

CALGARY MINOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION



CLUB ADMINISTRATION RULES OF PLAY

March 2009

Please take the time to read this book. It contains many important rules and information you will need as a club official in CMSA. Most of the questions you have will also be answered within this book. Reminder that not knowing it was a rule is not an acceptable argument or defense.

VISION STATEMENT

Calgary Soccer, the premier sport.

MISSION STATEMENT

Dedicated to working for our member organizations to develop, organize, and promote soccer; and create opportunities that allow all participants to reach their desired level of achievement within the sport

VALUE / BELIEF STATEMENT

Leadership----- Demonstrate leadership in the sport of soccer and being progressive in our actions

Integrity----- Conduct all business in an honest, ethical and trustworthy manner

Fair Play----- Adhere to the principles of “Fair Play” both on and off the field.

Excellence----- Strive for and support the greatest level of achievement for players, volunteers, and staff.

Accountability----- Committed to fiscal responsibility, accountability, and good business practices in all our actions.

Excellence ----- Strive for and support the greatest level of achievement for members, players, volunteers and staff

Stewardship ----- Engagement- Listen vs. telling membership, external communication

Fair Play ----- Adhere to the principles of “fair play” both on and off the field

COACHING CODE OF ETHICS

Integrity----- The coach must act with integrity in performing all duties owed to athletes, the sport, and other members of the coaching profession and public.

Competence----- The coach must strive to be well prepared and current so that all duties in the respective discipline are fulfilled with competence.

Athletes Interest----- The coach must act in the best interest of the athlete’s development as a whole person.

Personal Conduct----- The coach must maintain the highest standards of personal conduct and support the principles of fair play.

Respect for the Rules----- The coach must accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules that define and govern the sport.

Respect for Officials----- The coach must accept the role of the officials in providing judgment to ensure that competitions are conducted fairly and according to the established rules.

SPECTATOR'S CODE OF ETHICS (Adopted from the YMCA Spectator's Code)

- 1 Remember that children play organized sports for their own fun.
- 2 Be on your best behavior.
- 3 Applaud good plays by your own team AND visiting teams.
- 4 Show respect for your teams opponents.
- 5 NEVER ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during the competition.
- 6 Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
- 7 Respect the officials' decisions.
- 8 Encourage players to always play according to the rules.

Professional athletes are not always good role models for children, but the good sportsmanship and healthy lifestyle gained in our country's sports programs can make children good role models for each other, parents, and for future generations.

But first adults have to let them play and send them the right messages.

GLOSSARY

Calgary Minor Soccer Association	CMSA
www.calgaryminorsoccer.com	
Calgary Soccer Federation.....	CSF
www.calgarysoccerfederation.com	
Alberta Soccer Association	ASA
www.albertasoccer.com	
Canadian Soccer Association	CSA
www.canadasoccer.com/	
Federation Internationale de Football Association	FIFA
www.fifa.com	

DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of clarity, the following words shall have the following meanings throughout this document.

Club: **Club** shall refer to any **organization** that has applied for, and has been granted membership in the Calgary Minor Soccer Association by the Board of Directors as set out in the current Bylaws of the Association. Such organizations may be from within or without District 4, and may be based around community, cultural, or traditional grounds as set out in the Policies of the Association. For the purposes of tournament discipline only, this definition would be extended to include the guest organizations whose teams are registered in the corresponding tournament.

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Calgary Minor Soccer Association

7000 – 48th Street SE, Calgary, Alberta, T2C 4E1

Office #: (403) 279-8686

Fax #: (403) 236-3669

Email: cmsa@calgaryminorsoccer.com

Website: www.calgaryminorsoccer.com

CALGARY MINOR SOCCER ASSOCIATION

RULES OF PLAY

These Rules of Play shall conform to the constitution of the Alberta Soccer Association (ASA) subject to minor exceptions. These rules apply only to Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA) programs. Any provincial competition will be governed by Alberta Soccer Association (ASA) rules of play. ASA Rules of Play can be found on the (ASA) website.

Except where modified by CMSA and/or ASA and/or CSA, the Laws by which all games are to be played are those currently approved by the Federation Internationale de Football Association (F.I.F.A.). Laws of the game can be found on the FIFA website.

Upon acceptance by CMSA of a team's initial player registration sheet, such team (and all persons registered to said team) is deemed to have accepted and agreed to CMSA Rules of Play as stated in this book and will accept any interpretation of these rules by the CMSA Board. The singular shall include the plural and vice-versa. Masculine shall include the feminine and vice-versa.

SECTION I - MEMBERSHIP

In all age groups, team entries will be allowed into Club programs as outlined within the CMSA By-Laws, "General Membership Guidelines".

- A. CMSA is the only organization within District 4, Calgary that has the authority to form representative select teams based on players throughout the city. CMSA may delegate this responsibility to another organization depending upon directions of CMSA Board of Directors.
- B. Active CMSA Club Organization must submit a name of a person who will be the liaison between their Organization and CMSA on an annual basis or when requested by CMSA. Any changes must be reported to CMSA. As well, each club and community must submit in writing the name(s) of the person(s) having signing authority each season.

All Clubs must ensure to the maximum extent possible that all those wishing to play soccer are afforded the opportunity to do so. Clubs wishing to merge must complete the appropriate CMSA documentation and submit it to the CMSA Board for approval.

- C. Any CMSA Club that does not submit teams into CMSA leagues for three (3) consecutive seasons will be deemed inactive and must reapply for membership.
- D. Any outside organization that wishes to join CMSA must contact the CMSA Executive Director for the appropriate membership application.

SECTION II - TEAM ENTRY

- A. Team Entry dates and fees shall be set seasonally by CMSA. Members will submit their team names, age group, division, and tier (where applicable) via ITRRegistrar. Once all inputted, the member will print off their team list report, have it signed by their President or Registrar, and submit it to the CMSA by the seasonal deadline date along with the applicable fee.
- B. Based on the teams entered, CMSA will determine the format of each division and tier. In general, the following will be followed when possible:

1. CMSA will run age groups U10, U12, U14, U16, and U18 for the 2009 Outdoor soccer season.
2. The Premier divisions will be broken down to Tier I and Tier II / III groupings. Teams in Tier I have been predetermined from the previous indoor season and where needed, via challenge games. CMSA will strive to have 7 competitive teams in each of the Tier I groups.

