



Alberta Soccer Association

Outdoor Provincial Rulebook



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2011 Provincial Championship Rules

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;
- A minimum of 8 players per team on the field to start a game (min. 6 players per team for U12 8 vs 8).

All changes between the 2010 Outdoor Provincial Rule Book and the 2011 Outdoor Provincial Rule Book are detailed in Appendix I.

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 Tournament Committee will act as an extension of the Competitions Committee. All decisions reached by the Tournament 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.

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

- 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.

2. Player Eligibility

2.1. Youth

- 2.1.1. 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.
- 2.1.2. Senior Amateur; Open age: All players under the age of eighteen must have written consent from a parent or legal guardian.
- 2.1.3. U18: all players under eighteen (18) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 2.1.4. U16: all players under sixteen (16) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 2.1.5. U14: all players under fourteen (14) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 2.1.6. U12: all players under twelve (12) years of age, on or before January 1st of the current year
- 2.1.7. Any Youth team that includes a player who is over the age limit as defined in 2.1.1 will forfeit all games concerned and will be subject to disciplinary action.
- 2.1.8. 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.
- 2.1.9. Players must have competed in at least one (1) league game during the current playing season in order to compete in a Provincial Championship.
- 2.1.10. No player can compete in more than one (1) Youth Provincial Championship or more than one (1) Senior Provincial Championship, except as outlined below:
 - 2.1.10.1. 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.
- 2.1.11. 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).

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

- 2.1.12. 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.
- 2.1.13. Youth players and Youth teams are permitted to play up an age group and tier level, including playing in a Senior League for developmental purposes and return to their original age and tier for the Provincial Championships. Districts with such teams must advise the Alberta Soccer Competitions Coordinator in writing by July 31 of the current playing season or June 30 for all Tier IV teams.
- 2.1.14. 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 appear on a game sheet in a league or cup used to qualify for Provincials.
- 2.1.15. Any Youth player who wishes to move from one (1) team to another will not be considered cup tied if such transfer is completed on or before July 31 for Tier I, II, III and June 30 for Tier IV.
- 2.1.16. A player will not play for more than one (1) team in any one (1) Provincial Competition.
- 2.1.17. 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. 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.
- 2.1.18. Every player at a Tier I Provincial Championship leading to Nationals must have a District Photo I.D. Card. 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.
- 2.1.19. 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.
- 2.1.20. 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.

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

2.2. Senior

2.2.1. The Female Provincial Cup Competitions competed for annually are:

2.2.1.1. The Alberta Soccer Fred Kern Jubilee Shield – leads to National Championships

2.2.1.2. The Alberta Soccer Tier I Cup – Women’s Tier I

2.2.1.3. The Alberta Soccer Provincial Cup – Women’s Tier II

2.2.1.4. The Alberta Soccer Women’s District Cup – Women’s Tier III

2.2.1.5. The Alberta Soccer Tier IV Cup – Women’s Tier IV

2.2.1.6. The Women’s Classics Tier I Cup – leads to Western Canadian or National Championships

2.2.1.7. The Women’s Classics Tier II Cup – Classics Tier I

2.2.1.7.1. A Classics team can request, via their District Association, to add underage players (over thirty (30)) to a maximum of five (5) as per the following: in 2009-2010 the age would be over thirty two (32); in 2011-2012 the age would be over thirty three (33); in 2013-2014 the age would be thirty four (34), and in 2015 the age for all Classics players would be thirty five (35).

2.2.2. The Male Provincial Cup Competitions competed for annually are:

2.2.2.1. The Alberta Soccer Mike Traficante Challenge Cup – leads to National Championships

2.2.2.2. The Alberta Soccer Tier I Cup – Men’s Tier I

2.2.2.3. The Alberta Soccer Presidents Cup – Men’s Tier II

2.2.2.4. The Alberta Soccer Men’s District Cup – Men’s Tier III

2.2.2.5. The Alberta Soccer Tier IV Cup – Men’s Tier IV

2.2.2.6. The Men’s Masters Tier I Cup – leads to Western Canadian or National Championships

2.2.2.7. The Men’s Masters Tier II Cup – Men’s Tier II

2.2.2.7.1. All Masters players must be thirty five (35) years old on or before January 1st of the current year.

2.2.3. Only Alberta Soccer registered players can play for a Senior team in Senior Provincial Competitions (except Youth players playing up). Each player will be registered with a team seven (7) days prior to taking part in the Provincial Competition.

