



# CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Guidebook

# CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Guidebook



## CONTENTS

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| INTRODUCTION.....                  | 1 |
| COMPETITION OVERVIEW .....         | 2 |
| KEY DATES .....                    | 2 |
| TOURNAMENT SEEDING DRAW .....      | 2 |
| COMPETITION RULES .....            | 3 |
| TEAM ELIGIBILITY .....             | 3 |
| TEAM OFFICIAL ELIGIBILITY .....    | 3 |
| PLAYER ELIGIBILITY.....            | 4 |
| PLAY-UPS .....                     | 4 |
| AYSL PLAYERS .....                 | 4 |
| BIO-BANDED PLAYERS.....            | 4 |
| FEMALE PLAYERS ON MALE TEAMS ..... | 5 |
| CUP-TIED PLAYERS.....              | 5 |
| MATCH FORMAT & LENGTH.....         | 5 |
| TIE-BREAKER.....                   | 6 |
| PROVINCIAL QUALIFICATION .....     | 6 |
| ADDITIONAL .....                   | 6 |
| TEAM ENTRY and FEES .....          | 7 |

## INTRODUCTION

CMSA is continuing with the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition: a competitive pathway for teams interested in qualifying for Alberta Soccer Provincial Championships.

## COMPETITION OVERVIEW

CMSA recognizes the importance of having a player-first and developmental approach to league matches. By modifying our league offering, we hope to provide a memorable experience through this new Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition. The modifications to our league include removing provincial qualification from league play and instead, having a league winner.

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition will feature three Cup Competitions that lead to provincial qualification. The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competitions will be opt-in at the club and teams' choice for U13, U15, and U17 at all tiers (I-IV) and both genders offered at CMSA. **U12 teams will not be eligible to play in the U13 Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition this season.** As CMSA offers single year age groups we will allow even year age groups to opt-in to the Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition that is designated for them. For example, U14 teams would opt into the U15 Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition and U16 teams would opt into the U17 Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition.

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition structure will include a single elimination knock-out game and the number of rounds will be determined based on the number of teams who opt-in. All CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches/finals will conclude prior to the ASA provincial declaration deadlines.

**\*\* Games will only be rescheduled due to inclement weather, no reschedules due to travel or player availability\*\***

### KEY DATES

Key dates for each CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition will be posted on [www.calgaryminorsoccer.com](http://www.calgaryminorsoccer.com) as well as in the Club Handbook for each specific season.

### TOURNAMENT SEEDING DRAW

A livestreamed draw will take place and a tournament bracket will be made for each CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition and tier. The seeding of teams will be determined by CMSA Technical staff and based on the current season statistics up to 10 days prior to the live draw date. Dates and times of the draw will be posted on the website and in the current season Club Handbook.

## COMPETITION RULES

### TEAM ELIGIBILITY

Any team registered within CMSA can participate in the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition at the Tier and age group they have been placed in for league matches. The team will only enter the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition tier that corresponds with their CMSA league tier. Once a team is entered into a CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition, that team is *cup-tied* and will not be able to move to another CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Tier for that season, regardless of competitive balancing or team movement within their CMSA League placement.

Teams that are playing up an age group, including playing in a Senior league, for developmental purposes will be permitted to return to their original age for the Provincial Championships. Teams may only declare for the same tier of play or higher than that which they were playing in an older age group upon returning to their original age category.

No out-of-district teams are permitted to compete in the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition.

### TEAM OFFICIAL ELIGIBILITY

All team officials must meet CMSA's minimum standards Section III.C in the CMSA Rules and Regulations including a current/valid ePIC and RIS.

A minimum of one (1) team official from each team involved in the PQCC and Provincial Championships must fulfill the coaching requirements for the appropriate level as per the chart below.

This qualified team official must be present at each game of the PQCC and the Provincial Championships.

| AGE GROUP       | COACHING REQUIREMENT                        |
|-----------------|---|
| U15, U17 Tier 1 | C License Trained OR Higher                 |
| U13 Tier 1      | Soccer For Life Trained OR Higher           |
| U15+, Tiers 2-4 | Soccer For Life Trained OR Higher           |
| U13, Tiers 2-4  | Learn to Train OR Soccer For Life OR Higher |

Team Officials may coach only one (1) team within the same tier of a Provincial Championship.

## PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

All players will be deemed eligible to play in The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches provided they are registered with a member-club and CMSA district, on the roster of the team playing in the Cup Competition Match.

As per Alberta Soccer and Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations for National Championships, all players participating in a Provincial Championship leading to a National Championship must be a Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or a Protected Person. Each player must present proof of eligibility or CSA exemption documentation to Alberta Soccer by the deadline set by Canada Soccer. Players from whom proof has not been presented are not eligible to participate.