Any CMSA club can enter any number of teams into the Tier II / III group, Competitive A and Competitive B level of play and the same in U10. Clubs who enter more than one team into these groups are to rank their teams so CMSA can try and evenly balance the seeding round pools or if no seeding round, then the regular season pools.

- C. Clubs shall pay a minimum of 50% of their total team entry fees by the team entry deadline date. The remainder of the fees shall be paid within 30 days of the team entry deadline date. If all fees are not paid by this date, the club or community will default all games that its teams will play until the fees are paid in full.

Payment must be made by cheque or money order ONLY, CMSA will not accept cash payments for any team entry fees.

- D. Any club that withdraws a team after the team entry deadline date shall be assessed a \$50 per day withdrawal administration fee. The maximum amount of the fee will not exceed the total entry fee for that team.

Any club that enters a team after the team entry deadline date shall be assessed a \$50 late entry administration fee and may only be accepted if there is space where they want to be place and does not effect the scheduling process.

- E. CMSA has the ultimate authority to decide which Tier a team shall enter and, as such, has the right to request that any particular Club place additional team(s) in a specific Tier without reason.
- F. By registering in CMSA, your team is committing to any post season competition (Provincials, Inter-Cities, etc.) that the team may qualify for. A Club whose team withdraws from any post season competition prior to or during the event for any reason (including the inability to field a team) may be subject to a financial penalty as determined by CMSA and ASA.

SECTION III - AGE CATEGORIES AND PLAYER/TEAM OFFICIAL REGISTRATION

<i>PLAYERS BIRTH YEAR</i>	<i>AGE GROUP CATEGORIES</i>
<i>1999 or later.....</i>	<i>U10</i>
<i>1997 or later</i>	<i>U12</i>
<i>1995 or later</i>	<i>U14</i>
<i>1993 or later</i>	<i>U16</i>

- A. Anyone wishing to participate within the CMSA league must register with CMSA through one of its members.
- B. A minor player may register with, and play for both a minor team and a senior team, and maintain his eligibility to compete in both Minor and Senior Provincials, provided he has first registered with the minor team. However, when a minor player has first signed with a senior team, there will be no eligibility to sign with or transfer to a minor team.
- C. Player registration dates shall be set seasonally by CMSA. CMSA ID numbers for players who have registered previously with CMSA can be obtained from the IT Registrar via the Club registrar. New players will have to be entered into the system to obtain a CMSA ID number.

The club is responsible to make sure all the information on their players, team officials, etc., is current and up to date. At least one team official for each team must have an active email address and it is encouraged that all team officials and players should have their email addresses in the database.

Principal residence and domicile as it relates to player registration shall be as defined in common law. Each case contested shall be reviewed and decided on by CMSA.

- D. All players residing outside District 4 may register for any CMSA team provided that they have been properly released by their district of residence. Once properly identified, CMSA will obtain the releases for these players.
- E. All players that move into District 4 that wants to play soccer here but has played soccer elsewhere prior, must obtain a transfer from their last district or province. Contact the CMSA Programs and League Director for more information on this process.
- F. Any false declaration of district of residence and domicile of a player shall result in suspension(s). Where coaching staff or Club officials are knowingly party to erroneous player information, teams may be subject to loss of points and standing. In all cases of player registration, parents, team management and the Club may be held accountable for providing correct registration information.
- G. The clubs assign players and team officials to team rosters by using ITRegistrar. You have access to all persons' information assigned to your club, all year around. For those persons moving to a new club this season, the search all function in ITRegistrar will be turned on March 24th, 2009. All players must be transferred to your club
- H. If a club has any players who owe money or/and equipment, (therefore, are not in good standing with your club) and the club notifies CMSA by March 23rd, 2009 or before they are transferred, we will inactivate that players record status and will not transfer him until the issue is cleared with that club. Please note though that once they have been transferred to the new club and are deemed active (in good standing), CMSA can not proceed to stop that player from being active with the past or current Club.
- I. All players' parents/legal guardians must complete a current CMSA liability insurance waiver form in order for their registration to be accepted by CMSA. All waivers shall be submitted to, and retained by, CMSA on registration of the team roster.

The waiver form covers the indoor season and then the outdoor season (approx Oct 1 to Sept 30). A waiver form only has to be signed and submitted once for each player playing within this time period.

- J. In order to register a new player, proof of age or CMSA Player ID Number is required for all players at the time of player registration. This will be indicated on the team (not approved) roster as a no beside the player's name under the Age Authorized column.

Proof of age must be provided by the following documents **ONLY**, birth certificates, baptism certificates, passports, Alberta Health Care, Landed Immigrant papers, or Affidavits for players not previously registered. Affidavits must be signed by the parents or guardians of the player and witnessed by a Commissioner of Oaths. In the event that the Player's last name on their birth certificate does not match the name they go by, an Affidavit is also required. **The burden of proof of age rests with the player, coach, and the Club.**

- K. No player shall have their name registered for more than one team under the jurisdiction of CMSA during any one season unless properly transferred (See Section IV).

- L. Police Clearances and Coaching Code of Ethics for Team Officials:

- i. All listed roster officials are required (regardless of occupation) to have a current CPIC and signed Coaching Code of Ethics on file at the CMSA Office
- ii. Officials will not be added to any team roster until a current CPIC is received in the CMSA Office
- iii. CPIC's obtained from sources other than the Calgary Police Service or the RCMP must indicate clearly that a Vulnerable Sector Search has been completed
- iv. CPIC's are valid for 36 months

- M. Once registered in an age group (U10 – U18), a player or team cannot move to a lower age group or tier in any CMSA or ASA competition without the approval of the organizing body, even if the player or team would otherwise qualify for the lower age group.

- N. A **NEW** player is a player who has not registered with CMSA during the current season. If the **NEW** player exceeds the 20-player limit, one player must be deleted from the roster. Last day to register a new player is 4pm on July 23rd, 2009.

- O. ASA or CSA player registration rules shall apply to teams participating in ASA or CSA competitions.