2.2.4. Any Senior player who wishes to move from one (1) team to another will not be considered cup tied if the transfer is completed on or before July 31st, subject to local rules.

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

- 2.2.5. Except for players on the roster of a designated AMSL Reserve Team, no Senior player will sign for more than one (1) Senior team in any season, unless properly transferred in accordance with Alberta Soccer rules. A Senior player may only compete in one (1) Provincial Championship or Regional Competition in a single season.
- 2.2.6. If a Senior player had previously played as a Youth player for a Senior team in a cup or league used to qualify for Provincials, the player will not be considered cup tied for the Provincial Competition to the first Senior team on which the player appeared on a game sheet.
- 2.2.7. 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.
- 2.2.8. As per Canadian Soccer Rules, all players competing in the Mike Traficante Challenge Cup and the Fred Kern Jubilee Shield must be Canadian citizens, have landed immigrant status, or be a refugee claimant and will have resided in Canada for at least six (6) months as of the date of the National Championships.
- 2.2.9. Each player/team official at a Senior Provincial Championship must have a District Photo I.D. Card or other photo I.D which they will be required to show the Game Official prior to each match. The burden of proof of registration with a District will rest with the player.

3. Team Eligibility

- 3.1. Any team affiliated and in good standing with their District Association will be eligible to participate in any competition under the jurisdiction of Alberta Soccer and subject to declaration limits set out in this rule book.
- 3.2. 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:
 - 3.2.1. Tier IV Rural (U14, U16, U18) – June 30, 2011
 - 3.2.2. Tier IV Cities (U14, U16, U18, U12 Tier IV) – July 8, 2011
 - 3.2.3. Tier III (U12, U14, U16, U18) – July 28, 2011
 - 3.2.4. Tier II (U12, U14, U16, U18, U12 Tier I) – August 4, 2011
 - 3.2.5. Tier I (U14, U16, U18) – August 11, 2011
 - 3.2.6. Seniors (All Categories) – August 25, 2011
- 3.3. Only players listed on the District certified roster will be considered eligible to participate in the Provincial Competition. Administration fees will be applied to Districts that do not comply with the above submission deadlines.

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

- 3.4. No registered Youth team will be eligible to compete in more than one (1) Provincial Competition in any one (1) season (except as outlined in 2.1.11 and 2.1.12).
- 3.5. Senior Provincial Competitions will be open to Senior amateur teams registered with Alberta Soccer through a District Association. No registered Senior team will be eligible to enter or compete in more than one (1) Provincial Competition in any one (1) season.
- 3.6. In all Senior Outdoor Provincial Championships, except for the Mike Traficante Challenge Cup and the Fred Kern Jubilee Shield, Districts will be allowed to enter two (2) teams per competition.
- 3.7. The Mike Traficante Challenge Cup and the Fred Kern Jubilee Shield will comprise of the top six (6) A.M.S.L Men's and Women's teams, as determined after regular season play.
- 3.8. Regional competitions will be held where required so that all Senior Competitions (except as outlined in Rule 3.7) will comprise of a maximum of eight (8) teams.
- 3.9. Players must meet the player eligibility requirements of Section 2 above in order to be registered on a team.
- 3.10. Registrations will be valid for one (1) season.

4. Team Rosters

- 4.1. A Youth team (U14, U16, U18) cannot exceed twenty (20) players and may dress all twenty (20) for each game.
- 4.2. For Provincial Championships only, no U12 team can exceed twenty (20) players, and may dress all twenty (20) for each game.
- 4.3. All Senior teams, Tier I and below, cannot exceed twenty five (25) players, and can only dress twenty (20) for each game.
- 4.4. AMSL teams cannot exceed twenty five (25) players, and must designate only twenty (20) players to compete in the Provincial Championship. The chosen twenty (20) cannot change once the tournament has commenced. Teams may dress all twenty (20) players for each game.
- 4.5. The following must be provided by each team participating in a Provincial Championship:
 - 4.5.1. Name of the team;
 - 4.5.2. Name, address and phone number of the team Manager or Coach;
 - 4.5.3. Name, address and phone number of the gender specific team staff member;
 - 4.5.4. Team colours and alternate colours;
 - 4.5.5. Team roster certified by the respective District Association.

