



# 2011 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 Competitions 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 Regional/National Competitions take precedence.
- 1.4 **Within the constraints of 1.3, the MSA, through its Provincial Championship Competitions Committee, may make such temporary rules governing specific situations not otherwise provided for as are necessary.**
- 1.5 The MSA shall appoint to each Provincial Competition a Competitions Coordinator whose decisions at the Competition, on any matter not covered in these Rules, shall be final, as far as the Competition is concerned.
- 1.6 The necessary discipline and fines, where applicable, 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 Official Roster Form 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](http://www.cces.ca) or the CSA.



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## (2) CLUB ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1 The MSA Provincial Championship Competition is open to any regular affiliated member of the MSA. Clubs do not necessarily have to play in an affiliated league, but must be an affiliated member of the Manitoba Soccer Association. All Clubs must complete the corresponding affiliation forms and pay the annual fee.
- 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 as may be determined by the MSA. Any variations must 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 MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Committee to have included a player who is over the age limit (under the age limit for Masters/Classics) shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- 2.5 The Youth and Senior MSA Provincial Championship Competitions require specific coaching qualifications. Any Club not meeting the criteria may apply in writing to the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator for an exemption.
- Head Coach – Full Community Coach Certificate (Child, Youth, Senior) (CSA Rule 8.3.1)
  - One (1) member of the Club Officials must be the same gender as the players (CSA Rule 8.3.2). This Club Official cannot be a player with dual roles on the team (ie. Player/Coach).
  - All Club Officials listed on the Official Roster Form must have *Respect in Sport* certification.
  - Clubs are permitted to have only one (1) Club Official under the age of 18 with the intent to mentor the individual as a Coach. The individual must have previously been registered as a Club Official and request, in writing, the approval of the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator.
- 2.6 Within the deadlines established, all Clubs must submit the corresponding entry form and satisfy the entry fee to be eligible to participate.



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- 2.7 Under exceptional circumstances any Club participating in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition may request, in writing to the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator special permission to allow coaches to participate who might otherwise be ineligible. Only applications received in writing 30 days prior to the start of the Competition will be considered.
- 2.8 This special permission shall only be granted once. Any coach who has previously received an exemption will not be permitted to participate in future MSA Provincial Championship Competitions until the necessary qualifications have been obtained.
- 2.9 Clubs shall compete in only one of the following categories:
- 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 years of age (and over) prior to January 1 of the current year

## (3) PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1 Only players registered with the Manitoba Soccer Association or an Association/League in membership shall be eligible to compete in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition.
- 3.2 Each player shall be either (CSA Rule 8.2.2):
- a) a Canadian citizen; or
  - b) a permanent resident (as defined by the Government of Canada); or
  - c) a refugee claimant
- 3.3 The deadline for registration shall be July 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season (CSA Rule 8.2.4).
- 3.4 The deadline for transfers shall be July 31<sup>st</sup> of the current season (CSA Rule 8.2.5).
- 3.5 No Club shall register new players after qualifying for the Regional/National Championship (CSA Rule 8.2.7).



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- 3.6 Players are only eligible to participate with one (1) Club in one (1) age and gender category. If a player is listed on an Official Roster Form, regardless if the player participates in any matches, the player is tied to that team for the remainder of the Provincial Championship Competition and Regional/National Competition. This shall also apply to Clubs fielding more than one team entered into any Provincial Championship Competition.
- 3.7 Clubs are not permitted to have any 'guest players' participate with their Club during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition.
- 3.8 Each player and club official listed on the game sheet is 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 MSA Provincial Championship Competition. Any player reinstated after July 31<sup>st</sup> shall not be eligible to play in the Provincial or National Club Championship Competition (CSA Rule 8.2.9).
- 3.10 A player moving from one Provincial/Territorial Association to the Manitoba Soccer Association must receive written clearance from the Provincial/Territorial Association with which s/he was last registered in order to be eligible (CSA Rule 8.2.12).
- 3.11 A youth age player who has been registered as "senior amateur" shall be ineligible to play in the youth MSA Provincial Championship Competition, unless the player has, upon request been reinstated to youth status by the Manitoba Soccer Association on or before July 31<sup>st</sup> of the current year (CSA Rule 8.2.14).
- 3.12 Under exceptional circumstances any Club participating in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition may request, in writing to the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator special permission to allow players to participate who might otherwise be ineligible.