PHYSICAL AND / OR MENTALLY CHALLENGED PLAYERS

CMSA has an obligation to allow any player the opportunity to play soccer in its programs, subject to that player observing and conforming to CMSA Rules of Play and FIFA Laws of the Game.

In the case of physical and/or mental challenged players, subject to the nature of the handicap and the associated safety risks to the individual and/or other participants, the rules of play contained herein shall be relaxed as they relate to age groups to enable such players to register with Tier II or lower teams (whichever is the Clubs lowest team entry in an age group) considered equal to their learning, enjoyment, and capacity, notwithstanding their birth date. In order to clear registration for such players, CMSA must be given a letter from the player's doctor attesting to the player's circumstance.

SECTION IV – TEAM ROSTERS

- A. Team Roster registration dates will be set seasonally by CMSA.
- B. U10 Teams - The minimum number of players that must register to form a properly registered team is eight-(8) for Outdoor League Play. A team that registers seven-(7) or fewer players for Outdoor League Play by the player registration deadline date shall be deemed as improperly registered and such teams may not be allowed to participate in the CMSA program until properly registered.

U12 – U18 Teams - The minimum number of players that must register to form a properly registered team is eleven-(11) for Outdoor League Play. A team that registers ten-(10) or fewer players for Outdoor League Play by the player registration deadline date shall be deemed as improperly registered and such teams may not be allowed to participate in the CMSA program until properly registered.

All U-10 to U-18 teams may register up to 20 players at any one time in a season and may have up to a maximum of 20 players dressed for their games.

- C. Each team shall have in attendance at each game a coach or other responsible person to look after and take responsibility for the team, before, during, and after the game. Clubs are responsible for the behavior and actions for their team officials at any soccer event.
- D. Each team can have a maximum for team officials:
- a. One (1) Coach
 - b. Two (2) Assistant Coaches
 - c. One (1) Team Manager
 - d. One (1) Scorekeeper
 - e. One (1) Age Group Coordinator

For male teams, one of the team officials must be a male adult. For female teams, one of the team officials must be a female adult. For any team that has both males and females playing, the team must have a male and female team official. Anyone assigned to a team as a coach, assistant coach, or team manager will also have the ability to score games. They do not need to be set up as a scorekeeper in addition to their other team role.

Each team is allowed one (1) scorekeeper but this person is not official considered part of the team official staff.

- E. Once the team has been created in ITRRegistrar, the club will print out the CMSA (not approved) rosters from the admin section and along with all the waiver forms and proof of ages, and bring them to CMSA during the designated hours for team roster registration. CMSA will then verify the information on the roster at that time.

F. CMSA must approve and validate the player registration sheet for a team/player to be classed as properly registered.

ANY PLAYER OR TEAM OFFICIAL WHOSE REGISTRATION INFORMATION ON THE PLAYER REGISTRATION SHEET IS IN ANY WAY INCOMPLETE SHALL BE DELETED FROM THE PLAYER REGISTRATION SHEET. Such player shall be classed as ineligible to play until properly registered. In order to play in CMSA or ASA sanctioned games, all teams and players must be properly registered.

G. CMSA will assess a minimum of a \$50.00 fine per team, per week, for late team roster registration.

SECTION V - PLAYER RECRUITMENT

It is anticipated in an open boundaries system that Players will be solicited to move from one Club to another. If a Player is a minor, the Player must be accompanied by a Parent or Guardian during any such solicitation. Addressing any minor player outside the company of their legal Guardian may be considered 'conduct likely to bring the game into disrepute' and will be dealt with according to the CMSA Discipline Code.

Irrespective of whether a Player is an unaccompanied minor, is of legal age, or has the counsel of a Parent or Guardian, any persistent, harassing or unwanted contact by an official of any Club seeking to have the Player change Club affiliation will be considered 'conduct likely to bring the game into disrepute' and will be dealt with according to the CMSA Discipline Code.

The specific rules around acceptable and unacceptable player solicitation are as follows:

A. Recruiting. "Recruiting of players" is defined as any effort, action or solicitation of a prospective player or a prospective player's relatives [or legal guardian(s)] by any club or team representative or person representing a club or team's interests, including parents and players, for the purposes of enticing a player to move from one club or team to another club or team, or to a club or team participating in another league:

1. Club Representative. Any coach, assistant coach, manager, administrator, board member, volunteer, player, parent of a player, guardian of a player, or relative of a player who acts in the interests of a club is considered a club representative.
2. Team Representative. Any coach, assistant coach, manager, administrator, board member, volunteer, player, parent of a player, guardian of a player, or relative of a player who acts in the interests of a team is considered a team representative.

B. Recruited Prospective Player. Actions by club or team representatives, or persons representing

the club or team's interests, that cause a prospective player to become recruited by a club or team are:

1. Having the prospective player attend one or more team practices, training sessions or other events of another club or team outside of the player's current club or team.
2. Having an arranged in-person encounter with the prospective player or the prospective player's parent(s), relative(s), or legal guardian(s) for the purposes of recruitment.
3. Having a chance encounter with a prospective player or a prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) that results in recruitment of a prospective player.
4. Initiating or arranging a telephone contact with the prospective player, the prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) for the purposes of recruitment.

C. Recruiting Periods. Recruiting is only permitted during specific recruiting periods.

1. Contact Period. The contact period is that period of time when it is permissible for club or team representatives, or persons representing the club or team's interests, to make in-person contact with a prospective player, or a prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) through telephone conversations, arranged meetings, open houses, registration events, team training sessions, and other club or team events.

The Contact Period for the 2009 Outdoor Season shall be from the end of the Indoor Season (March 23, 2009) until CMSA Outdoor Season Player Registration (April 24, 2009).

The Contact Period for the 2009/10 Indoor Season shall be from the end of the Outdoor League Season (August 24, 2009) until CMSA Indoor Season Player Registration date (October 16, 2009).

2. Quiet Period. The quiet period is that period of time where **it is not permissible** for any club or team representative, or person representing a club or team's interests, **to have any contact with a prospective player or a prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s)**, except as outlined under the Permissible Contact section below. The quiet period is that period that falls outside of the contact period.

