



PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS



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(1) APPLICATION

- 1.1 These Rules shall apply to all Provincial Championship Competitions managed by the Manitoba Soccer Association (MSA). Any variances for specific competitions shall be as noted in these Rules.
- 1.2 The MSA Provincial Championship Competition Committee is responsible for the management and control of all Provincial Competitions and shall maintain these Rules.
- 1.3 These Rules are subject to the MSA Rules and Regulations; in any absence, the Canadian Soccer Association (CSA) Rules for National Competitions takes precedence.
- 1.4 Within the constraints of 1.3, the MSA, through its Competitions Committee, may make such temporary rules governing specific situations not otherwise provided for as are necessary.
- 1.5 The MSA through its Competitions Committee shall appoint to each Provincial Competition an MSA Representative whose decisions at the Competition, on any matter not covered in these Rules, shall be final, as far as the Competition is concerned on all parties.
- 1.6 The necessary fines will be imposed at the Competition and any follow-up discipline will be referred to the MSA Discipline Committee.
- 1.7 Failure to comply with any of the requirements within these Rules shall render any organization or individual subject to disciplinary procedures.
- 1.8 The MSA has a formal policy in regards to volunteer screening. The Association requires that any club official listed on the Team Credential Form (roster) for clubs participating in the Provincial Championships must be CPIC cleared. For this purpose a CPIC Clearance is valid for a maximum of 36 months. A copy of this policy may be obtained from the MSA Office.
- 1.9 The CSA has an official Anti doping Policy. Any athlete who is a member of a Provincial Sport Organization or National Sport Organization or League or Club so registered shall be eligible for unannounced testing. A list of banned substances can be obtained from www.cces.ca or the CSA.

(2) CLUB ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The Provincial Championship Competition is open to any regular affiliated member of the MSA. Clubs must have completed the corresponding affiliation form and paid the annual fee.





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- 2.2 All Provincial Championship Competitions in each age and gender category shall be open to one representative of each club in each playing season, subject only to Regional preliminary qualifying series as may be determined by the MSA. Any variations have to be approved by the MSA.
- 2.3 The playing season referred to in Rule 2.2 shall be the one ending in the current calendar year.
- 2.4 Any club determined by the Competitions Committee to have included a player who is over the age limit (under the age for Masters/Classics) shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- 2.5 A club may not sign additional players after the roster deadline for the purpose of competing in MSA competitions.
- 2.6 The CSA and MSA require coaching qualifications for all clubs entered in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition. Any club not meeting the criteria listed below, may apply in writing to the MSA Competitions Committee for an exemption.
- Head Coach - Full Community Coach Certificate – Child, Youth and Senior (Pre-B or higher)
 - One (1) member of the Club Officials must be the same gender as the players
 - All Club Officials listed on the roster must have Respect in Sport Certification
- 2.7 Within the deadlines established, all clubs must submit the corresponding entry application and satisfy the entry fee to be eligible for participation.

(3) PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Only players registered with a Club/Association in Membership shall be eligible to compete in the Provincial Championship Competition.
- 3.2 Each player shall be either:
- a) a Canadian citizen; or
 - b) a landed immigrant; or
 - c) a refugee claimant





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3.3 AGE ELIGIBILITY

Youth Under 14 - All players under the age of 14 before January 1 of the current year

Youth Under 16 - All players under the age of 16 before January 1 of the current year

Youth Under 18 - All players under the age of 18 before January 1 of the current year

Senior Amateur - Open Age

Masters/Classics - All players will be 35 (and over) years of age prior to January 1 of the current year

3.4 Each Club/Association in Membership must use the MSA Roster form prescribed by the Competitions Committee and shall certify that each player is eligible.

3.5 The deadline for registration shall be August 31st, and the deadline for transfers shall be on or before July 31st of the current season.

3.6 Within the deadlines established in Rule 3.5, each player shall be registered with or transferred to the club participating in the Provincial or National Competition not later than seven (7) days prior to playing in any qualifying game leading to the National Competition. No club shall register new players after qualifying for the Regional or National Championship (CSA Rule 3.5).

3.7 Players are only eligible to participate with one club in one age and gender category. Once a player plays a match during the Provincial Championship Competition, the player is tied to that club for the remainder of the Provincial Championship Competition and National Competition if the club qualifies, regardless of the registration and transfer deadlines. This shall also apply to clubs fielding more than one team entered into any Provincial or National Championship competition.

