# ASAA Notices of Motion Executive Meeting November 29, 2023

# **BYLAW AMENDMENTS**

#### REGULAR BYLAW NOTICES OF MOTION 2023 - 24

ASAA Executive Committee Notice #1: (As this is a Bylaw, it requires 75% vote to pass) Bylaws - Article IV, page 13 For immediate implementation

#### **Current:**

The directors of the Association are the members of the Executive Committee and shall consist of the following:

- 1. President must be an Alberta certified teacher who shall retain office for a two-year term.
- 2. Past President shall retain office for one year following the term of office as President.
- 3. Vice President must be an Alberta certified teacher who shall retain office for one year and shall ascend to the presidency the following year.
- 4. The Board of Governors will ensure that a school based administrator (principal, vice principal, assistant principal) or a central office staff member occupies two of the six positions (president, vice president or past president, executive member at large and three athletic directors).
- 5. Executive Member at Large must be an Alberta certified teacher who shall retain office for a four year period. This member shall be nominated by the Executive and elected by the Board of Governors. This person must have held a position on the Board of Governors for a minimum of five years and preferably (but not limited to) be a past member of the executive.
- 6. Directors of Athletics (3) there shall be three Directors of Athletics all being Alberta certified teachers, there shall be at least one of each gender at all times and each retaining office for a three-year term. Each year a new Director of Athletics will be voted in.
- 7. Executive Director shall be a paid official of the Association, appointed by the Board of Governors and responsible to it.

#### **Proposed:**

The directors of the Association are the members of the Executive Committee, which shall consist of the following:

Senior Executive (voting members)

The Board of Governors will ensure that an active or retired administrator (principal, superintendent) occupies at least 3 of the following 4 senior executive positions, and the fourth can be an assistant/vice principal:

- 1. Vice President must be an Alberta certified teacher and shall, subject to Article V (2), hold the office of Vice-President for a 2-year term and shall be the President for a 2-year term following their term as Vice-President.
- 2. President must be an Alberta certified teacher and shall hold the office of President for a 2-year term, subject to Article V(2).
- 3. Past President may be appointed into this role by the sitting Executive Committee members at their option and shall only have the duties assigned by them and will serve in that role until the Executive Committee members dismiss them or until they resign.
- 4. Executive Member at Large must be a former Executive Committee member of the ASAA (or equivalent provincial or state governing body) who shall retain office for a 4-year term subject to Article V(2). This member shall be nominated by the Executive and elected by the Board of Governors. This member is also the contact for any Human Resources issues with ASAA office staff and is actively involved in hiring new staff.

The President, the Vice-President and the Executive Member at Large shall be the primary contacts for the Executive Director in affairs of the association requiring the urgent input and support of the Executive Committee.

- 5. Directors of Athletics (voting members)
  - A. There shall be three Directors of Athletics all being Alberta certified teachers.
    - a. There shall be at least 1 of each gender at all times.
    - b. There shall be at least 1 representative from a rural zone at all times.
    - c. Each retains office for a 3-year term.
- 6. Office Staff (non-voting members)
  - A. Executive Director An individual holding the position of Executive Director shall be a paid employee of the Association, selected by the Board of Governors and responsible to it.

#### Rationale:

- 1. Principals and Superintendents have experience with significant staffing and budgeting challenges. That experience is required at the Executive Committee level.
- 2. The proposed terms ensure that there is continuity of leadership while making the commitment manageable for people with busy personal and professional lives.
- 3. Given that the Bylaws give control of the affairs of the Association to the Executive Committee, it is important that the Executive Director have access to designated Executive members (i.e. President, Vice President and Executive Member at Large referred to as the "Senior Executive") for any urgently needed support and guidance. Matters requiring a majority vote of the Executive Committee will still come before the entire Executive Committee, including the 3 Directors of Athletics.

# ASAA Executive Committee

# Notice #2: (As this is a Bylaw, it requires 75% vote to pass) Bylaws - Article VIII & IX, page 14-15 For immediate implementation

#### **Current:**

#### **Article VIII**

- 1. Subject to Article XII, candidates for the offices of president, vice-president, executive member at large and directors of athletics shall be nominated from the floor at the Annual General Meeting and shall be voted upon at that meeting.
- 2. Election of a director requires a majority vote of the Board of Governors.
- 3. Only members of the Board of Governors in attendance shall be entitled to vote.
- 4. The President shall appoint two election clerks who shall receive and count the ballots. The President shall act as judge of the election.

#### **Article IX**

1. Voting privileges shall consist of one vote for each of the accredited members of the board as are present in person with the exception of the Executive Director and other ASAA staff who shall be non-voting members.