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- 4.6. In addition to rule 4.5, teams competing for a National Championship, the National Challenge Cup, the National Jubilee Shield and the Western Masters and Classics must provide:
 - 4.6.1. Proof of Canadian citizenship, landed immigrant status, or refugee claimant status as required in Rule 2.2.8;
 - 4.6.2. A quality 8 x 10 team photograph, a brief history of the team and any other promotional material.
- 4.7. 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. Written confirmation of the CPIC Clearance must accompany each team roster submitted by the District to the Alberta Soccer office.

5. Transfer of Players – Limitations

- 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. The roster determination and player pick-up deadline for Youth Tier IV Rural Provincials will be June 30th and for Youth Tier IV City Provincials will be July 8th.
- 5.4. 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.
- 5.5. Under exceptional circumstances a Youth team may request, through their District, special permission to call up players under the following guidelines: *Once a team qualifies to enter the National Championships, the Canadian Soccer call up rules will apply.*
 - 5.5.1. Requests for call ups may only come through the District Association.
 - 5.5.2. Call ups 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.
 - 5.5.3. Teams can only request call ups if their roster is depleted to sixteen (16).
 - 5.5.4. Call ups must come from the team's club system if such a system is in place.
 - 5.5.5. Call ups must not increase the roster above the original number of registered players. A call up must replace a registered player of the team.
 - 5.5.6. Call ups must not result in the roster exceeding the authorized maximum number of players.
 - 5.5.7. Call ups must be requested in writing seven (7) days prior to the Provincial Championships.

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- 5.5.8. Teams cannot call up players from a team that has qualified for a Provincial Championship.
- 5.5.9. Once a player has been replaced by a call up, he/she cannot return to the team to participate in the Provincial Championships, or if applicable, the National Championships.
- 5.5.10. Players may only be replaced due to unavailability or injuries; registered players who wish to play may not be replaced. Players being replaced must provide written confirmation of the absence or injury from their parent or legal guardian.
- 5.5.11. After the Provincial Tournament, the player will return to his/her original team unless they have qualified for a National Championship.
- 5.5.12. If the season is incomplete, a call up must have the consent of the team/club for which they play.
- 5.6. Under exceptional circumstances, a Senior team may request, through their District, special permission to call up players under the following guidelines: *Once a team qualifies to enter the National Championships, the Canadian Soccer call up rules will apply.*
- 5.6.1. Requests for call ups must come through the District Association.
- 5.6.2. Call ups 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.
- 5.6.3. Teams can only request call ups if their roster is depleted to less than twenty (20) players.
- 5.6.4. Call ups must come from the team's club system, if such a system is in place.
- 5.6.5. Call ups must not increase the roster above the original number of registered players as of July 31, 2011. A call up must replace a registered player of the team.
- 5.6.6. Call ups must not result in the roster exceeding the authorized maximum.
- 5.6.7. Call ups have to be submitted seven (7) days prior to the start of the Provincial Championships.
- 5.6.8. Teams cannot call up players from a team that has qualified for the Senior Provincial Championships.
- 5.6.9. Once a player has been replaced by a call up, he/she cannot return to the team to participate in the Provincial Championships or National Championships.
- 5.6.10. Players may only be replaced due to absence or injuries; registered players who wish to play may not be replaced. Players under eighteen (18) years of age must provide written confirmation of the absence or injury from a parent or legal guardian.
- 5.6.11. A Classics team can request, via their respective District Association, to add under-age players to a maximum of five (5) as per the following: in 2009, the age would be over thirty two (32); in 2011, the age would be over thirty three (33); in

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2013, the age would be over thirty four (34); and in 2015, the age for Classics would be thirty five (35).

5.6.12. After the Provincial Tournament, the player will return to his/her original team unless they have qualified for National Championships.