D. Permissible Contact during Quiet Period. Permissible contact is any contact with a prospective player, or a prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s), which occurs by chance or through an arranged encounter that is not designed to cause a prospective player to become recruited:

1. It is permissible for a club or team representative to greet and speak to a prospective player, or the prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in a chance or incidental encounter provided that the prospective player is not recruited during the encounter.
 2. It is permissible for a club or team representative to greet and speak to a prospective player, or a prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) who are known to the club or team representative through a working relationship, family relationship, neighborhood or community relationship, spousal relationship, or other previous relationship provided that the prospective player is not recruited during the encounter.
 3. It is permissible for a club to advertise for the next season to the general public. This includes holding open player registrations where players approach the club to play.
- E. Permissible Recruitment Activities. Activities that are permitted within the allowable Recruiting Periods are considered Permissible Recruiting Activities. The following are considered Permissible Recruiting Activities:
1. Telephone Contact. It is permissible for a prospective player to receive telephone calls or messages from a club or team representative, or person representing a club or team's interests for the purposes of recruiting the prospective player.
 2. Written Correspondence. It is permissible for a prospective player to receive e-mail or mailed written correspondence from a club or team representative, or person representing a club or team's interests for the purposes of recruiting the prospective player, provided that the written correspondence is at the club's or team representative's expense.
 3. In-Person Contact. Direct in-person communication between a prospective player, or a prospective player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and a club or team representative, or person representing a club or team's interests for the purposes of recruiting the prospective player is acceptable. In the event that the prospective Player is under the age of eighteen, the Player must be accompanied by the player's parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
 4. Team try-outs for creation of teams for the next season held during the quiet time are permitted so long as the try-outs are open to the general public. **Any player that is currently registered with another club must obtain written permission from their current club or team official in writing to attend said try-out.**

Public means that the information and opportunity is readily available to the general populace.

F. Impermissible Recruitment Activities. Activities that are not permitted in the recruiting of a prospective player are outlined below:

1. Covering of Expenses. Provision of any form of financial incentive to a prospective player, including waiving or partial waiving of fees, is prohibited. This also includes subsidization of training camps or other related activities unless this benefit is available to all players registered with the club.
2. Covering of Transportation Costs. Provision of transportation services or transportation incentives to a prospective player is prohibited.
3. Roster Guarantees and Team Placement Offers. Guarantees of team placement in leagues, roster placement, starting line-up status, or the like is prohibited.
4. Other Placement Incentives. The use of professional, college, university, provincial or national level exposure incentives is prohibited.

G. Disciplinary Action. In the event that any breach to the recruitment rules are identified by the CMSA Discipline Committee, the offending Club/Team/Coach may be penalized under current CMSA discipline rules regarding "conduct likely to bring the game into disrepute":

1. In order to bring about any disciplinary action against a coach, team manager or club for recruiting a player under the age of 18 (eighteen) years, the minimum requirement shall be as follows:

Any complaint by a registered CMSA player under the age of 18 (eighteen) years, Team Management, or Club Member for attempted or actual recruiting must be submitted in writing to the CMSA Discipline Chair by the player's coach of the team with whom the player registered, parent(s) and/or custodian. The submitted written statement must be dated and documented with details of all persons involved, related to the attempted or actual recruiting for the player's playing services.

Any person submitting a written statement must appear at a discipline hearing if requested by CMSA.

SECTION VI - PLAYER TRANSFERS DURING SEASON PLAY

A. TRANSFERS OF PLAYERS BETWEEN TEAMS WITHIN THE SAME CLUB

1. Intra club transfers of players will not be permitted after 4pm on July 23rd, 2009.
2. A player may transfer no more than twice in one season; however a player transferred once cannot be transferred again in less than thirty-(30) days from the time of the previous transfer (ASA Rule 5(e)). If a player transfers to a higher Tier team, (e.g.: from Tier 2 to Tier 1), that player cannot play down in a lower Tier until the next playing season.

3. All transfer requests must be made in writing on the proper intra Club transfer form, to CMSA for approval. All player transfer request forms will require the signature from the President or Registrar of the player's current Club. For all transfer made prior to 4pm May 29th, 2009 there will be no charge for the transfer. All transfer made after the above date will have a \$50.00 administration fee for each transfer request payable to CMSA.
4. Players transferring within the same tier after the ASA Cup tied date for Tier I, II, III, and IV will not be eligible to participate in Provincials in that age group and tier.

B. CLUB TO CLUB TRANSFERS

Transfer Transition Period is a defined period of time that a transferring player will not be allowed to play for their old or new team in any CMSA league games if they transfer after the last CMSA Team Roster Registration Date.

1. Club-to-Club transfer of players will not be permitted after 4pm June 1st, 2009.
2. A registered player shall not be allowed to transfer to any other Club unless he has first given his Club seven-(7) days notice, in writing, of his intention to transfer. The Club-to-Club transfer form must be signed within seven-(7) days unless contested by the releasing Club.
3. The registered player must obtain the releasing and receiving Club's, Registrar's or President's signature on the CMSA transfer form.
4. Premier Tier club-to-club transfers after the final CMSA Player Registration date cannot play in any CMSA league game for 14 days (Transfer Transition Period) from the approved date of Transfer accepted by CMSA.

Competitive A & B and Developmental players requesting club-to-club transfers will be allowed to transfer after the final CMSA Registration Date without being effected by the Transfer Transition Period.

5. A Club shall not refuse the right of a player to transfer unless that player owes monies to his current Club or unless he possesses equipment, which is the property of that Club (proof of either claim is required).
6. A player being refused a transfer shall be allowed to appeal, without fee, to CMSA. The Club contesting the transfer must file their objection with CMSA and pay a \$250 bond before the end of the seven-(7) day deadline (as per point (2) above). CMSA will deal with the matter within seven-(7) days of receiving the Club's objection and payment, and will render a decision within forty-eight (48) hours.
7. Should the Club's decision to deny the transfer be upheld, the \$250 bond shall be refunded to the Club. Should the Club's decision to deny the transfer is overturned, the Club shall lose the \$250 bond. If overturned, the need for the releasing Club to sign the transfer form is no longer required as the decision of the Appeal Committee will be sufficient enough information that the player is transferring from their Club.
8. Once the signatures are obtained or the appeal decision is made known, the player transfer is not complete until a new player registration is filled out adding the player to the new team, and an authorized signatory from CMSA signs off on the transfer form. The transfer fee will be \$50.00 per transfer.