# **Proposed:**

#### Article VIII

- 1. Executive Committee members' terms commence on July 1 of the year in which they are elected or acclaimed and end on June 30 of the final year of their term unless the Executive Committee, by a majority vote, extends their term by a period of no more than one year.
- 2. Nominations for Executive Committee members must be submitted by the nominee's principal or superintendent and be seconded by a teacher or administrator from a different ASAA member school.\*
- 3. Completed Nomination Forms must be submitted to the ASAA office by April 30.
- 4. Completed Nomination Forms will be reviewed by a Nominations Committee, made up of one urban representative (determined by the Edmonton and Calgary Presidents) and one rural representative (determined by the rural zone Presidents). Voting members will be notified either that the nomination of a candidate does or does not have the unanimous support of the Nominations Committee.
- 5. The elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting. The candidate who receives the most votes for a contested office will be elected.
- 6. A candidate may be acclaimed if there is only 1 candidate.
- 7. The President shall appoint 2 election clerks who shall receive and count the ballots. The President shall act as judge of the election.

#### **Article IX**

1. Voting privileges shall consist of 1 vote for each Board of Governors member with the exception of the Executive Director and any other ASAA staff who may have an *ex officio* role on the Executive Committee or Board of Governors who shall not have voting privileges.

#### Rationale:

- 1. The affairs of the Association have become more complex from both a social and business perspective. Members of the Executive Committee must have a demonstrated ability, as confirmed by a nominator, to conduct themselves appropriately in social and business settings. Strong public speaking skills and a record of making positive contributions as a board or committee member will be necessary to serve the offices of the Executive Committee.
- 2. A candidate whose nomination does not receive the unanimous support of the Nominations Committee may need additional experience or training to be considered a suitable candidate.

<sup>\*</sup>Except for the Executive Member at Large who shall be nominated by the Executive and elected by the Board of Governors.

# **POLICY AMENDMENTS**

# ASAA Executive Committee

#### HOUSEKEEPING POLICY NOTICES OF MOTION 2023 - 24

Housekeeping Notice #1: Policies - Section IV (Student Eligibility) - 2. Specific Reasons for Ineligibility, page 25. Addition of policy. For immediate implementation.

#### **Proposed:**

VII. Either the Compliance Officer or the ASAA Executive Committee make a finding that either Section IV, paragraph 09 or paragraph 10 applies; or

\*note, this would move to current VII to VIII.

#### **Rationale:**

Strategic Goal #6: Build equitable competitive opportunities that are fair and prioritize the education of students.

# ASAA Executive Committee

Housekeeping Notice #2: Policies - Section V (Activities) - 4. Athlete Registration - G. Registration Deadlines, page 38. For immediate implementation.

# **Current:**

Sport	Deadline	Min # Students Required for Team Registration		Coach/Team Official Registration Deadline
Football	1-Oct	12-a-side: 28 6-a-side: 9 If joint team, at least one from the secondary school (s)	15-Oct	15-Oct

# **Proposed:**

Sport	Deadline	Min # Students Required for Team Registration	Deadline to add Students to Roster (prior to midnight)	Coach/Team Official Registration Deadline
Football	1-Oct	12-a-side: 28 9-a-side: 18 6-a-side: 9 If joint team, at least one from the secondary school (s)	15-Oct	15-Oct

#### **Rationale:**

Need to update to include 9-a-side if Football Reorganizing NOM is passed. If the Football Reorganizing NOM does not pass, this motion will be withdrawn.

# ASAA Executive Committee

Housekeeping Notice #3: Policies - Section IV (Student Eligibility) - 9. Sport Specific School Programs, pages 26-27. For immediate implementation.

#### **Current:**

A. Definition: Sport Specific School Programs (SSSP) are those which offer students a program that combines sport specific training or competition along with a course of studies. SSSPs include but are not limited to sport academy programs and post-secondary preparatory ("Prep") programs.

# **Proposed:**

A. Definition: Sport Specific School Programs (SSSP) are those which offer students a program that combines sport specific training or competition along with a course of studies.

#### **Rationale:**

The second sentence is redundant with the following policy on Prep Schools and Academy Programs.

ASAA Executive Committee

# Housekeeping Notice #4: Policies - Section V (Activities) - 8. Deleting Activities, page 43 For immediate implementation. Note the moratorium on Championship status is in effect for the 2024/25 school year. Current:

A. In the event that any classification (tier, category, etc.) at a provincial competition has representation from fewer than five zones, the event will be on probation for one year. If at the end of the one year, the classification or event has not met one of the above requirements the continued sponsorship by the ASAA will be either affirmed or cancelled at the AGM following the occurrence of the next provincial championship in that activity. If the event is affirmed, it will remain on probation.