3.8 Each player and club official listed on the game sheet are required to have an approved photo ID-card.

3.9 Any player registered as a professional player shall only be eligible to play when reinstated as an amateur player. An amateur player who is registered with a professional club shall not be eligible to play in any Provincial Championship Competition. Any player reinstated after July 31st shall not be eligible to play in the Provincial or National Club Championship Competition.

(4) CLUB RULES

4.1 A club may have a maximum roster of 20 players (except Masters/Classics) and may dress all 20 per match. A Masters/Classics club may have a maximum roster of 25 players and may dress 20 per match. **Final rosters must be received by the MSA Office no later than 48 hours prior to the start the of club's first match.**





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- 4.2 Any club not showing up for a match during the Provincial Championship Competition without just cause will be expelled from the remainder of the competition. In cases where the club has any remaining games, the result shall be 3-0 for the opposing team. The club will be required by the MSA Competitions Committee to explain the actions of its club, and may be fined and/or sanctioned.
- 4.3 Only club officials and players listed on the game sheet shall be allowed to sit in the club's technical area during the competition.
- 4.4 All clubs are required to respect the deadlines set out by the MSA.
- 4.5 Clubs will be held responsible for the conduct of their club officials, players and spectators during the entire competition.

(5) GAME RULES

- 5.1 Team credentials (photo-ID) shall be checked prior to the start of each match.
- 5.2 One representative from each club may inspect the I.D. cards of the opposing club. It shall be the responsibility of a club representative to notify the referee of any discrepancy prior to the game. A club that wishes to question the validity of a player's registration must notify the MSA representative at the game or failing that, contact the MSA office within 48 hours after the scheduled start of the game.
- 5.3 The minimum number of players to start a match is eight (8) players.
- 5.4 A representative of the home club must, no later than thirty (30) minutes prior to kick off time, hand to the opposing club coach a completed copy of the game sheet. The visiting coach will then complete the game sheet and hand it to the referee fifteen minutes (15) prior to the beginning of the game. The referee shall retain the game sheet and have it available for inspection at half time.
- 5.5 A maximum of five (5) substitutions shall be allowed in the whole game (including extra time). Unlimited substitutions may be made at half-time, or at full-time before any extra time. The Masters/Classics competition will allow unlimited substitutions. Sub-slips will be distributed to participants by the MSA Representative or Field Marshal prior to start of each match. A player who has been substituted is eligible to re-enter (CSA Rule 5.1). All substitutes must wear pinnies that distinguish them from players on the field of play.
- 5.6 The home club shall change colors if necessary. All clubs must have an alternate set of uniforms (jersey/socks) at the competition. Failure to have an alternate set will result in a fine.





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5.7 Players are not permitted to wear anything that is dangerous to themselves or other players. This includes the following jewellery: rings, bracelets (except medical alert bracelets – which must be either made of Velcro or a similar soft material or covered with a sweatband), earrings, necklaces, other visible body piercing, etc. The practice of taping jewellery is not acceptable. If undershorts are worn, they must be the same main color as the shorts. If undergarments are worn, they must be the same color of the sleeve of the jersey. Players not complying will not be allowed to enter the field until the match officials are satisfied that the equipment conforms to the Laws of the Game.

5.8 Duration of Play and Size of Game Ball

For all Provincial, Inter-Provincial, and National Championships:

Age Group	Duration of Play	Extra Time	Ball Size
Under 14	2 periods of 40 minutes	2 periods of 10 minutes	5
Under 16	2 periods of 45 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	5
Under 18	2 periods of 45 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	5
Senior	2 periods of 45 minutes	2 periods of 15 minutes	5
Masters/Classics	2 periods of 40 minutes	No extra time	5

If a game is tied at the end of regulation time when a winner must be declared, two extra time periods as stipulated above shall be played (except Masters/Classics). If the score is still tied at the end of extra time, the winner shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

Note: Only those players remaining on the field at the end of the extra time will be involved in the taking of the penalty kicks. A club official may accompany each club into the centre circle for the taking of such kicks.

(6) COMPETITION RULES

6.1 The MSA Referees Committee is responsible for assigning all game officials.

6.2 In all competitions (or parts thereof) organized on a knock out basis, all games shall be played to a decision as outlined in Rule 5.8.





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6.3 In all competitions (or parts thereof) organized on a round robin basis, the following special rules shall apply:

6.3.1 All games shall be played to regulation time only.

6.3.2 Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie and zero (0) for a loss. Standings shall be determined by points won at the completion of the round robin, with tie-breaking as outlined in Rule 6.3.3.