5.6.13. Call ups must not have registered with the team for thirty (30) days prior to the Provincial Championship.

5.6.14. If the season is not over, a call up must have the consent of the team/club for which they play.

6. Provincial Declarations

6.1. The final deadline for Districts to indicate in writing their entries for the 2011 Outdoor Provincial Championships to the Alberta Soccer Office, listing by age level and category the number of teams who will be competing, is June 20th, 2011 for all Youth Tier IV City and Rural, and June 30th, 2011 for all Youth Tier I-III and Senior categories.

6.2. The June 20th and June 30th declaration deadlines are also the deadline for all required Provincial Championship team entry fees to reach the Alberta Soccer office. 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. There will be no refund for a team that withdraws prior to the competition.

6.3. Districts will be assessed fifty percent (50%) of the relevant declaration fee for “extra” teams invited by Alberta Soccer to participate in Provincial Championships in order to create even pools. There will be no fee charged to Districts for teams that are asked to fill in a position left vacant after an originally declared team withdraws. Protocol in issuing invitations will be:

6.3.1. Host District

6.3.2. Closest District

6.3.3. Remaining Districts beginning with the closest

6.4. 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).

6.5. 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, 2011.

6.6. 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

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intention to do so in writing, to the Alberta Soccer Office, prior to the start of the season, and by June 1, 2011.

- 6.7. Each District will be allowed to declare one (1) Youth team per Youth category, except in the case of those Districts that exceed the 2010 registered Youth player population of 5,000, or a District hosting the Provincial Championship, which will be entitled to two (2) declarations.
- 6.8. Teams from Calgary and Edmonton cannot compete in the Tier IV Rural Provincial Championships.
- 6.9. 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.
- 6.10. The Host District will get one (1) automatic bye into the Provincial Championships if Regional Qualifiers are required.
- 6.11. 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 I/II/III split league, it is the District's responsibility to inform the Competitions Committee in writing, on or before June 1, 2011, 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.

7. Player and Team Registration Fees

- 7.1. Player registration fees for Youth and team registration fees for Seniors are due in the Alberta Soccer office no later than June 1st for Outdoor and December 1st for Indoor.

8. Hosting Declarations

- 8.1. If possible, all outdoor hosting requests must be submitted in writing to the Competitions Coordinator by December 1st for all competitions. Final decisions will be made partially on referee availability.
- 8.2. Depending on the number of teams entered, Districts will be encouraged to host both the male and female competitions of the same age group.

9. Drop Out Fees and Fines

- 9.1. A District whose team withdraws from the Provincial Competition eight (8) to fourteen (14) days prior to the provincial competition date will be assessed an administration fee of \$500. Teams will be charged an additional \$2,000, to a total of \$2,500, for a withdrawal less than eight (8) days prior to that competition. All withdrawals must be submitted in writing from the District Association to the Alberta Soccer office.
- 9.2. No competition fees will be refunded if a District withdraws from a competition after the declaration deadline.

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- 9.3. 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.
- 9.4. The District of any team not fulfilling its obligations of the competition or failing to show up with a minimum of eight (8) players will be assessed an administration fee of up to \$2,500.

10. Seeding for Provincial Competitions

- 10.1. 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.
- 10.2. Seeding for all Youth competitions will be determined by random draw as outlined in Appendix II.
- 10.3. Seeding for all Senior competitions will be determined by last year's results. Districts that declare two (2) or more teams to the same competition must designate which team is their first, second, etc.
- 10.4. Seeding for the Mike Traficante Challenge Cup and the Fred Kern Jubilee Shield will be determined through league play. North 1 will compete against South 2 and South 3. South 1 will compete against North 2 and North 3.
- 10.5. Whenever possible, Provincial Competitions will start on Friday night.
- 10.6. Whenever possible, teams competing in Provincials will play a minimum of three (3) games.
- 10.7. All Provincial Tournament schedules, to the extent possible, will be determined with a minimum of four (4) hours rest between scheduled games. 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.