B. Whenever an activity is affected by this policy, it will be announced at the current AGM, thus providing member schools this information one year in advance.

C. In the event that any classification or event is cancelled, classification and tier population numbers will be adjusted accordingly by the ASAA Executive Committee and confirmed by the Board of Governors where necessary.

#### **Proposed:**

- A. Activities which have Championship or Festival status and do not meet the Festival criteria, shall be put on probation for one year. If, at the end of the year, the activity has not met Festival requirements, the continued sponsorship by the ASAA will be cancelled at the APM (fall activities) or AGM (winter and spring activities).
- B. Whenever an activity is put on probation, it will be announced at the current APM (fall activities) or AGM (winter and spring activities), thus providing member schools this information one year in advance of possible cancellation.
- C. In the event that any classification, tier or category in an activity is cancelled, classifications, tiers or categories for that activity will be adjusted by the ASAA Executive Committee and if required, affirmed by the Board of Governors.
- D. If a classification, tier, category or activity is removed, the Advisory Committee or Commissioner for the activity can appeal the decision within two months of the respective APM or AGM if there are unique local or global circumstances around the activity.
- E. If an activity is cancelled, it cannot apply for demonstration for at least three years from the date of cancellation.

#### **Rationale:**

This policy needs to be updated to reflect the new Festivals and Championships policy.

ASAA Executive Committee

# Housekeeping Notice #5: Policies - Section V (Activities) - 11. Provincial Competition - F. Awards - I. Medals, page 46. For immediate implementation.

#### **Current:**

a. ASAA gold medals shall be presented to provincial winners in all competitions sponsored by the Association.

The following rules apply for award medals:

Badminton: 48 (winners in category A and category B singles, doubles and mixed in each age group i.e. junior, intermediate and senior)

Wrestling: 29 (rural event winners–17 boys and 12 girls) 29 (provincial event winners–17 boys and 12 girls)

# Proposed change to add t-shirts for all sports and ONLY to the wording for Badminton and Wrestling as follows:

a. ASAA gold medals and champion t-shirts shall be presented to provincial winners in all competitions sponsored by the Association.

The following rules apply for award medals:

Badminton:

Category A singles, doubles and mixed in each age group (i.e. junior, intermediate and senior) - 24 2.25 inch medals and champion shirts

Category B singles, doubles and mixed in each age group (i.e. junior, intermediate and senior) - 24 1.75 inch diameter medals Wrestling:

Rural: 29 (17 boys and 12 girls) 1.75 inch diameter medals and rural champion t-shirts

Provincial: 29 (17 boys and 12 girls) 2.25 inch medals and provincial champion t-shirts

#### **Rationale:**

Policy lacked mention of t-shirts to champions.

There has been some confusion in badminton about the differences between categories A & B in regards to awards. This clarifies and follows past precedent.

Clarifies the difference between rural and provincial for wrestling.

# ASAA Executive Committee

#### REGULAR POLICY NOTICES OF MOTION 2023 - 24

Notice #1: Policies - Section V (Activities) - 3. Seasons of Play -D. Seasons of Play, page 36 | Policies - Section XX (Volleyball) - 2. Seasons of Play, page 93. For implementation in 2024/25.

#### **Current:**

Activity	Start	Finish ***
(excludes July and August until the 1st operational day for teachers "in late August/ Early September)	(Spring) June 1 (Fall) 1st 'operational" day for teachers	Provincial Finals

#### Section XX

#### 2. Season of Play

The season of play for volleyball shall be June 1 to the fourth Saturday in November. The season of play is not intended to include July and August. See SECTION V – ACTIVITIES, Item 3, for more information.

Proposed	
----------	--

Activity	Start	Finish ***	
I (avaludas Iuly and August until the 1st energional	(Spring) June 1	Provincial Finals	
day for teachers "in late August/ Early September)	(Fall) August 16	1 Tovincial Finals	

#### **Section XX**

#### 2. Season of Play

The season of play for volleyball shall be June 1 to the fourth Saturday in November. The season of play is not intended to include summer holidays, however, teams may begin their season on August 16. See SECTION V – ACTIVITIES, Item 3, for more information.

#### **Rationale:**

Strategic Goal 4: offer exceptional provincial championship experiences consistently across all sports and hosts. Cross country, football and golf can begin practicing on August 16, volleyball should be permitted as well.

Strategic Goal #6. Build equitable competitive opportunities that are fair and prioritize the education of students. The note in SECTION V-ACTIVITIES, Item 3 provides advantages to some schools which start earlier than others. If passed, this NOM would edit that note accordingly.

ASAA Executive Committee

# Notice #2: Policies - Section V (Activities) - 4. Athlete Registration - G. Registration Deadlines, page 33. For immediate implementation.