6.3.3 If two or more clubs have an equal number of points on completion of the round robin, the following criteria shall be used, in order, to determine the final standings:

a) Previous Match Results

The winner of the match between two clubs tied in points shall be awarded the higher position (not applicable if three (3) or more tied).

b) Goal Difference

Goal difference shall be calculated by subtracting goals conceded from goals scored. A maximum difference of five (5) goals shall be awarded in each game. The club having the greater goal difference will be awarded the higher position.

c) Most Goals Scored

The club having scored the most goals will be awarded the higher position. A maximum of five (5) goal difference per game.

d) Least Goals Against

The club having the least number of goals against will be awarded the higher position.

e) Penalty Kicks

If two or more clubs are still tied under criteria (a) – (d), then the higher standings shall be decided by kicks from the penalty mark, as follows:

Two clubs tied: as per FIFA Laws of the Game, at a time and place decided by the MSA Competition Committee.

Three clubs tied: each club is designated A, B, or C. Three penalty shoot-outs shall be played (A vs B, B vs C, C vs A) consisting of five (5) kicks from the penalty mark at a time and place to be





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decided by the MSA Competition Committee. The standings after these three shoot-outs shall be ranked according to the criteria (a) – (d) above;

For discipline purpose, shootouts do not constitute a game. Players under suspension are not eligible to participate.

(7) DISCIPLINE

- 7.1 The MSA Competition Committee shall establish an MSA Provincial Championship Competition Discipline Committee. Any decision taken by this Committee shall be final as far as the competition is concerned.
- 7.2 Misconduct by players or club officials reported by the referee shall be dealt with by the MSA Provincial Championship Competition Discipline Committee prior to the next game, except as noted below.
- 7.3 Any player who receives a third caution during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition, except in his/her club's final game, shall receive a one-game suspension to be served in his/her next MSA Provincial Championship Competition game.

If the third caution is received on his/her club's final game it will be delegated to the MSA Discipline Committee, who would inform the corresponding league of any fines and/or sanctions placed upon the player.

- 7.4 Any player or club official who is dismissed during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition, except in his/her club's final game, shall receive a minimum automatic one-game suspension to be served in his/her next MSA Provincial Championship Competition game.

Any player or club official who is dismissed in his/her club's final game of the MSA Provincial Championship Competition will be delegated to the MSA Discipline Committee, who would inform the corresponding league of any fines and/or sanctions placed upon the club official.

- 7.5 Any player or club official reported for misconduct who is summoned to a hearing by the MSA Provincial Championship Discipline Committee shall attend the hearing. The player/club official may be accompanied by a club representative.
- 7.6 Failure to attend, after notification by the MSA Provincial Championship Discipline Committee, shall result in immediate suspension until the player or club official involved requests a further hearing in writing and appears at that subsequent hearing.





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7.7 In most cases, suspended players shall serve their suspension in the competition in which it is received for the specified number of games. However, time suspensions and suspensions from all soccer activities in any other competition shall be applied to the MSA Provincial Championship Competition.

(8) ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMPETITION

8.1 PROTESTS

8.1.1 Any protest arising out of any game in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition shall be made in writing to the MSA Representative or Field Marshal within three (3) hours of the completion of the game, accompanied by a protest fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) in cash or money order/certified cheque payable to the MSA. The Competition Coordinator may designate a representative to rule on protests. **This rule takes precedence over MSA Rule 2B, D, E. The decision of the protest hearing committee shall be final and binding as far as the competition is concerned.**

Note: Decisions of the referee on points of fact in a game cannot be protested.

8.1.2 In most cases, the MSA Provincial Championship Competition Committee shall rule on the protest, including the disposition of the protest fee.

(9) CONDUCT

9.1 All players, club officials and spectators of any club competing in the MSA Provincial Championships will be expected to refrain from conduct likely to bring the game into disrepute. Any issues regarding misconduct will be dealt with by the MSA.

Examples of misconduct:

- Committing any act or making any statement, either verbally or in writing, which in the opinion of the MSA is considered to be unsportsmanlike, insulting, or disrespectful of your own club or the opposition.
- Talking during the playing of the FIFA or Canadian National anthems.
- Singing or chanting songs that contain inappropriate or foul language.





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(10) AWARDS

10.1 All players and club officials are expected to participate in the closing ceremonies and medal presentation. Although in the emotion of the moment it may be difficult for some players to accept their finishing position, all participants are to accept their awards graciously in order to maintain the integrity of the event and respect for the other clubs.

