal Court and then the Association or League in Membership may decide if further proceedings are warranted pursuant to their Rules and Regulations or the Association's Rules and Regulations;
- v) Suspensions shall be served for a continuous period or for consecutive games, except where there is a break in the competition, in which case the suspension may be continued accordingly;

- vi) Suspension guidelines for specific offences are set out in Rule 9 F) below. Associations and Leagues in Membership and their Members shall use these guidelines in setting punishments. Any suspension for a number of games shall be consistent with the intent of Rule 9 F) below.

## **F) ACTION SPECIFIC**

### **i) Cautions (Yellow Cards)**

- a) The following suspension for Yellow Card accumulation during a season shall be automatic:

- Three (3) cautions - one (1) game suspension
- Additional two (2) cautions - one (1) game suspension
- Additional one (1) caution - two (2) game suspension
- Additional one (1) caution - four (4) game suspension

and appearance before a Discipline Committee

- b) Two Caution Cards received by a player in a single game will not be calculated in the above and will be dealt with as an ejection (Red Card). Single Caution Cards amassed will not be used in determining ejections. Red Cards received during a season must be considered by the Discipline Committee in issuing suspensions.

### **ii) Ejections (Red Cards)**

- a) A.S.A. and A.S.A -Member Action:

Ejections (Red Cards) for actions against other players or team officials:

- 1) For persistent misconduct or foul or abusive language:

- First Offence - two (2) game suspension
- Second Offence - four (4) game suspension

- 2) For violent conduct or serious foul play:

- First Offence - four (4) game suspension
- Second Offence - nine (9) game suspension

- 3) Ejections (Red Cards) for actions against game officials. A.S.A. action only:

- A) Persistent criticism or disputing of decision:

- First offence - two (2) week suspension
- Second offence - thirty (30) day suspension
- Third offence - ninety (90) day suspension

- B) Use of foul, abusive or insulting remarks:

- First offence - thirty (30) day suspension
- Second offence - sixty (60) day suspension
- Third offence - one (1) year suspension

C) Deliberate physical contact (i.e., pushing, pulling, charging, etc.) or attempted physical contact or threatening.

First offence - up to one (1) year suspension

Second offence - up to five (5) year suspension

D) Striking, spitting, kicking or any form of violent conduct, or attempted violent conduct:

First offence - up to five (5) year suspension

Second offence - up to fifteen (15) year suspension

4) Repeated Ejections:

It is strongly recommended that anyone found guilty of any third (3<sup>rd</sup>) red card (ejection) offence in one (1) calendar year be suspended for a minimum of one (1) calendar year, in addition to any sentence imposed at the Hearing.

## **G) JURISDICTION**

- i) Associations in Membership or any District Association affiliated thereto shall have the power to deal with violations of the laws of the game, the rules, regulations and bylaws of this Association or misconduct by any of their Clubs or Associations, or by any of their players, officials or members. In all cases the party complained against shall have the right to appeal and to offer a full answer or defence to any charges against him/her when the case is heard;
- ii) All Hearings involving offences listed other than those involving physical contact with game officials or attempted physical contact with game officials, shall be dealt with by the District Association or Regional or Inter-District League in whose jurisdiction the alleged offence took place;
- iii) All Hearings involving physical contact with game officials or attempted physical contact with game officials shall be dealt with by the Provincial Association;
- iv) A Discipline Committee may, at its discretion, take action against any Club whose players; officials or spectators have been found guilty of misconduct and/or violence towards anyone present at a game and especially towards game officials.

## **RULE 10 – PROTESTS**

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

## **RULE 11 – APPEALS**

- A) Any club/team/individual participating in affiliated soccer has a right to appeal decisions affecting their status.
- B) The first avenue of appeal must follow the appeal process within the organization to which that club/team/individual belongs.
- C) The next avenue of appeal is to the governing body of the District, inasmuch as the District is the member of the A.S.A.
- D) (2006) The next avenue of appeal is to the A.S.A. Standing Committee on Discipline and Appeals who shall decide whether leave to appeal shall be granted.
  - i) Appeals of decisions made by a member shall be submitted, in writing, to the Association along with a cheque or money order for one hundred and fifty dollars (\$150) payable to the Alberta Soccer Association, which is the Appeal Fee.
  - ii) The letter of appeal and accompanying appeal fee must be post-marked no more than five (5) days from the receipt, in writing, of the decision being appealed.
  - iii) All Appeals shall normally be heard within four (4) weeks of its receipt by the Association.
  - iv) Suspensions will remain in effect until the decision of the A.S.A. Appeal Hearing is released.
  - v) The decision of the A.S.A. Standing Committee on Discipline and Appeals shall be final and binding except when the decision was made in the first instance, in which case any Appeal must go to the A.S.A. within five (5) days. If the grounds for Appeal are found valid then an A.S.A. Appeal Committee of three (3) people will hold an Appeal Hearing expeditiously.
- E) Any member or person aggrieved by a decision of this Association may, with the leave of the Canadian Soccer Association's National Executive Board, appeal from said decision provided that:
  - i) the said Appeal involved only an interpretation of this Association's Constitution;
  - ii) all appeals to the CSA shall be in accordance with the current CSA Constitution, the appropriate information from which can be obtained from the CSA and ASA office;
  - iii) the CSA will not accept appeals on an ASA decision unless the ASA is in deviation of the ASA or CSA Constitutions;
  - iv) the CSA will not accept appeals on results of competitions conducted under Provincial jurisdiction, unless the Provincial Association is in deviation of its Constitution;
- F) All cases requesting leniency on suspensions already issued by the ASA and in effect, will be reviewed by the full Board of Directors at their next regularly scheduled meeting, who will determine the next course of action.