### **Current:**

Sport	Deadline	Min # Students Required for	Deadline to add Students to Roster	Coach/Team Official Registration
		Team Registration	(Prior to midnight)	Deadline
Golf	12-Sept	1	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone Championship	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone Championship
Volleyball	1-Oct	6	15-Oct	15-Oct
Football	1-Oct	12-a-side: 28 6-a-side: 9 If joint team, at least one from the secondary school (s)	15-Oct	15-Oct
Cross Country	5-Oct	1	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone Championship	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone Championship
Basketball	15-Dec	5	8-Feb	8-Feb
Cheerleading	22-Jan	5	8-Feb	8-Feb
Curling	22-Jan	4 per category	8-Feb	8-Feb
Wrestling	22-Jan	1	8-Feb	8-Feb
Team Handball	22-March	7	15-April	15-April
Badminton	15-April	1	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone Championship	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone Championship
Rugby Sevens	1-May	7	15-May	15-May

Rugby XV	1-May	15	15-May	15-May
Track & Field*	15-May	1	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone	11:59 pm the night prior to Zone
			Championship	Championship

If the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or statutory holiday, the deadline remains in effect.

**Proposed:** 

Activity	Deadline (Prior to midnight)	Min # Students Required for Team Registration	Deadline to add Students/Coaches/Team Officials to Roster (Prior to midnight)
Golf	15-Sept	1 minimum 3 to create a team	15-Sept
Volleyball	1-Oct	6	15-Oct
Football	1-Oct	12-a-side: 28 6-a-side: 9 If joint team, at least one from the secondary school(s)	15-Oct
Cross Country*	5-Oct	1	5-Oct
Basketball	15-Dec	5	8-Feb
Cheerleading	22-Jan	5	8-Feb
Curling	22-Jan	4 per category	8-Feb
Wrestling	22-Jan	1	8-Feb
Team Handball	22-March	7	15-April
Badminton	15-April	1	15-April
Rugby Sevens	1-May	7	15-May
Rugby XV	1-May	15	15-May
Track & Field*	15-May	1	15-May

If the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or statutory holiday, the deadline remains in effect.

#### **Rationale:**

Strategic Goal #3. Develop and maintain positive, collaborative relationships with educational and sport partner organizations.

Specifically, the cross country and track & field deadlines must be October 5 & May 15 so that students can be registered in MileSplit in a timely manner. The ASAA encourages zones to create policies that put the MileSplit and/or SRS registration deadline earlier for these two activities if their qualification process starts well in advance of the above deadlines.

Strategic Goal #5. Integrate sportsmanship, character development, and personal growth as guiding principles for school sport programs.

We should be instilling the value of commitment into our student-athletes; either they are in, or they're out. These deadlines are fair. For extenuating circumstances, appeals can be sent to the Executive. With the new SRS, it is very easy to register students; if athletic directors are not 100% sure if a student will compete, it is very easy to register the student just in case.

Strategic Goal #6. Build equitable competitive opportunities that are fair and prioritize the education of students. All the activities that allow additional registrations up to midnight prior to Zone Championships create inconsistencies across the zones. Further, this has become onerous and has caused consternation amongst schools, zones and the ASAA office. This policy has also caused website development issues which have proven costly (time and money). These issues will not go away with our new website.

Please note that individual sport deadlines are already much closer to the date of provincials than in team sports. Having a single deadline date is necessary to create greater efficiencies at the school, zone and provincial level as these event registrations are more complicated than team sport registrations.

<sup>\*</sup>Track & Field: zones must submit their team list using the Hy-Tek or Trackiereg format provided by the ASAA or Competition Host Committee. Deadline for submission is the Monday prior to provincials at 12:00 p.m.

<sup>\*</sup>Cross Country and Track & Field: zones must submit their team list using the appropriate software to the Meet Director. Deadline for submission is the Monday prior to Provincials at 12:00 noon.

ASAA Executive Committee & Football Commissioner

# Notice #3: Policies - Section XIV (Football), pages 70-75. For implementation in 2024/25.

#### **Current:**

- 1. Rules
- A. The playing rules used by ASAA Football shall be those endorsed by the Canadian Amateur Football Association.
- B. Schools and leagues are responsible for complying with the safety standards regarding equipment. These standards are stipulated in Rule 1, Section 11, Uniforms and Equipment, Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Canadian Amateur Football Rulebook.

#### 2. Season of Play

A. The season of play for football shall be May 1 to the Alberta Bowl (ASAA provincial football championship) to be held no later than the fourth Saturday in November and the preceding Friday night. The season of play is not intended to include July and August. Teams may begin practice in the fall, starting August 16. See SECTION V – ACTIVITIES, Item 3, for more information.