### **(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 (CSA Rule 10.1.1 and 10.1.2).
- 4.2 Only players and club officials listed on the Official Roster Form may be named on the



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- game sheet and occupy a position in the technical area (CSA Rule 10.1.3).
- 4.3 A maximum of twenty (20) players and four (4) club officials may occupy a position in the technical area. Players under suspension are not allowed to enter the technical area and must remain in the spectator area.
- 4.4 Each Club participating in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition must use the Official Roster Form prescribed by the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Committee which certifies that each player and club official is eligible.
- 4.4.1 For the purpose of competing in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition the Official Roster Form must be submitted to the MSA Office seven (7) days prior to the start of the Competition, regardless if the Club (team) plays on the first date or not.
- 4.4.2 Within the registration and transfer deadlines, Clubs are required to submit a revised Official Roster, on the Official Roster Form, if any player(s) are registered or transferred to the Club after the Official Roster has been submitted for the purpose of competing in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition.
- 4.4.3 Players and Club Officials may be listed on the Club's Official Roster while under suspension, however, they are not permitted to participate until the suspension is served.
- 4.5 Any Club not participating in a scheduled game without just cause will be expelled for the remainder of the Competition and may be subject to disciplinary action. In cases where the actions of said Club impact the integrity of the Competition, the Competitions Coordinator may declare all matches played by the Club null and void and/or the Competitions Coordinator may designate a Representative or Committee to make a different decision that will maintain the integrity of the Competition. All decisions of the Competitions Coordinator, Representative or Committee are final and binding as far as the competition is concerned.
- 4.6 All Clubs will be held responsible for the conduct of their players, club officials and spectators during the Competition.

## (5) MATCH 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 ID cards of the opposing Club. It



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shall be the responsibility of a Club representative to notify the referee of any discrepancy prior to the match. A Club that wishes to question the validity of a player's registration must notify the MSA Field Marshal at the match or failing that, contact the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator within 24 hours after the scheduled start of the match.

- 5.3 The minimum number of players to start a match is eight (8).
- 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 (15) minutes prior to the beginning of the match. The Referee shall retain the game sheet and have it available for inspection at half time if requested.
- 5.5 A maximum of five (5) substitutions shall be allowed during the entire match (including extra time). Unlimited substitutions may be made at half-time, or at full-time before any extra time. A player who has been substituted is eligible to re-enter (CSA Rule 10.4.1).
- 5.5.1 The Masters/Classics Competition will allow unlimited substitutions (CSA Rule 10.4.2).
- 5.5.2 Substitution cards will be distributed to the participating Clubs by the Field Marshal prior to the start of each match. All substitutes must wear pinnies or tops that distinguish them from the players on the field of play.
- 5.6 Team colors will be determined at the pre-competition meeting. If necessary, the designated home Club (the team listed first on the schedule) shall be responsible for changing colors. All Clubs must have an alternate set of uniforms (jersey/socks) at the competition.
- 5.6.1 Goalkeepers must wear playing uniforms that distinguish them from the other players and Match Officials.
- 5.7 Players are not permitted to wear anything that is dangerous to themselves or other players. This includes any kind of jewellery, regardless of the material, such as: rings, bracelets, earrings, necklaces, or other visible body piercings are strictly forbidden and must be removed. Medical alert bracelets are permissible but must be either made of Velcro or a similar soft material or covered with a sweatband. The practice of taping jewellery is not acceptable (CSA Rule 10.3.5).
- 5.7.1 Any player who intends to wear a cast or brace or any other medical support is to



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present the equipment to the Match Official at least 30 minutes prior to the match for inspection. The Match Official will assess the player’s eligibility to play in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game.

5.8 If undergarments are worn, the color of the sleeve must be the same color as the main color of the sleeve of the jersey. If undershorts are worn, they must be the same color as the main color of the shorts. Players not complying will not be allowed to enter the field until the Match Officials are satisfied that the equipment conforms to the FIFA Laws of the Game. All players must wear the same color undergarments and shorts.

5.9 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 match is tied at the end of regulation time when a winner must be declared, two (2) 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.

5.10 The MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator shall reserve the right to order a replay or any variation of a replay, for any match that is cancelled or not completed for any reason. The Competitions Coordinator may also designate a Representative or Committee to make a ruling.

5.11 Where a match is abandoned as a result of discipline issues from one or both of the competing Clubs then the matter shall be reported to the MSA Provincial



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Championship Competitions Coordinator who will decide the appropriate course of action. The Competitions Coordinator has the authority to designate a Representative or Committee to make a ruling. All decisions of the Competitions Coordinator, Representative or Committee are final and binding as far as the competition is concerned.

- 5.12 Disposition of all yellow cards and red cards received during a match which was subsequently abandoned shall be dealt with by the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator, Representative or Committee.
- 5.13 Where specified in these Rules, when the score is tied at the end of regulation time, extra time shall be played as noted in Rule 5.9. 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.