## **RULE 12 – NOTICE**

All notices may be served by the Association upon any member by sending same through post in a prepaid letter addressed to such at the last known address or sent to the Secretary or other registered official of the affiliate and such notice shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the letter containing same would be delivered in the ordinary course of post and in providing such service, it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed and put into the post office. Such notice shall be binding on such party or parties served.

## **RULE 13 – REFEREES**

- A) No person shall officiate as a Referee in any competitions under the jurisdiction of the Association excepting 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 at 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 currently 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**

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

## **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 Association's Provincial Indoor and Outdoor Championship competitions for each year shall be announced by the Competitions Committee.

## **RULE 16 – GAMES RULES**

In all A.S.A. sponsored competitions not covered in Rule 7, C.S.A. rules will apply.

## **RULE 17 – TOURNAMENTS**

- A) Tournaments are to be conducted as per Alberta Soccer Association Tournament Guidelines, which may be obtained from the Association and must be sanctioned by the Association.
- 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 Association. 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 RULES**

- A) i) All finals played in A.S.A. sponsored competitions shall be played on fields that are marked and have nets and corner flags;
- ii) Players playing in A.S.A. sponsored competitions shall be properly dressed at all times, i.e., shirt, shorts, socks and appropriate footwear.
- B) 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 Canadian Soccer Association, sending such request through this Association.
- C) In all games played under the jurisdiction of the Association, 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.
- D) All clubs under the jurisdiction of the Association shall place their players at the service of the Association.
- E) (2006) 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 – EXPENSE ALLOWANCE GUIDE**

- A) Members of the Board shall be entitled to a refund of all expenses incurred during the performance of Board duties, in accordance with the current Association expense reimbursement policy.
- B) Committee Chairmen and Committee Members shall be entitled to a refund of all expenses incurred as members of a Committee when those expenses have been incurred directly as a result of Committee work, in accordance with the current Association expense reimbursement policy.
- C) Receipts must be provided to support all claims.

## **RULE 20 – INTERPRETATIONS**

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.

## **RULE 21 – COACHING QUALIFICATIONS**

- A) Any team entering an Alberta Provincial Competition leading into a National Championship must have a coach certified at The Community Coach Certification Level;
  - i) If a new (non-certified) coach takes over an “A” Team leading into National Competition, dispensation is granted for the next four (4) years from the time his/her name appears on the team’s registration.
- B) Every coach involved in all other Outdoor Provincial Competitions must be certified at the Community Coach Youth Level for a Youth Team and the Community Coach Senior Level for a Senior Team;
  - i) If a new (non-certified) coach takes over a team leading into Provincial Championship, dispensation is granted for the next two (2) years from the time his/her name appears on the team’s register.
- C) Each Senior Team in Alberta, male and female, will annually provide at least one (1) individual to a Level I Coaching Course.
- D) Failure to comply with A), B) or C) above will result in disciplinary action being applied to the Coach and/or District, but will not effect the final outcome of competition.

## **RULE 22 – LENGTH OF GAME**

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.

## **RULE 23 – UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE TEAMS**

- A) The Alberta Universities Athletic Association, the Alberta Colleges Athletic Conference and Inter-District High School Leagues are Associate Members of the Association and their soccer teams are therefore subject to C.S.A. and A.S.A. 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 A.S.A. and be an affiliate of the District in their City of domicile.

## **RULE 24 – SOCCER SCHOOL INSTRUCTION**

- A) The Association shall be the sole authority for the organization and conduct of indoor and outdoor soccer schools within Alberta. From time-to-time, the Association may enter into cooperative profit-sharing soccer skills instructional programs with members of the Association.
- B) No member of the Association may conduct indoor or outdoor soccer skill camps, schools or clinics by whatever name without the written consent of, and in conjunction with, the Association.
- C) No participant in a program of a member may conduct indoor or outdoor soccer skills instruction unless in the direct employ of the Association or in the employ of a member engaged in an approved instructional program with the Association.
- D) The technical content and technical delivery of any part of an indoor or outdoor soccer skills program proposed under 24 A), B) or C) above are subject to prior written approval of the Association.
- 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 – INVOLVEMENT WITH NON-AFFILIATED TEAMS**

No individual of the age of majority involved as an active player, coach, manager or Board Member with an A.S.A. Affiliated Soccer Organization may play with or coach for any non-affiliated organized league team in or out of Alberta. Failure to comply will result in that individual being ineligible to participate in any capacity in Provincial Competition, within the current playing season, with possible further disciplinary action being applied.