# 3. Eligibility

A. The ASAA shall have football competitions in five levels. There are four Tiers of 12-a-side Football, with Tiers being determined by school population as follows:

Tier I - 1250 plus

Tier III – 450-749

Tier II – 750-1249

Tier IV – under 450

6-a-side – (one Tier of competition)

- B. Each league shall be allowed to enter teams in all four Tiers provided populations warrant.
- C. All leagues or newly formed teams (i.e. those teams who do not belong to a league), must indicate in writing to the ASAA office by June 1 their intention to participate in provincials, and the Tier(s) in which they will have representatives.
- D. Two or more schools may combine to form one football team if the league (the league in which the school(s) participate) approves of such an arrangement. In such cases, the combined populations of the schools will determine at which Tier level the teams will compete.

**Note:** Insurance and liability issues involving students from one school playing for another school are the responsibility of the member schools involved and their local school jurisdictions.

E. The ASAA accepts out of province high school football teams who are full members in a recognized Alberta high school football league into provincial competition provided they advance out of their league and are prepared to travel to all games in which they might be involved.

#### 4. Representation to Provincials.

- A. For Tiers I, II, III, IV, the ASAA Provincial Playoffs are 8-team brackets made up of a north region and a south region for each Championship category.
- B. Zones will determine their representatives to provincials for Tiers I, II, III, IV.
  - a. The North Central Zone and North West Zone are combined and must coordinate with one another to determine their representative to ASAA quarterfinals.
  - b. If a team plays in a league that is made up mostly of teams from a different zone, that school (or the zone secretary of the impacted school(s)) may submit a request to the ASAA Executive to compete out of their league's zone for football only. Requests must be submitted by June 15.
- C. Quarterfinal and semifinal matchups will be determined based on proximity (i.e. north and south regions).
  - a. North Region Edmonton, North Central/North West, North East
  - b. South Region Calgary, South, South Central
  - c. Central Zone will float and act as an opposite to the wildcard
- D. Regional matchups and host privileges will alternate on an annual basis. Ideally, zones will host once every two years, but may have to travel two years in a row because of wildcard allocations.
- E. All teams must register and declare their intention to participate in provincials through their zone secretary by June 15
- F. If a zone does not have a team registered (with intention to compete in provincials) by June 15, their spot in that Tier will be considered a wildcard.
- G. Wildcards are awarded to the zone with the highest number of registered teams as of June 15 in that classification. If that zone already has a second berth, the wildcard will go to the zone with the next highest number of teams. A zone cannot receive more than one wildcard.
  - a. Where a zone has more than one berth, it is that zone's responsibility to determine which team is their #1 representative and which team is #2. This must be communicated to the ASAA office by the Monday before the quarterfinals.

- b. If there is a tie between zones for the highest number of teams registered, the ASAA office, in consultation with the commissioner and the ranking committee, will make the final decision on which zone receives the wildcard.
- H. If the wildcard allocation results in an unreasonable travel expectation for the wildcard team, the ASAA reserves the right to adjust the brackets to ensure greater travel equity.
  - a. Wildcards will not be granted home field advantage unless mutually agreed upon by both teams and approved by the ASAA office.
- I. If a team receives an automatic berth into the quarterfinals by virtue of being the only team in a zone at a given Tier and pulls out of the quarterfinal game after September 30, that team will be charged \$1,000. The \$250 quarterfinal entry fee payable to the ASAA office and \$750 to the replacement team.
- J. The final draws for each tier (absent of team names) will be sent out by the ASAA office no later than June 30.

#### 5. Events

- A. All six provincial finals will be played no later than the fourth Saturday in November and the preceding Friday night.
- B. Hosting of the ASAA Alberta Bowl will be set on a rotating basis. Stadiums are required to have hard-wired internet for live streaming, as well as appropriate field turf, locker rooms, spotterbooth(s), mediabooth and spectator capacity.

2023 - Central

2024 - North West

2025 - South

2026 - Edmonton

2027 - South Central

2028 - North East

2029 - Calgary

C. The Alberta Bowl will commence with the 6-a-side championship and conclude with the Tier I championships. The remaining three games will rotate on an annual basis as described below:

	2023	2024	2025
Friday at 1:00 PM	6-a-side	6-a-side	6-a-side
Friday at 4:00 PM	Tier II	Tier III	Tier IV
Friday at 7:00 PM	Tier IV	Tier II	Tier III
Saturday at 11:00 AM	Tier III	Tier IV	Tier II
Saturday at 2:30 PM	Tier I	Tier I	Tier I
Saturday at 6:00 PM	Tier I - Brian Fryer	Tier I - Brian Fryer	Tier I - Brian Fryer

- D. The organizing committee for the Alberta Bowl will be made up of the ASAA Football Commissioner, the host region, and interested coaches and volunteers. The committee is under the jurisdiction of the ASAA office.
- E. The Northern tier I provincial semi-final game will be played in a turf field stadium, which must have a score clock, changing rooms, lights, spotter booth and adequate media and timers/scorekeeper booth. Furthermore, proceeds from gate admissions will cover costs of hosting the game (i.e. field rental, officials, medical, etc.) and any profit after expenses will be utilized to assist with travel costs of any team from outside the greater Edmonton area.

