



IMPORTANT PRECEDING INFORMATION

As of November 20, 2020, COVID-19 cases in Alberta are soaring and related Government of Alberta (GoA) restrictions are increasing. The information in this memo is intended to provide a “what if” scenario that assumes that COVID-19 related restrictions may be reduced at some point in the new year. Should there be no improvement to the current number of positive COVID-19 cases and corresponding relaxation of Government restrictions, the following information regarding Seasons of Play and proposed Championship dates will be modified to reflect that. This means that events in the new schedule may be further postponed or cancelled. The ASAA must remain fluid in its response, and ultimately GoA and school jurisdictions will make the final decision regarding school athletic participation. As always, ASAA shares the belief/understanding with AHS and GoA that the health and safety of all students-athletes, managers, trainers, and coaches involved in high school athletics must be the number one priority. The ASAA agrees with and supports all COVID-19 measures that are in place.

MEMO

Date: November 20, 2020

To: ASAA Member Schools

From: ASAA Executive Committee

Re: ASAA Provincial Championship Schedule and Seasons of Play

Preamble: Throughout October/November, a committee was created called the ASAA Sport Season Committee. The committee consists of thirteen (13) individuals, eight (8) members are Zone appointed representatives from each of the ASAA’s eight (8) Zones, two (2) ASAA Executive Committee members and three (3) selected appointees. The goal of this committee was to prepare contingency scheduling options for ASAA Provincial Championships.

Process: The work of the committee included nine (9) meetings conducted over Zoom and approximately 20 hours of meeting time. Each Zone appointed committee member was responsible for consulting with their respective contingents for opinion and direction on the proposals of the committee. In addition to the meetings, the committee consulted with Provincial Sport Organizations, all of the ASAA Sport Commissioners, staff representatives from the Sport Physical Activity and Recreation sector of the Government of Alberta, and the ASAA representative from the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS). Senior ASAA staff and Executives were regularly consulted for feedback/input and ultimately the ASAA Executive Committee reviewed the proposals presented by the Sport Season Committee. Based on the proposals from the Sport Season Committee, the ASAA Executive Committee finalized a proposal for an updated ASAA Provincial Championship schedule. The final schedule proposal was sent to the ASAA Zones for final review and acceptance.

Key Messages

Seasons of Play: While it may not be possible to have an ASAA Championship in select sports during the 2020/21 school year, the ASAA Seasons of Play remain intact for all remaining sports. Even if a championship is not offered in a given sport, the ASAA still encourages schools and Zones to make all efforts to offer athletic programming in all sports under the policies of their respective school jurisdiction and the Government of Alberta (GoA) guidelines.

Provincial Championships of the ASAA: In an effort to offer as many opportunities for ASAA Provincials as possible, modifications to the regular Championship schedule have been made. This document outlines below, the ASAA Provincial Championship dates for 2020-21 and the status of each event at this time. It is important to note that the term “at this time” is used because this schedule can change at any time based on directives/guidelines from the GoA or decisions of the ASAA Board of Governors.

School Jurisdiction Authority: Regardless of anything that appears in this document, it remains the authority of each school superintendent in Alberta to decide the level of athletic participation permitted by students in their jurisdiction. School teams/athletes can only attend ASAA Championships if they have the support of their Principal and their school jurisdiction.

Definition of Terms: “Scheduled”, “Under Assessment”, “Cancelled”

If an event is **SCHEDULED**, that championship event can run under the existing GoA/AHS Guidelines with some modifications. Plans to run that championship event will proceed but modifications to the advancement and the event itself may be required.

If an event is **UNDER ASSESSMENT**, that championship is currently not permitted under the existing GoA/AHS Guidelines. The event will be reviewed by the assessment date noted below and will either be scheduled, rescheduled or cancelled on that date.

If an event is **CANCELLED** that championship event will not run for the 2020-21 school year. Planned ASAA Provincial Championship events may also be cancelled under the following conditions (as per normal ASAA policy):

- If there are less than 5 Zones represented at a Provincial Championship
- If a host is not secured 30 days prior to the scheduled championship date

Updated ASAA Provincial Championship Schedule

Sport	Updated Scheduled Championship Date	Championship Status	Assessment Date
Golf	May 31 - June 1	Scheduled	March 31
Cross Country	May 28-29	Scheduled	March 28
Football	Cancelled	Cancelled	
Volleyball	Cancelled	Cancelled	
Cheerleading*	May 15	Scheduled	March 15
Curling	March 12-13	Scheduled	February 12
Wrestling	March 5-6	Under Assessment	January 5
Basketball	March 26-27	Under Assessment	January 26
Badminton	May 7-8	Scheduled	April 7
Team Handball	May 14-15	Under Assessment	March 14
Track and Field	June 4-5	Under Assessment	March 4
Rugby 15's	June 4-5	Under Assessment	April 4
Rugby 7's	June 4-5	Under Assessment	April 4

NOTE: For all scheduled championship events, please note that there may be modifications applied to each championship in order to be in compliance with the GoA/AHS guidelines. This may include: reducing the number of teams or participants competing at the championship, using multiple locations to split up different classifications (ex. Girls at one location and boys at another), etc. Specific modifications for each championship will be communicated at a later date.

* Cheerleading may be offered as a virtual event given that judging is possible via video.

Updated ASAA Seasons of Play Schedule

2020-21 Seasons of Play Schedule						
Sport	Season Start Date	Season End Date	Season Start Date	Season End Date	New Date for Provincial Championship	Event Status
Golf	August 16	September 29	April 15	June 30	May 31 - June 1	Scheduled
Cross Country	August 16	October 17	April 1	June 30	May 28-29	Scheduled
Football	August 16	November 28	May 1	June 30	Cancelled	Cancelled
Volleyball	August 24	January 9	June 1	June 30	Cancelled	Cancelled
Cheerleading*	September 1	May 15	-	-	May 15	Scheduled
Curling	October 1	March 13	-	-	March 12-13	Scheduled
Wrestling	October 22	March 13	-	-	March 5-6	Under Assessment
Basketball	November 1	March 27	-	-	March 26-27	Under Assessment
Badminton	January 3	May 8	-	-	May 7-8	Scheduled
Team Handball	February 15	May 15	-	-	May 14-15	Under Assessment
Track and Field	February 15	June 5	-	-	June 4-5	Under Assessment
Rugby 15's	February 15	June 5	-	-	June 4-5	Under Assessment
Rugby 7's	February 15	June 5	-	-	June 4-5	Under Assessment

* While the Championships of Volleyball and Football have been cancelled for the 2020/21 school year, both sports were permitted an opportunity for some play in the fall and have an opportunity for additional play and competition in the spring season of play at the zone/regional level.

Consideration of individual requests for exceptions to Seasons of Play

If a school or Zone wishes to request a modification to the above noted Seasons of Play for their respective school or Zone, a request may be submitted to the ASAA Executive Committee. Please contact the ASAA office for additional information.

Additional Information

Keeping students, coaches and spectators safe

The ASAA encourages athletic activities to occur at the school, district and Zones level that can be achieved under the GoA/AHS guidelines. Schools should always defer to the policies in their respective school jurisdiction.

Events occurring at a level below ASAA Provincials

It is possible that there may be playoffs at a level lower than the ASAA in those sports that are currently cancelled, or may end up being cancelled. Such events would be at the discretion of zones/districts/regions but must comply with GoA Guidelines/restrictions.

Contact Information

For any questions, please contact the ASAA office at (780) 427-8182 or at info@asaa.ca

