



**Alberta School's Athletic Association**  
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# Memo

**Date:** April 17, 2023

**To:** ASAA Member Zones, Schools, Rugby Coaches

**From:** ASAA Rugby Commissioners Angie Seaman and Brent Gough  
ASAA Executive Director, John Paton

**Re:** **Continued** Rugby Flexibility 2023

Following feedback on the flexibility provided to ASAA Rugby Policy during the 2021/22 season which helped promote the growth of rugby sevens and fifteens coming off COVID 19, the ASAA Executive has agreed to support a request from the Rugby Commissioners for similar flexibility for the 2022/23 season. The details are noted below.

## **Rugby Policy Flexibility 2023 only**

1. Schools may combine to form a Rugby Sevens team (no restrictions other than being required to add student populations [Gr 10-12 numbers] together to determine Tier level)
2. Grade 9s in 1A and 2A ASAA member schools can play regardless of whether or not the school is the primary or secondary school in a joint school program.
3. If continuing with a XVs program is not feasible by the deadline of May 15th all members registered on an ASAA Rugby XVs team are eligible to compete on a sevens team.

### REMINDERS:

- A. Student-athletes cannot participate in playoffs and/or provincials in both Rugby Sevens and Rugby XVs.
- B. Grade 9s cannot play for 3A or 4A schools.
- C. Rugby Sevens Roster for the Championship: Maximum roster for Rugby Sevens Teams

is 19 players, who can be used throughout the tournament.

D. Per Game in Sevens: Maximum of 14 players on the game sheet with unlimited subs

### Timelines/Deadlines 2023 only

**May 15, 2023:** Rugby Registration declaration, and intention to compete in provincials deadline is due for both Rugby Sevens and Rugby XVs (registration extended from May 2 to May 15). This extends the timeline for XVs teams to drop to Sevens if circumstances warrant.

- **Rugby Sevens:**
  - **May 16, 2023:** Zones will declare to the ASAA/ASAA Commissioners the number and names of teams competing in each division in Rugby Sevens
  - **May 23, 2023:** Zones provide names of qualifying Rugby Sevens teams to ASAA/Commissioners
  - **May 24, 2023:** Draw for Rugby Sevens Provincial Championships will be published.
  - **On or After May 24, 2023:** any team withdrawing from provincials in Sevens or XVs will be assessed a financial penalty equal to the tournament entry fee plus a \$250 late withdrawal penalty. The ASAA Executive will have the sole discretion to both impose and waive the penalties, based on the rationale provided by the school that withdraws.
  
- **Rugby XVs:**
  - **May 16, 2023:** Zones will declare to the ASAA/ASAA Commissioners the number and names of teams competing in each division in Rugby XVs
  - **May 23, 2023:** a preliminary draw showing zone representation will be published for each tier/gender
  - **June 3, 2023:** Zones provide names of qualifying Rugby XVs teams to ASAA/Commissioners
  - **June 4, 2023:** Draw for Rugby XVs Provincial Championships will be published.
  - **On or After May 24, 2023:** any team withdrawing from provincials in Sevens or XVs will be assessed a financial penalty equal to the tournament entry fee plus a \$250 late withdrawal penalty. The ASAA Executive will have the sole discretion to both impose and waive the penalties, based on the rationale provided by the school that withdraws.
  - **Wildcards**, based on the past three years of championships (2018, 2019, 2022) and if required, will be awarded in the following zone order:
    - Tier 1 Boys: Calgary, Edmonton, South Central
    - Tier 2 Boys: South, Calgary, Edmonton
    - Tier 1 Girls: South, Edmonton, Calgary
    - Tier 2 Girls: South, Edmonton, South Central
    - Tier 3 Girls: South, Central, North Central

An evaluation of these changes will be undertaken at the end of the season. If these changes were a benefit to the teams/programs they should be considered for future events and the ASAA Rugby Commissioners may consider proposing policy change on a more permanent basis