#### 6. Fees and Officials

B. All provincial playoff games will use six officials for 12-a-side games and five officials for all 6-a-side games.

# 9. 6-a-side Football

- A. The ASAA supports the Alberta -a-side Football League by providing ASAA Provincials Playoffs and the Provincial Championship at the Alberta Bowl.
  - a. The playoff structure needs to be approved by the ASAA Executive Director by June 25.
  - b. This support will be revisited every 5 years (years ending in 0 & 5), with the goal of eventually having the ASAA take over jurisdiction.
  - c. This support is contingent on the premise that all 9-a-side teams and associated schools in the ASAA Provincial Playoffs abide by ASAA bylaws and policies and are registered appropriately.
  - d. Only 1A/2A teams are eligible.

- B. 6-a-side football shall be an official variation of 12-a-side football.

  The rules for 12-a-side football established by Canadian Amateur Football Association will apply to 6-a-side with the following exceptions:
- I. Kick-off takes place from the 40 yard line (no matter the length of the field)
- II. Time: 12 minute stop time quarters, at no point will the games move to straight time
- III. Conversion points are reversed from 12-a-side Football. Kicked conversion 2 points. Pass or run 1 point
- IV. Only the middle of the three linemen is ineligible each play. If four men are down, both inside linesmen are ineligible (numbers are irrelevant)
- V. Three linesmen must be set for one second before the ball is snapped (not necessarily in the three point stance). In all other ways, 6-a-side football follows the rules of 12-a-side tackle football and is governed by all the above stated policies included in Section XIII of the handbook.

#### 10. Tier I - Brian Fryer 2023/2024

- A. Tier I will have two divisions:
  - Tier I Brian Fryer Division
  - Tier I Larry Wilson Division
- B. Tier I Brian Fryer and Larry Wilson Division winners will both be identified on the current Tier I plaque. If the Brian Fryer Category is made permanent, it will get its own perpetual plaque.
- C. Any Tier I, II, III or IV team may register for Tier I Brian Fryer by the October 1 football registration deadline. Once a team declares their intention, they cannot rescind it after the deadline and are no longer eligible, that season, to compete at any other classification.
- D. There is no limit to the number of teams that can declare into Tier I Brian Fryer. The top 10 teams will be ranked in the first rankings, and the top 8 teams after the final rankings will move into the playoffs. Once the top 8 are finalized, they will be seeded, and a single game elimination playoff structure will be followed.

#### 11. Rankings

- A. Tier I Brian Fryer teams must submit their game results into SRS throughout the season as soon as possible after each game. Rankings will be determined on submitted game results only. Teams are required to submit at least three games in order to be ranked.
- B. Rankings shall be done for Tier I Brian Fryer by a rankings committee. Recruitment and formation of the committee will be the responsibility of the Commissioner, who shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee.
- C. The committee shall consist of five members and the Chairperson, with all but the Chair having voting privileges except in the event to break a tie. A Football Alberta representative will have an opportunity to be on the committee but not as a voting member. The committee will be formed as follows:

Chairperson: ASAA Football Commissioner

Northern Representative (Region 7 & 8)

Edmonton Representative (Region 5)

Central Representative (Region 2 & 4)

Calgary Representative (Region 3)

South Representative (Region 1)

- D. Ranking Committee members cannot be a coach or Athletic Director at a school with a Tier I Brian Fryer team.
- E. The official ASAA Football Rankings Information Package will be posted on the ASAA website by June 15 each year. This will include ranking guidelines, timelines for score submissions, ranking submissions, ranking postings, and the appeal process.
- F. There will be two ranking periods. Based on the results submitted, each ranking committee member will determine a provincial top 10.
- G. For each ranking period, the Chair shall review the ranking committee selections and award points to the teams according to their ranking (#1-10 points, #2-9 points, etc). The Chair shall then total the points into a single listing and rank the teams from highest to lowest according to their total points for that ranking Period.
- H. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall apply the following:
  - A. Outcomes of any games between the tied teams.
  - B. Outcome of any games against common ranked opponents.
  - C. Outcome of any games against common unranked opponents.
  - D. Previous ranking of both teams.
  - E. Chair's decision based on the information provided.
- I. After the final rankings are completed, the ranking committee will create the ASAA provincial draw by seeding the top 8 teams. It is the job of the committee to produce the most competitive draw. The goal is to have a balanced draw that best reflects the entire season. The seedings will avoid opening round games matching up two teams from the same league or zone provided that the integrity of the draw is not compromised.
- J. The final rankings and draw (including the seedings) shall be posted on the ASAA website. Individual ranking committee member selections are not provided.