C. General

1. Playing an ineligible player as determined by CMSA will result in the loss of points for the game(s) in which the player participated, and may lead to disciplinary action being taken against the coach of the team.
2. Player may transfer to a different team, in the same or different club, in the same tier up until 4pm June 30, 2009 (may be subjected to limitations as set by the ASA Cup tied rules.)
3. Clubs have until 4pm on May 29th, 2009 to move players around, up, down or lateral. After this date, players will not be able to transfer down in tiers permanently or temporary unless due to special circumstances (conflict with team officials, club or due to an injury). CMSA will review each of these cases individually and may impose restrictions if granted.
4. Should a team fold during the season, all players on that team shall be deemed "free" to go to any other team or Club subject to the play-up rules in Section III except that they may join another team in the same Tier within their age group. Players may be cup tied and unable to play in any provincial competition should their new team qualify for provincials. Players effected, do not require a transfer from the team that folded nor do they have to pay the transfer fee of \$50.00. They will not be eligible to transfer, under this point, until CMSA receives formal notice that their old team has folded.

SECTION VII - LEAGUE FORMAT AND PLAY

- A. The League competition will commence on the dates set seasonally by CMSA. Schedules may not be altered following commencement of play except by, or with the approval of, CMSA.

ASA Regional, Provincial, and CSA Inter Provincial scheduled games shall take priority over CMSA games.
- B. CMSA will determine the formats of each division and tier based on the number of teams entered in each. Schedules will be posted on the website by the date indicated in the program calendar.
- C. CMSA will have set days of play for U10 Tier A, B and C, U12 – U14 Competitive A, and U12 – U14 Competitive B divisions.
 - i. U10 Tier A play on Wednesdays or Sundays
 - ii. U10 Tier B play on Mondays or Saturdays
 - iii. U10 Tier C play on Thursdays or Sundays
 - iv. U12 Competitive A play on Wednesdays or Sundays
 - v. U12 Competitive B play on Tuesdays or Saturdays
 - vi. U14 Competitive A play on Tuesdays or Saturdays
 - vii. U14 Competitive B play on Wednesdays or Sundays
- D. Where there are insufficient teams in an age group and/or Tier to form a viable league, CMSA shall combine such teams with other teams of a different age group and/or Tier if it is considered both practical and logical to do so.

E. CMSA may direct any team to move to another Tier that has a level of play more suitable to that team as illustrated by past performances. Implementation of any such move may be initiated by CMSA at any time during the season.

F. All player playing U12 and above require a CMSA photo ID card prior to playing.

The coach of any team, U10 and above, require a CMSA photo ID card prior to coaching. It is recommended that each team official on the roster have a CMSA photo ID card.

Photo ID sessions prior to the season starting will be set by CMSA and published on the CMSA website and seasonal calendar.

G. For any challenge games, CMSA will determine the format and rules when necessary to do so.

H. CMSA shall determine the teams that shall represent CMSA in the ASA Regional, Provincial, and/or Inter-Cities competitions in those age groups where such competitions are held. Information on ASA or Inter-Cities competitions shall be provided to the teams involved upon receipt of the same from the organizing body.

I. Any concern, complaint, issue, or possible protest from a Player, Parent, or Team Official will only be heard by CMSA if it is received through proper channels. These issues must be passed on to the individual Clubs. The Club (President / Executive) will address these issues and determine if they need to be forwarded on to CMSA. Protests of any nature must be accompanied by a \$150 administrative fee which must be paid at the time the protest is lodged.

SECTION VIII – POST LEAGUE PLAY

A. CMSA Regular Season league rules shall apply to provincial rosters in addition to the ASA Competition Rules. Only clubs that reside in District 4 (City of Calgary) may qualify for provincials through CMSA league play. What this means is that only clubs physically located within the city limits of Calgary can qualify for Provincials (Tier I, II, III, and IV) through CMSA league play. Out of District clubs must qualify for provincials through their own districts.

1. All teams qualifying for ASA competitions must confirm their player roster for said competitions in writing to CMSA prior to dates set by the CMSA office. The appropriate player registration forms for each team will then be filed with the ASA by CMSA prior to the deadline date to confirm each team's entry in the ASA Regional or Provincial competition.

2. If any ongoing regular league play prevents firm identification of the team(s) that will represent CMSA in any ASA regional or provincial finals, all teams that are still in contention to represent CMSA must comply with the above rules and deadline dates as may be applicable.

3. CMSA may host challenge games in designated age groups and tiers to determine who will represent Calgary at provincials.

4. Teams that qualify or are selected to represent District 4 in ASA Regional or Provincial Finals will be allowed to add new players to their ASA Provincial Roster to the maximum permitted by the ASA, no less than 7 days prior to the competition start date.

5. A player cannot play for, and be registered with, more than one team in minor ASA regional or

provincial finals unless the ASA Competition Rules says otherwise.

- B. CMSA Rules of Play shall apply to the rosters for the Inter-Cities Championship. Any CMSA member can compete and vie for an Inter-Cities berth through CMSA league play (subject to divisional and tier availability.) Special rosters are not needed for Inter-Cities play.
- C. A Club whose team withdraws from provincial competition prior to or during the tournament for any reason (including the inability to field a team) may be subject to a financial penalty as determined by CMSA and ASA.
- D. Teams who qualify for Provincials or Inter-Cities and those competitions are to be held in Calgary must supply one volunteer for a minimum of 3 hours to assist with the running of the event. Any team that fails to provide a volunteer shall have a \$100 volunteer levy applied to them.
- E. CMSA will run a City Finals for those teams that do not participate in a division or tier where they are vying for a provincial or Inter-Cities berth.

