

ASAA Guiding Principles for Joint School Teams and other Considerations

The “**Guiding Principles**” will be used by the Zone executives and the ASAA Compliance Officer to decide whether or not to approve the request of Principals to have a joint school team. The Guiding Principles do not apply to distributed learning or home education schools or students and are subject to the discretion of the Compliance Officer.

1. The ASAA recognizes that some schools will not have enough students to field their own team. It may be in the best interests of student athletes and not contrary to the goals of the ASAA for the request from 2 or more Principals to form a Joint School Team to be approved by their Zone(s) and the Compliance Officer.
2. Joint School Team requests only apply to the team sports of: volleyball, football, basketball, curling, cheerleading, team handball and rugby.
3. Joint School Teams are not permitted in individual sports: golf, cross-country running, wrestling, badminton, track and field.
4. If there are reasons the approval of a proposed Joint School Team is not best interests of student athletes or will be contrary to the goals of the ASAA, then approval should not be granted by their Zone(s) or by the Compliance Officer.
5. Schools are not required to send all of their participating students to the same Joint School Team.
6. The combined school populations of the schools forming the Joint School Team will be used to determine the classification of competition.
7. Joint School teams will playoff in the Zone of the school with the largest student population (“the Primary School”).
8. Joint School Teams with students from more than 2 schools may be formed in only the sports of cheerleading, football and rugby.
9. In rugby only, students from multiple schools may participate on a Joint School Team for the purpose of touring no later than the end of the designated spring breaks of the Alberta schools involved in the tour. If a student from a school participates on the team, no student from that school may be excluded from the try-out process.
10. Once a student plays on a Joint School Team, they must obtain approval from the Compliance Officer to play for a team from a different school in the same sport. That approval should be granted if the student’s school forms their own team and the student will play for that team or if the Joint School Team is discontinued.

11. Online Registration for Joint School Teams: When registering a Joint School Team, the Primary School must first register their team using the online registration program, selecting the name of the secondary school before the secondary school can add players. Primary schools must not add the students from the secondary school onto their own eligibility list.
12. Principals seeking approval for a Joint School Team must provide the ASAA with assurance that the student athletes have insurance coverage in the event that the student suffers a serious injury.

How to request an ASAA Joint School Team for 2021-22

1. Complete the ASAA Joint School Team request form
2. Submit the completed form to the Zone(s) by email for review.
3. If approved by the Zone(s), the Zone(s) will forward the request to the ASAA Compliance Officer by email.
4. The ASAA Compliance Officer will review the application and inform the schools and Zone(s) of the final decision.
5. If the team is approved, the school must register the joint school team in the SRS in accordance with the above guidance.

**This process will become electronic within the SRS in 2022-23*