K. Schools wishing to appeal the rankings will be able to in accordance with the timelines established in the official ASAA Football Rankings Information Package. Such an appeal must be accompanied by a \$50 payment. The ASAA Football Commissioner will consult with the rankings committee based on the information available, and, with the approval of the Executive Director, will render a decision to the school. If the appeal results in a change to the rankings and the subsequent inclusion of the appellant school, the \$50 will be refunded to that school. Appeals will not be considered unless the appellant has submitted a complete season record by the ranking submission deadline.

# **Proposed:**

#### 1. Rules

The playing rules used by ASAA Football shall be those endorsed by the Canadian Amateur Football Association. 6-a-side and 9-a-side football are official variations of 12-a-side football. For a guide to the variations, please visit the Resources Section of the Football Alberta website.

Schools and leagues are responsible for complying with the safety standards regarding equipment. These standards are stipulated in Rule 1, Section 11, Uniforms and Equipment, Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Canadian Amateur Football Rulebook.

# 2. Season of Play

The season of play for football shall be May 1 to the Alberta Bowl (ASAA Provincial Football Championship). Quarterfinals will commence on the second Saturday of November.

The season of play is not intended to include summer holidays, however, teams may begin their season on August 16. See SECTION V – ACTIVITIES, Item 3, for more information.

# 3. Eligibility

A. The ASAA shall have football competitions in five classifications:

6-a-side: only 1A/2A teams are eligible 9-a-side: no school population criteria

3A: <800 4A: 800-1399 5A: 1400+

- B. 3A and 4A teams may opt up to a higher classification. Once a team declares their intention, they cannot rescind it after the deadline and are no longer eligible, that season, to compete at any other classification. After the Football Registration Deadline of October 1, a comprehensive list of all football teams will be posted on the ASAA website.
- C. Two or more schools may combine to form one football team if the zone(s) approve of such an arrangement. In such cases, the combined populations of the schools will determine at which classification the team will compete.

**Note:** Insurance and liability issues involving students from one school playing for another school are the responsibility of the member schools involved and their local school jurisdictions.

D. The ASAA accepts out-of-province high school football teams who are full members in a recognized Alberta high school football league into provincial competition provided they advance through the appropriate zone playoff and are prepared to travel to all games in which they might be involved.

# 4. Representation to Provincials

#### 6-a-side and 9-a-side

- A. The ASAA supports the Alberta 6-a-side and 9-a-side Football Leagues by providing ASAA Provincials Playoffs and the Provincial Championship at the Alberta Bowl.
  - a. This support will be revisited every 5 years (years ending in 0 & 5), with the goal of eventually having the ASAA take over jurisdiction.
  - b. This support is contingent on the premise that all 6-a-side and 9-a-side teams and associated schools in the ASAA Provincial Playoffs abide by ASAA bylaws and policies and are registered appropriately.
  - c. The playoff structure needs to be approved by the ASAA Executive Director by June 25.

# 3A & 4A

- A. The 3A and 4A Football Playoffs are 8-team brackets made up of a north region and a south region for each classification.
- B. Zones will determine their representatives to provincials for 3A and 4A.
  - a. The North Central Zone and North West Zone are combined and must coordinate with one another to determine their representative to ASAA quarterfinals.
  - b. If a team plays in a league that is made up mostly of teams from a different zone, that school (or the zone secretary of the impacted school(s)) may submit a request to the ASAA Executive to compete out of their league's zone for football only. Requests must be submitted by June 15.

- C. Quarterfinal and semifinal matchups will be determined based on proximity (i.e. north and south regions).
  - a. North Region Edmonton, North Central/North West, North East
  - b. South Region Calgary, South, South Central
  - c. Central Zone will float and act as an opposite to the wildcard
- D. Regional matchups and host privileges will alternate on an annual basis. Ideally, zones will host once every two years, but may have to travel two years in a row because of wildcard allocations.
- E. All teams must register and declare their intention to participate in provincials through their zone secretary by June 15.
- F. If a zone does not have a team registered (with intention to compete in provincials) by June 15, their spot in that classification will be considered a wildcard.
- G. Wildcards are awarded to the zone with the highest number of registered teams as of June 15 in that classification. If that zone already has a second berth, the wildcard will go to the zone with the next highest number of teams. A zone cannot receive more than one wildcard.
  - a. Where a zone has more than one berth, it is that zone's responsibility to determine which team is their #1 representative and which team is #2. This must be communicated to the ASAA office by the Monday before the quarterfinals.
  - b. If there is a tie between zones for the highest number of teams registered, the ASAA office, in consultation with the commissioner and the ranking committee, will make the final decision on which zone receives the wildcard.
- H. If the wildcard allocation results in an unreasonable travel expectation for the wildcard team, the ASAA reserves the right to adjust the brackets to ensure greater travel equity.