11. Provincials Leading to National Championships

- 11.1. Regional Competitions may be scheduled to produce an optimum number, usually up to four teams from the North and South, for the Provincial Championship Tournament. In the event that there are more than eight (8) teams in total, the Alberta Soccer Competitions Committee may develop an acceptable, expanded, alternate format. The format of play will resemble the Canada Soccer National Championships.
- 11.2. Tier I Provincial Championships will be conducted from August 18-21, 2011.
- 11.3. A six (6) team format will be used for the Mike Traficante Challenge Cup and the Fred Kern Jubilee Shield. The final matches will be 1st Place Group #1 and 1st Place Group #2 playing for Gold and Silver; 2nd Place Group #1 and 2nd Place Group #2 playing for Bronze and fourth. Fifth and sixth place will be determined from round robin results, standard Alberta Soccer tie breaking rules will apply.

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12. U12 Provincial Competitions

- 12.1. The game format will be “8-A-Side” or “8 vs 8” adhering to the Long Term Player Development Program.
- 12.2. The tournament will be open to both boys and girls teams, Tiers I, II, III and IV, registered under Alberta Soccer’s General Rules and Regulations.
- 12.3. All games will be played in the 8 vs 8 format and will follow the published rule book, *U12 Laws of the Game*.
- 12.4. The U12 Provincial Championships will award Gold, Silver and Bronze medals to victorious teams.

13. Substitutions

- 13.1. For Youth Tier I and AMSL only, Canadian Soccer Rules will apply
 - 13.1.1. There will be a maximum of five (5) substitutions per game, with unlimited substitutions at half time and full time (if overtime is required).
 - 13.1.2. 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.
 - 13.1.3. 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-slips are to be filled out and handed to the referee or fourth official when a player enters the field of play.
- 13.2. In all other Youth and Senior competitions, there will be unlimited substitutions.
- 13.3. Substitutions can be made at any stoppage of play, at the referee’s discretion, and must be made at the halfway line.
- 13.4. No substitutions will be allowed for a player who has been ordered from the field for misconduct.

14. Tournament Meetings

- 14.1. Attendance by a team official at a Tournament Meeting is mandatory at all Outdoor Provincial Championships. Failure of a team representative to attend a Tournament Meeting will eliminate the team’s right to protest or appeal any decision that occurs during the competition.
- 14.2. The purpose of the meeting is to review rosters, rules and the schedule. This meeting is also the opportunity for the Alberta Soccer Representative and Meeting Chair to address any issues or questions specific to the competition.
- 14.3. At the Tournament Meeting, the Tournament Chair will assemble an Alberta Soccer Discipline Committee to deal with any issues during the tournament.

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14.4. Depending on the format and schedule, more than one Tournament Meeting may be scheduled to give all teams the opportunity to attend.

14.5. Teams must attend a Tournament Meeting before their first game.

15. Coaching Qualifications

15.1. As of the 2010 Outdoor Season, all teams entering an Alberta Soccer Provincial Competition leading to a National Championship must have a coach certified at the full Community Coach Certification level.

15.2. Every coach involved in any Outdoor Provincial Competitions must be certified at the appropriate Community Coach Level:

15.2.1. Youth Community Coach certified for Youth Teams;

15.2.2. Senior Community Coach certified for Senior Teams.

15.3. A one-time, one-year exemption will be allowed, however all applications for exemptions must be received a minimum of 30 days prior to the Provincial Competition.

15.4. All coaches and team staff who are listed on the roster of a team attending any Provincial or Regional Championship must complete a CPIC Security Clearance. Written confirmation of the CPIC Clearance must accompany each team roster submitted by the District Association to the Alberta Soccer Office.

15.5. In the event of non-compliance, the Competitions Committee through the Alberta Soccer Board of Directors will deal with appropriate actions.

15.6. For more information on Community Coach Courses and certification levels see, Appendix III.

16. Game Duration and Ball Sizes

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

Age Group	Duration of Play	Overtime	Ball Size
Senior	Two 45 minute halves	Two 15 minute halves	#5
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 over time	#4

16.2. Gold medal games 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.

16.3. In all Masters and Classics 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.

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

16.4. In all Bronze Medal games and non-medal 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.

17. Round Robin Tie Breaking Procedure

17.1. 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.

17.2. 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 will go directly to penalty kicks.