Appendix A: League Structure for Outdoor 2009

Premier Division

- U14, U16, and U18 age groups.
- U14, U16, and U18 Tier I – The top 6 teams from the Indoor 2008-09 Season will automatically advance to Tier I for the Outdoor 2009 Season. The winner of Tier II from the Indoor 2008-09 Season may challenge the 7th place Tier I team from the Indoor 2008-09 Season for the 7th Tier I spot for the Outdoor 2009 Season. For Tier I groups that have more than 7 teams for the Indoor 2008-09 Season, any teams lower than 7th place will automatically drop to Tier II for the Outdoor 2009 Season.
- U14, U16 and U18 Tier II / III - will be combined into Tier II / III seeding group. Anyone can enter their team(s) into this grouping and rank each of their teams (should they have more than one) to assist CMSA in trying to balance out the seeding groups. The seeding round format will depend on the number of teams entered into this group. At the end of the seeding round, the top number of teams (to be determined when the format is originally created) will advance to Tier II playoffs, and the remaining teams will advance to Tier III playoffs. Again, the format will depend on the number of teams entered. At the end of season, the top finishers in Tier II and III will advance to ASA provincials.
- Tier I teams will play between 12 to 14 games starting May 2nd and end on or by August 13th
- Tier II teams will play between 14 to 16 games starting May 2nd and end on or by August 7th
- Tier III teams will play between 14 to 16 games starting May 2nd and end on or by July 30th
- Scheduling Changes: For the Outdoor 2009 Season, CMSA will attempt to have a set rotation of game days, in order to make it easier for teams to call-up players when necessary. This may not always be possible, but every attempt will be made to follow a rotation as closely as possible. The actual rotation cannot be confirmed until we have confirmed the available fields from the City.

Competitive A

- For the Outdoor 2009 Season, Clubs will enter each of their teams into a Seeding Round in one of four Zones:
 - Zone 1: Calgary North-West
 - West of Deerfoot Trail, North of the Bow River
 - Zone 2: Calgary West-Central
 - West of Deerfoot Trail, South of the Bow River, North of Glenmore Trail
 - Zone 3: Calgary North-East
 - East of Deerfoot Trail, North of Peigan Trail
 - Zone 4: Calgary South
 - South of Glenmore Trail

- At the conclusion of the Seeding Rounds, teams will be grouped by level of competitiveness into City-Wide divisions.

- For the Playoff Round, every attempt will be made to have teams play their games within their zone on weekdays, and limit cross-town travel to weekends.

- U12 Competitive A's will play on Wednesdays and Sundays. U14 Competitive A's will play on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Competitive B

- For the Outdoor 2009 Season, Clubs will enter each of their teams into a Seeding Round in one of four Zones:
 - Zone 1: Calgary North-West
 - West of Deerfoot Trail, North of the Bow River
 - Zone 2: Calgary West-Central
 - West of Deerfoot Trail, South of the Bow River, North of Glenmore Trail
 - Zone 3: Calgary North-East
 - East of Deerfoot Trail, North of Peigan Trail
 - Zone 4: Calgary South
 - South of Glenmore Trail

- For the Playoff Round, teams will be re-seeded by level of competitiveness within the same Zone.
- Competitive B teams can enter the City Finals in September (formerly known as the CMSA Fall Cup)
- U12 Competitive B's will play on Tuesdays and Saturdays. U14 Competitive B's will play on Wednesdays and Sundays.

U12 Premier and Competitive League Play: 11v11

- U12 Tier I, II, and III – U12 Premier will be split into a Tier I / II and a Tier II / III seeding groups. Clubs are to make sure that teams they feel have a valid shot at a Tier I spot are placed into the Tier I / II seeding group. All other teams should be placed into the Tier II / III seeding group. Anyone can enter their team(s) into this grouping and rank each of their team (should they have more than one) to assist CMSA in trying to balance out the seeding groups. The seeding round format will depend on the number of teams entered into this group. At the end of the seeding round, teams (to be determined when the format is originally created) will advance to Tier I, II or III playoffs. Again, the format will depend on the number of teams entered.
- U12 Competitive A and B formats will be as outlined above.
- Tier I teams will play between 12 to 14 games starting May 2nd and end on or by August 13th
- Tier II teams will play between 12 to 14 games starting May 2nd and end on or by August 7th
- Tier III teams will play between 12 to 14 games starting May 2nd and end on or by July 30th

U12 8v8 – Provincial Tournament of Champions and Inter Cities Qualification

- To accommodate the ASA program change to the 8v8 format for the Outdoor 2009 Season, CMSA will be hosting two tournaments, the Introduction to 8v8 Tournament and the Final Qualification Tournament, during the season to qualify teams for the Provincial Tournament of Champions and the Inter Cities Championships.

- The Introduction to 8v8 Tournament will be held for each division between their Seeding Round and Playoff Round. These dates will differ for each division, but will be announced once the scheduling for each group is completed. Every U12 team will be automatically entered into this competition.
- The Final Qualification Tournament will be held for each division at the conclusion of each division's Playoff Round. These dates will differ for each division, but will be announced once the scheduling for each group is completed. Teams must declare their participation in this tournament to CMSA.
- There will be no entry fee for either of these tournaments. They are intended only for teams that are registered in CMSA Leagues.
- In order to qualify for the Provincial Tournament of Champions or the Inter Cities Championships, teams must participate in both tournaments.

U10

- For outdoor, the U10 program will remain the same as previous years, playing in a seeding round and then a playoff round where possible.
- U10 Tier A will be scheduled on Wednesday and Sunday. U10 Tier B will play on Mondays and Saturdays (except for May 18th – games will be played on the 19th). U10 Tier C will play on Thursdays and Sundays.
- U10 teams can enter the City Finals in September (formerly known as the CMSA Fall Cup)

Appendix B: U10 Outdoor League Rules and Regulations

The prime concept of this program shall be participation and learning. At the end of the game, the winning coach (or in case of a tie, the home coach), receives the white copy, the referee retains the green copy, the home teams receives the yellow copy and the away team, the pick copy.

All referees scheduled in the U10 program must be ASA registered referees and be up-to-date on courses and/or refresher clinics.

At least one team official for U10 and older age groups team must have a team official ID card. All team officials ID cards are to be handed into the referee. Team officials have until half time to produce and hand in the cards.