## **(6) COMPETITION RULES**

- 6.1 The format for each competition shall be determined by the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Committee.
- 6.2 The MSA Referee Development Committee shall be responsible for assigning all match officials.
- 6.3 In all competitions (or parts thereof) organized on a knock-out basis all matches shall be played to a decision as outlined in Rule 5.9.
- 6.4 In all competitions (or parts thereof) organized on a round robin basis the following rules shall apply:
- 6.5. All round robin matches shall be played to regulation time only.
- 6.5.1 Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie and zero (0) points for a loss. Final standings shall be determined by points won at the completion of the round robin, with tie-breaking as outlined in rule 6.5.2.
- 6.5.2 The following criteria shall be used, in order, to determine the final standings:
- (a) Most points in all group matches
  - (b) Greater number of points in all matches between the teams concerned



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- (c) Greater goal difference in matches between the teams concerned (if two or more teams finish equal on points)
- (d) Greater number of goals scored in matches among the teams concerned (if two or more teams finish equal on points)
- (e) Greater goal difference in all group matches
- (f) Greater number of goals scored in all group matches
- (g) Penalty kicks

Two Clubs tied: as per FIFA Laws of the Game, at a time a place decided by the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator.

Three Clubs tied: each Club is designated A, B or C. Three penalty shoot-outs shall be played (A vs B, A vs C, B vs C) consisting of five kicks from the penalty mark at a time and place determined by the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator. The standings after these three shoot-outs shall be ranked according to the criteria (a) – (d).

Players under suspension are not eligible to participate; however this does not constitute the serving of any disciplinary suspension already awarded.

## (7) DISCIPLINE

- 7.1 The MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator will deal with or arrange to deal with all discipline cases involving players and club officials. The Competitions Coordinator may designate a Representative or Committee to deal with discipline cases. All decisions of the Competitions Coordinator, Representative or Committee shall be final and binding as far as the competition is concerned.
- 7.2 In most cases, suspended players or club officials shall serve their suspension in the competition in which it was received for the specified number of games. However, time suspensions and suspensions from all soccer activities in any other competition shall be enforced during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition.
- 7.3 All players, club officials and spectators of any Club competing in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition 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.



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Misconduct by players or club officials reported by the referee shall be dealt with by the MSA Provincial Championship Competition Coordinator or Designate prior to the next match.

- 7.4 Any player who receives a third caution during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition, except in his/her club's final match, shall receive a one-match suspension to be served in his/her next MSA Provincial Championship Competition match.

If the third caution is received on his/her club's final match it will be referred to the MSA Discipline Committee for discipline.

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

- 7.6 Any player or club official who is dismissed in his/her club's final match of the MSA Provincial Championship Competition will be referred to the MSA Discipline Committee for discipline.

- 7.7 Any player or club official reported for misconduct who is summoned to a hearing by the MSA Competitions Coordinator or Designate shall attend the hearing. The player/club official must be accompanied by a Club Representative. Failure to attend shall result in immediate suspension until the player or club official involved requests a further hearing in writing and appears at that subsequent hearing.

- 7.8 The MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator or Designate, shall rule on any alleged breach of the competition rules by an individual or organization. All decisions of the Coordinator or Designate are final and binding as far as the competition is concerned.

- 7.9 Any team that is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player for whatever reason (over/under age limit, omission from the Official Roster, omission from the game sheet, etc) shall forfeit the match. Victory and the resulting three (3) points will be awarded to the opposing team as well as the score of 3 – 0 or greater, to a maximum of five (5), depending on the score of the match. The Competitions Coordinator may designate a Representative or Committee to make a ruling and/or take further action as deemed appropriate.

- 7.10 Any player or club official who is suspended during the MSA Provincial Championship Competition and is unable to serve the full length of the suspension during the MSA



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- 7.11 Provincial Championship Competition shall be required to serve the remainder of the suspension during league play.
- 7.12 A player or club official dismissed may participate in the closing ceremonies and medal presentation. Any additional misconduct that occurs during the closing ceremonies will be dealt with by the MSA Discipline Committee.

## (8) ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMPETITION

### 8.1 Protests

Any protests arising out of any match in the MSA Provincial Championship Competition shall be made in writing to the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Committee within three (3) hours of the completion of the match, accompanied by a protest fee of three hundred dollars (\$300) in cash, money order or cheque payable to the MSA. The protest must be submitted to the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator or Designate at the playing venue. The timeline established takes precedence over the MSA Appeal Rule Timelines. The Competitions Coordinator may designate a Representative or Committee to rule on the protest.

**NOTE:** Decisions of a Match Official on points of fact in a match cannot be protested.

- 8.2 In most cases, the MSA Provincial Championship Competitions Coordinator or Designate shall rule on the protest, including the disposition of the protest fee.
- 8.3 The decision of the Competitions Coordinator or Designate with regards to the protest shall be final and binding as far as the competition is concerned.
- 8.4 All Clubs that win their respective Provincial Championship Competition are required to participate in the Canadian Soccer Association Regional/National Championships. Failure to participate in the Regional/National Championships will result in discipline and/or sanction.