17.2.1. 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.

17.3. 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:

17.3.1. Most points in all group matches;

17.3.2. Greater number of points in matches between the teams concerned;

17.3.3. Greater goal difference in matches between the teams concerned (if more than two (2) teams are tied);

17.3.4. Greater goal difference in all group matches;

17.3.5. Greatest number of goals scored in all group matches;

17.3.6. Penalty Shots.

17.4. The above tie breaking procedure must be carried through in its entirety; no tie breaking rule will be used twice.

17.5. Tie break Rule 17.3.6 Penalty Shots, will be conducted as follows:

17.5.1. Two (2) teams tied:

17.5.1.1. As per FIFA Laws of the Game, at a time and place decided by the Alberta Soccer Representative

17.5.2. Three (3) teams tied:

17.5.2.1. 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.

17.5.3. Four (4) teams tied:

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

17.5.3.1. 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 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.

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 will so decide, the Discipline Committee will conduct a hearing to deal with misconduct in accordance with the Alberta Soccer Constitution and General Rules.

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. Cards do carry forward from Regional to Provincial finals. Red

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

cards in a Provincial Competition will automatically generate a minimum one (1) game suspension unless a hearing is called by the Alberta Soccer Representative.

- 18.8. 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.
- 18.9. 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.
- 18.10. The Alberta Soccer Representative will deal with all valid protests immediately, and their decision will be final.
- 18.11. In the case that an Alberta Soccer Representative at a Provincial Championship discovers, after the Tournament Meeting, 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.
 - 18.11.1. Individuals who have been listed on a game sheet will be deemed to have participated in that game.
- 18.12. 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 in accordance with the format outlined in the Alberta Soccer Referee Manual.

19. Team Staff

- 19.1. 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.
- 19.2. At all official and civic functions associated with the competition, participants must be present and dressed appropriately.
- 19.3. A maximum of four (4) non-playing personnel may be on the team bench, all of who must be listed on the team's official roster
- 19.4. 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.
- 19.5. All coaches and team staff listed on the roster of a team competing at any Provincial or Regional Championship are required to complete CPIC Security Clearance Forms.

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

20. District Representation

20.1. All teams participating in a Senior Provincial or Regional Championship should be accompanied by an appointee of their District Association at the expense of that Association.

21. Financial Responsibilities

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

21.2. 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 assumes ultimate financial responsibility for payment of tickets issued for travel to National Championships.

22. Equipment and Uniforms

22.1. 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.

22.2. 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.

22.3. Visible undergarments such as cycling 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.

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

23. Jewelry and Non-Compulsory Equipment

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

23.2. Modern protective equipment such as headgear, facemasks, knee and arm protectors made of soft, lightweight, padded material are not considered to be dangerous and are, therefore, permitted.

23.3. All items of jewelry are potentially dangerous. The term "dangerous" can sometimes be ambiguous and controversial; therefore, in order to be uniform and consistent, any kind of jewelry has to be forbidden.

23.4. Players are not allowed to use tape to cover jewelry. Taping jewelry is not adequate protection.

23.5. Rings, earrings, leather or rubber bands are not necessary to play and the only thing they can bring about is injury.

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23.6. In order to avoid “last minute” problems, teams should inform their players in advance.

24. Trophies

24.1. The winners of Senior Provincial Championships will be responsible for the safe-keeping and return of the trophies to the Alberta Soccer office on or before June 30, 2011.

24.2. The winners of Youth Provincial Championships will be awarded keeper trophies that are not required to be returned to the Alberta Soccer Association.

24.3. National Championship trophies must be returned as per Canadian Soccer published rules.

25. HIV Policy: Dealing with a Bloody Wound

25.1. 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.

25.2. 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.

25.3. 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.

25.4. 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.

25.5. While cleaning blood or other body fluid spills, the following must be done:

25.5.1. Wear waterproof gloves;

25.5.2. Wipe up fluids with paper towels or disposable cloths;

25.5.3. Disinfect the area;

25.5.4. Place all soiled waste in a plastic bag for disposal;

25.5.5. Remove gloves and wash hands with soap and water.

25.6. 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.