FIFA Laws of the Game are in effect with the exception of the following:

Law 1 – Field of Play (Mandatory Requirements)

Dimensions

Length: between 55 to 65 yards long

Width: between 35 to 45 yards wide

The field shall be rectangular in shape.

Field Markings

Lines may be marked, or wosmarkers or pylons can be used every 5 to 7 yards.

Penalty Area

A penalty area will not apply and therefore should not be marked.

Goal Area

A goal area shall be 8 yards deep by 20 yards wide (10 yards each side of center of the end line).

Goals

Goals shall be 12 ft wide and between 5.5 ft and 6.6ft high. The goal posts may be rigid or may be a pole placed in a pylon. The goal must have a crossbar.

Law 2 – The Ball

The ball shall be a size 4.

Law 3 – The Number of Players

A match is played by 2 teams, each consisting of not more than seven (7) players, one whom is the goalkeeper. A match should not start if ether team consists of fewer than five (5) players.

Play shall be delayed approximately every five (5) minutes to allow the teams to perform a substitution. All players shall be given the opportunity of playing goalkeeper and in different field positions wherever practical to provide as broad of a learning experience as possible. Other than at such 5-minute rotations, substitutes may only be made as a result of an injury.

Law 4 – The Player’s Equipment

The wearing of rigid casts or splints, even though covered with foam or other protective padding will NOT be allowed. Braces may be worn by players, where in the opinion of the referee, such braces are not POTENTIALLY INJURIOUS to other players on the field.

Law 7 – The Duration of the Match

The match last two equal periods of 25 minutes each, unless otherwise mutually agreed between the referee and the 2 participating teams.

Law 11 – Offside

There is no offside.

Law 12 – Fouls and Misconducts

Penal and technical fouls remain the same but do not “card” any players for a foul. The Referee may have a talk with the player or talk the coach if they feel the foul is serious enough. If the player does not listen or continue, the referee may substitute the player off and ask the coach to have a talk with the player.

Referees may still dismiss a coach or a spectator if required. Any Spectator or Team Official dismissed will be subject to discipline sanctions according to Section XI: Discipline of the CMSA Rules of Play.

Law 13 – Free Kicks

All kicks are indirect kicks. This included kicks for penal fouls, a corner kick, or kick-off.

Law 14 – The Penalty Kick

There are no penalty kicks given. An indirect free kicks awarded against the defending team for infringements inside its own penalty area shall be taken from that part of the penalty area line that runs parallel to the goal line at the near to where the infringement occurred. The defending team may defend against this kick.

Law 15 – The Throw-In

Since this is a developmental league, CMSA encourages coaches to teach their players to throw in the ball. As long as they use both hands and deliver the ball from behind and over their head, consider the throw legal. Coaches may opt to use a kick-in instead of a throw-in if need be.

Law 16 – The Goal Kick

Goal kicks can be taken *from anywhere inside the goal area.*

Appendix C: Field Marshall Program

Background:

In June, 2008 CMSA tracked that 1 in every 9 games were played without a referee. This referee shortage is due to an extremely low retention rate of officials which is often caused by team official and spectator abuse. This abuse can come in many forms, but in particular, verbal abuse which is personal, provocative and public in regards to the referee's on-field performance.

This unacceptable behavior towards our youth and new officials must be addressed as a **priority** particularly if soccer is to have an adequate supply of referees. The Field Marshall Program is intended to power one individual from each team to speak up on behalf of the referee among their fellow parents/spectators.

Specifics:

- All teams participating in CMSA league play must designate an individual at each game (home and away) to act as a Field Marshall.
 - The **only** exceptions are U18 Tier I and U16 Tier I teams, as they have 3 referees assigned to each game
- The individual acting as the Field Marshall must be named on the team's game sheet
- The Field Marshall must be introduced to the referee prior to the start of the game and be checked off by the referee
- The Field Marshall is to wear the arm band provided by CMSA as identification

Responsibilities:

- Locate yourself on the spectator side of the field on your teams' side of the halfway.
- Monitor the behavior of your teams' parents.

- The Field Marshall is expected to act on behalf of the referee by reminding parents to keep their comments to themselves and refrain from vocalizing their complaints during the game
- Quickly diffuse potential problems before they arise by either being visible or calmly speaking with the individual(s) involved.
- Deal with, and act on, inappropriate comments, gestures and/or general unsporting behavior directed at referees, players or any other individual by your teams' spectators or coaches but please avoid getting into a confrontation. If someone is still hostile after being asked to calm down, please gather as much information but do not put yourself in a dangerous position.
- The Field Marshall is **not** expected to put themselves in a situation which may compromise their safety and instead are asked to contact Shannon (CMSA Referee Mentor) at referees@calgaryminorsoccer.com
- The Field Marshall is expected to support the referee when requested by the official to do so
- Any questions/comments/complaints/compliments in regards to the officiating should be directed to Shannon at referees@calgaryminorsoccer.com and not the referee

Fines:

- The fine for not participating in the Field Marshall Program shall follow the fee structure for Defaulted Games:
 - 1st Offense: no default fine, Warning Letter
 - 2nd Offense: \$50 default fine
 - 3rd Offense: \$50 default fine
 - 4th Offense: \$50 default fine
- Any team found to be consistently not participating in the program shall be subject to further disciplinary action.

Appendix D: Calgary Minor Soccer Association (“CMSA”) Harassment Policy

The CMSA is committed to providing a sport and work environment that is civil, decent and respectful. This policy shall be deemed to be embodied in and part of the CMSA Rules. **The CMSA has an expectation that each CMSA member club and association will implement and enforce its own rules and policies with regard to Harassment, as the primary obligation in this regard lies with the CMSA member club or association.**

This policy applies to all employees, directors, officers, volunteers, coaches, athletes, officials, administrators, members and participants involved with the CMSA. This policy applies to Harassment that may occur in the CMSA workplace or other activities or events where CMSA employees may be involved on behalf of CMSA and during the course of all activities and events of CMSA and its members, and to all Harassment occurring outside those situations when the Harassment involves individuals covered by this policy.

The CMSA will not tolerate disrespectful behaviour, Harassment, abuse or damage to people or property.