- Proof of eligibility is as follows:
- Canadian Citizen – valid passport or birth certificate.
- Permanent Resident – valid permanent resident card; or proof of permanent residency as provided by the Government of Canada.
- Protected Person – documents as provided by the Government of Canada.
- Or legible copies of these documents.

No player can compete in more than one (1) Youth Provincial Championship.

## PLAY-UPS

Players are eligible to be used as play-ups (following normal CMSA playup rules) provided that their team did not enter the PQCC or their team has already been eliminated from the competition. Play ups must be rostered to the PQCC roster prior to the game being played.

All play-ups must come from the same Member Club as the team.

## AYSL PLAYERS

No players on an AYSL roster will be allowed to be used as play-ups in any CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches.

## BIO-BANDED PLAYERS

Bio-banded players are **NOT** eligible to compete in any CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Matches unless they are bio-banded within the same age range.

For example:

- A U15 player bio-banded onto a U14 team, would be eligible for the U15 CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches.
- A U16 player bio-banded into a U15 team would not be eligible to play in any U15 CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches.

All players must be age eligible as per ASA youth Championship rules.

## FEMALE PLAYERS ON MALE TEAMS

Players who identify as female are eligible to play in a male CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition of their provincial eligible age group provided that they are rostered on that male team.

## CUP-TIED PLAYERS

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition cup-tied rules are in alignment to ASA's provincial championship rules.

Players transferring laterally or to a lower level of play will not be considered cup-tied if the transfer takes place prior to their fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) league game.

Players transferring to a higher level of play will not be considered cup-tied if such transfer is completed by the published transfer deadline dates. Prior to the transfer deadline a player from the same club can transfer to the higher club team, in the event the lower tier team did not qualify for provincials.

## MATCH FORMAT & LENGTH

### Outdoor

|                       |                      |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| U13 all tiers – 11v11 | Two 35-minute halves |
| U15 all tiers – 11v11 | Two 35-minute halves |
| U17 all tiers – 11v11 | Two 40-minute halves |
| U19 all tiers – 11v11 | Two 40-minute halves |

### Indoor

|                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| U13 Tiers 1 & 2 – 7v7     | Two 25-minute halves |
| U13 Tiers 3 & 4 – Boarded | Two 25-minute halves |
| U15 Tiers 1 & 2 – 7v7     | Two 25-minute halves |
| U15 Tiers 3 & 4 – Boarded | Two 25-minute halves |
| U17 Tiers 1 & 2 – 7v7     | Two 25-minute halves |
| U17 Tiers 3 & 4 – Boarded | Two 25-minute halves |
| U19 Tier 2 – 7v7          | Two 25-minute halves |
| U19 Tier 3 – Boarded      | Two 25-minute halves |

It is the responsibility of the home team to provide two (2) size 5, FIFA-approved game balls for each game.

## **TIE-BREAKER**

Should a match be tied at full-time, the match will go straight to penalty shootout to determine the winner of the match. Five (5) rounds of penalties will be taken in an alternating format between the teams and should the match still be tied, sudden death penalties will ensue.

Should the final of any CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition be tied at the end of regulation time, the match will go straight to penalty shootout to determine the winner of the match. Five (5) rounds of penalties will be taken in an alternating format between the teams and should the match still be tied, sudden death penalties will ensue.

## **PROVINCIAL QUALIFICATION**

The winning team from the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition will qualify as CMSA 1 for Provincials with the Cup Final runner-up will qualify as CMSA 2.

In some cases, CMSA may be awarded a third (3<sup>rd</sup>) qualifying spot at a provincial competition, and this would see the two (2) losing semi-finalists play off in a one (1) match play-off to determine what team represents CMSA as CMSA 3 at that provincial competition.

## **ROSTER SIZES**

Roster sizes for the provincial qualifier cup competition must meet CMSA minimum roster guidelines. **If you do go to provincials, your roster size can not be increased above the current number on your team with any replacement players.**

## **ADDITIONAL**

Any situations not covered in these rules will defer to [CMSA Rules and Regulations](#) and [Alberta Soccer Provincial Championship Rules](#) for that Season.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

If Provincial Competition is held in Calgary, the qualifying team(s) for those competitions must supply at least one (1) volunteer for a minimum of four (4) hours to assist with the running of the event. Any team that fails to provide a volunteer shall have to pay \$100 volunteer fee. CMSA Rules and Regulations Section XVII.B.5

## **TEAM ENTRY and FEES**

Teams interested in participating in the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition must express interest directly to their club prior to the team entry deadline of each season's competition.

Team Entry Fees – Will be invoiced to the club after the team entry deadline.