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

Appendix I – Rule Changes

Changes from 2010 to 2011:

There have been no changes to the rule book between the 2010 and 2011 Outdoor seasons.

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

Appendix II – Random Seeding for Youth Provincials

Rule 10.2 Seeding for all Youth Provincial Competitions will be determined by a random draw as follows.

10.2.1 Each team will be placed into a pot for random draw.

10.2.2 The number of pots will be determined by the number of teams in the competition divided by the number of groups.

Ex. $12 \text{ teams} \div 4 \text{ groups} = 3 \text{ pots}$

Ex. $9 \text{ teams} \div 3 \text{ groups} = 3 \text{ pots}$

10.2.3 The first seed is always the home team.

10.2.3.1 The 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.

10.2.4 Pot 1 will consist of teams representing Districts closest to the host location.

10.2.5 Pot 2 will consist of teams representing Districts farthest from the host location.

10.2.6 Pot 3 will consist of the remaining teams representing Districts closest to the host location.

10.2.7 Pot 4 will consist of the remaining teams representing Districts farthest from the host location.

10.2.8 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.

10.2.9 Distance measurements will be made from the host location to a Districts centre

10.2.9.1 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.

10.2.10 The Competitions Committee reserves the right to break away from the above procedures under any of the following conditions:

10.2.10.1 To the benefit of travelling teams.

10.2.10.2 To avoid regional play.

10.2.10.3 To create an even schedule, balancing time between games and number of games per day.

10.2.10.4 To create the best overall competition.

Ex. To avoid potential "Groups of Death".

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Example of the Seeding Process
2010 Youth Indoor Provincials
U14 Tier III Girls – Spruce Grove

<u>District</u>	<u>Number of Teams</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Number of Teams</u>
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

12 Teams ÷ 4 Groups = 3 Pots

<u>Pot 1</u>	<u>Pot 2</u>	<u>Pot 3</u>
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:

<u>Group 1</u>	<u>Group 2</u>	<u>Group 3</u>	<u>Group 4</u>
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 Rule 10.2.10.4, the Competitions Committee could switch CMSA I and CMSA II in the interest in creating a better tournament.

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Appendix III – Coaching Qualifications & Courses

Coaching Development Programs

This document outlines the programs within the scope of the coaching development programs for the Alberta Soccer Association. Coaching development programs are part of the Alberta Soccer Associations Core Technical Programs. You will find a summary of the programs offered within this outline.

The **National Coaching Certification Program(NCCP)** is designed to provide coaches with the foundation needed to teach the skills required to develop players within the province of Alberta. Alberta Soccer is the only body that can certify coaches within the province of Alberta. NCCP courses are the first step on the long journey of coaching education, designed to build the coaches skill set through progressive courses. The courses are age appropriate, from child to adult.

The **Community Coach Child** course is tailored to coaches working with players in the 6-to 10-year-old-range. The contents of this course are based around the FUNdamentals of mini-soccer and touch on the following areas: stages of development, basic practice planning, the role of the coach, ethics, safety and liability, review of mini-soccer rules, basic skill development.