In this policy, Harassment means any behaviour that demeans, humiliates or embarrasses a person, and that a reasonable person should have known would be unwelcome. Harassment may be verbal or physical, and may be in the form of a comment or display that is insulting, intimidating, humiliating, hurtful, demeaning, belittling, malicious, degrading or otherwise cause offence, discomfort, or personal humiliation or embarrassment to a person or group of persons. Harassment may involve a person's or a group of persons' appearance, race, religious beliefs, colour, place of origin, gender, mental or physical disability, ancestry, marital status, family status, source of income, a conviction (whether pardoned or not) or sexual orientation (hereinafter referred to as “characteristics”). Harassment may be a single incident or a series of incidents. A person does not have to intend to harass for the behaviour to constitute harassment.

Examples of Harassment are:

- verbal or physical abuse;
- hostile verbal or non-verbal communications, including yelling and screaming;
- use of terminology that reinforces stereotypes based on a person's characteristics;
- any form of discrimination, including derogatory or demeaning comments, jokes, slurs, innuendos, taunts, posters or cartoons, etc., that cause awkwardness or embarrassment, endangering a person's safety or negatively affecting a person's performance;
- condescending, paternalistic or patronizing behaviour linked to a person's characteristics, which undermines self-esteem or diminishes or adversely affects performance or adversely affects working conditions;
- any form of hazing;
- Sexual Harassment as defined below.

In this policy, Sexual Harassment means unwelcome sexual advances, unwelcome requests for sexual favours or other unwelcome verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual Harassment may occur in behaviours by males toward females or by females toward males, between males, or between females. The behaviour does not need to be intentional for it to be considered Sexual Harassment.

Examples of types of behaviour which may be Sexual Harassment include:

- unwelcome attention or physical contact, including touching, pinching, patting, rubbing, or kissing;
- unwelcome sexual flirtations, advances, or propositions, including repeated unwelcome invitations to socialize;
- leering, staring, gestures of a sexual nature;
- sexually suggestive or obscene comments or gestures;
- sexist joke(s), comment(s), suggestion(s) or innuendo(s) causing embarrassment or offence;
- sexually degrading words used to describe a person;
- the display of visual material such as pictures, pornographic materials, cartoons, graffiti or sayings of a sexual nature which is offensive or which one ought to reasonably know is offensive;
- derogatory or degrading remarks about a person's gender or sexual orientation;
- unwelcome inquiries or comments about an individual's sex life or sexual preferences;
- persistent unwelcome contact or attention after the end of a consensual relationship or otherwise;
- promise or threats contingent on the performance of sexual favours;
- decision-making affecting an individual that is contingent on the performance of sexual favours;
- conduct that creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment;
- verbal abuse or threats of a sexual nature;
- sexual assault;
- stalking.

Complaints

If you are the subject of Harassment involving persons covered by this policy, you should:

1. Tell the harasser that his or her behaviour is unwelcome and ask him or her to stop.
2. Keep a record of the incidents (dates, times possible witnesses, what happened, your response). You do not have to keep a record of events in order to file a complaint; however, a record may help you remember the details over time.
3. Contact your CMSA member club or association through its President and register your complaint in accordance with its rules and policies.
4. If your member CMSA club or association does not deal with the complaint in accordance with its rules and policies, you may file a written complaint with the CMSA in care of the Executive Director or the employee or director of the CMSA delegated responsibility by the CMSA Board to

receive such complaints. **It should be noted that this Policy is not in any way intended to supersede or replace the rules or policies of your CMSA member club or association and is not intended to provide you with an appeal from a determination by your CMSA member club or association.**

Once the CMSA receives your written complaint, the CMSA Board will appoint a committee of three Board Members for the purpose of reviewing and attempting to resolve the complaint (the "Committee"). The Committee may also be a standing committee of the Board. The Committee will open a secure file containing all of the relevant information in respect of your complaint and undertake an investigation immediately. If the complaint involves a Board Member or Members or an employee of the CMSA, those individuals will be precluded from partaking in the Committee and from reviewing the file while the matter is being investigated.

The Committee will interview you and the alleged harasser, along with all of the individuals who may be able to provide relevant information. If the investigation reveals evidence to support the complaint of harassment, the harasser will be disciplined appropriately in accordance with this policy and the CMSA Rules. Subject to the discretion of the Committee, discipline may include a fine and/or suspension from involvement with the CMSA, or permanent expulsion from any further involvement with the CMSA. If circumstances warrant, the Committee may refer these matters to the City of Calgary Police Service, the Alberta Human Rights Commission or such other body or organization as they deem appropriate.

For the purposes of this policy, threats of retaliation and retaliation by one person against another:

- designed to dissuade an individual from reporting discrimination or harassment;
- to punish an individual who has rejected sexual advances;
- for having invoked this policy (whether on behalf of oneself or another);
- for having participated in any investigation under this policy; or
- for having been associated with a person who has invoked this policy or participated in these procedures

will be considered a form of Harassment.

Complaints found to be false, frivolous or made in bad faith will not be tolerated and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

In addition to any other findings or sanctions imposed by the Committee, a finding of Harassment will be considered conduct likely to bring the game into disrepute under the CMSA Rules.

Once the matter has been resolved, the CMSA Board will retain the file in a secure location along with all of the other books and records of the CMSA. No absolute confidentiality may be made by the CMSA, particularly in circumstances where the matter warrants police or other regulatory or administrative body intervention.

Notwithstanding this policy, any person who experiences Harassment continues to have the right to seek assistance from the Alberta Human Rights Commission or to file a complaint with the City of Calgary Police Service or such other body or organization as they deem appropriate.

Appendix E: Blood Borne Pathogen Policy

Adopted from the ASA H.I.V. Policy

Dealing with a bloody wound;

- a) 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.
- b) All clothing soiled with blood should 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.
- c) 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 re-enter only after the referee has been advised of the change of number**.
- d) 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.
- e) While cleaning blood or other body fluid spills, the following must be done:
 - wear waterproof gloves;
 - wipe up fluids with paper towels or disposable cloths;
 - disinfect the area as described in (d);
 - place all soiled waste in a plastic bag for disposal;
 - remove gloves and wash hands with soap and water.

Other wounds must be reviewed by medical personnel, including abrasions and all 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.