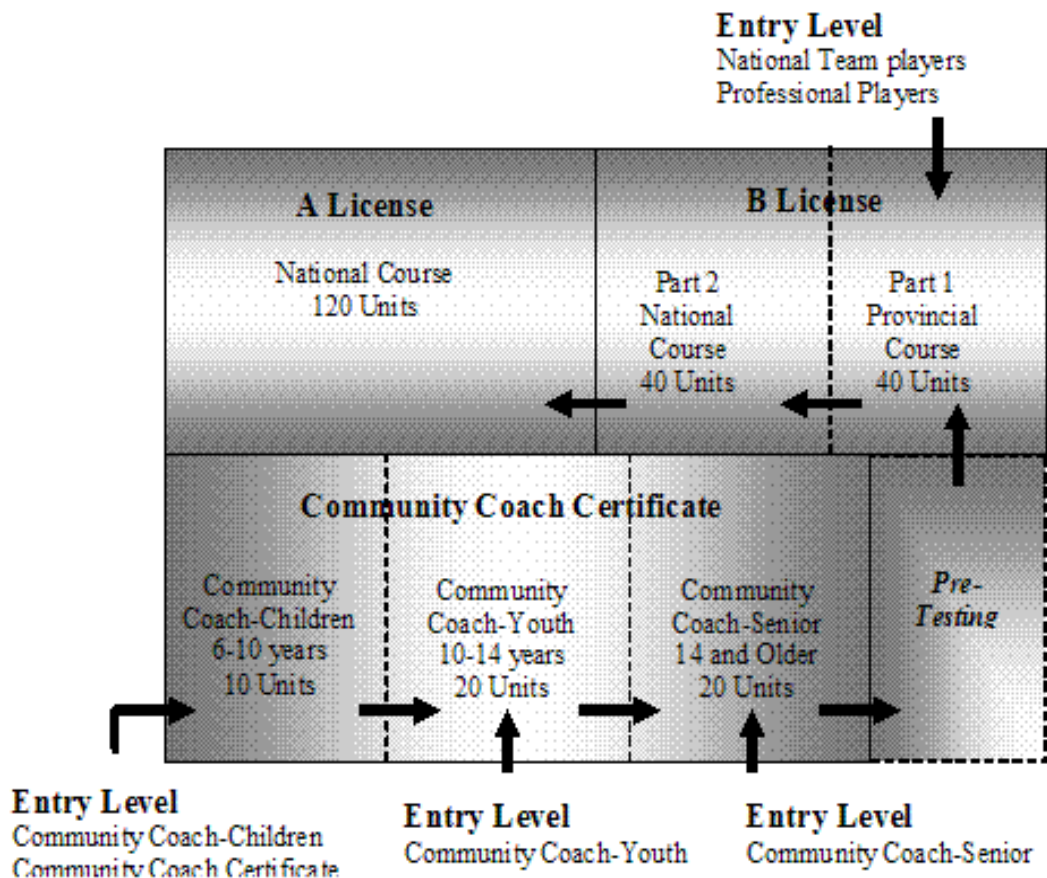
The **Community Coach Youth** is tailored to coaches working with players in the 11-to 14-year-old range. The contents of this course are based around coaching players at the youth level of soccer and touch on the following areas: stages of development, conducting and planning training sessions, the role of the coach, ethics, safety and liability, team development, technical skill development and information on coaching youth players.

The **Community Coach Senior** course is tailored to coaches working with players in the 14-to 18-year-old range. The contents of this course are geared towards coaching at a more competitive level of youth soccer and touch on the following areas: stages of development, advanced technical skill development, aspects of coaching, coaching team play (systems/tactics), set plays, coaching the goalkeeper, attacking and defending principles, fitness, physical preparation (warm-up and cool-down), first-aid, ethics, and safety and liability.

On completion of the three courses, participants are awarded a full Community Coach Certificate. Coaches gain this designation by attending all 3 courses involved in the Child, Youth and Senior courses (approximately five days in total). This designation entitles the coach to coach a team at any age group, in any amateur competition/tournament or at club level. Upon receipt of the community certificate the coach is eligible to apply for the Coaching Licensing Program and entry into the Pre-B assessment.

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Coaching Education Pathway



The Coach Education Program is a new program being developed by Alberta Soccer and is a 2-3 hour lecture with field sessions specific to a particular age group. One topic will be discussed for each session specific to that age group where a classroom session will show the process of what is to be delivered in the on-field component. Once on the field, the delivery of the topic will be executed.

The District Head Coach Program (formerly the Technical Assistants Program) is a program designed to assist the Districts in the delivery of the Core Technical Programs. The DHC assists the District and completes a series of goal and work plans.

The Coach Symposium is to be held annually around a high profile international game within the province of Alberta. During this game, plans will be made to deliver training sessions, do match analysis and have interaction with the coaches about that match.

The Mentorship Coach Program creates an opportunity for coaches who have an interest in improving their skills and progressing to higher levels. This program focuses on individual coach development with the help of an experienced coach through the process of observation and evaluation.

For more information regarding Alberta Soccer's Coaching Programs please contact Federico Sanmartin, Alberta Soccer's Technical Operations Coordinator at fsanmartin@albertasoccer.com or 780-474-2200 – ext 222

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



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