Wildcards will not be granted home field advantage unless mutually agreed upon by both teams and approved by the ASAA office.

- I. If a team receives an automatic berth into the quarterfinals by virtue of being the only team in a zone at a given classification and pulls out of the quarterfinal game after September 30, that team will be charged \$1,000. The \$250 quarterfinal entry fee payable to the ASAA office and \$750 to the replacement team.
- J. The final draws for each classification (absent of team names) will be sent out by the ASAA office no later than June 30.

**5A** 

- A. The 5A Football Playoff is an 8-team Oregon-style bracket which is seeded 1-8, with the higher seed acting as host.
- B. There is no limit to the number of teams that can register for 5A. The top 10 teams will be ranked, and the top 8 teams after the final rankings will move into the playoffs. Once the top 8 are finalized, they will be seeded, and the single game elimination playoff structure will be followed.
- C. To be eligible for 5A ASAA playoffs, teams must be registered in the highest division of their league (if relevant) and must participate in any relevant league or zone playoff game.
- D. Independent teams must schedule at least four games against ASAA competition, one of which must be against 5A teams.

### **Rankings**

- A. 5A teams must submit their game results into SRS throughout the season as soon as possible after each game. Rankings will be determined on submitted game results only. Teams are required to submit at least three games in order to be ranked.
- B. Rankings shall be done for 5A by a rankings committee. Recruitment and formation of the committee will be the responsibility of the Commissioner, who shall serve as the Chairperson of the Committee.
- C. The committee shall consist of five members and the Chairperson, with all but the Chair having voting privileges except in the event to break a tie. A Football Alberta representative will have an opportunity to be on the committee but not as a voting member. The committee will be formed as follows:

Chairperson: ASAA Football Commissioner

Northern Representative (NC/NW/NE Zones)

**Edmonton Representative** 

Central Representative

Calgary Representative

South Representative (SC/South Zones)

- D. Ranking Committee members cannot be a coach or Athletic Director at a school with a 5A team.
- E. The official ASAA Football Rankings Information Package will be posted on the ASAA website by June 15 each year. This will include ranking guidelines, timelines for score submissions, ranking submissions, ranking postings, and the appeal process.
- F. There will be two ranking periods. Based on the results submitted, each ranking committee member will determine a provincial top 10.

- G. For each ranking period, the Chair shall review the ranking committee selections and award points to the teams according to their ranking (#1 10 points, #2 9 points, etc). The Chair shall then total the points into a single listing and rank the teams from highest to lowest according to their total points for that ranking period.
- H. In the event of a tie, the Chairperson shall apply the following:
  - a. Outcomes of any games between the tied teams.
  - b. Outcome of any games against common ranked opponents.
  - c. Outcome of any games against common unranked opponents.
  - d. Previous ranking of both teams.
  - e. Chair's decision based on the information provided.
- I. Undefeated teams at the time of final rankings will be guaranteed a spot in the top 8.
- J. After the final rankings are completed, the ranking committee will create the ASAA provincial draw by seeding the top 8 teams. It is the job of the committee to produce the most competitive draw. The goal is to have a balanced draw that best reflects the entire season. The seedings will avoid opening round games matching up two teams from the same league or zone provided that the integrity of the draw is not compromised.
- K. The final draw (including the seedings) shall be posted on the ASAA website. Teams not in the provincial draw will not receive a public final ranking. Individual ranking committee member selections are not provided.
- L. Schools wishing to appeal the final rankings and/or draw will be able to in accordance with the timelines established in the official ASAA Football Rankings Information Package. Such an appeal must be accompanied by a \$50 payment. The ASAA Football Commissioner will consult with the rankings committee based on the information available, and, with the approval of the Executive Director, will render a decision to the school. If the appeal results in a change to the rankings and/or draw and the subsequent inclusion of the appellant school, the \$50 will be refunded to that school. Appeals will only be considered if it has been submitted by the submission deadline and includes a complete season record along with a suggested alternate ranking.

#### 5. Events

- A. Zones are responsible for hosting ASAA quarterfinal and semifinal games. Zones may delegate this responsibility to a school. All playoff games will be broadcasted, and played in a turf field stadium, which must have a score clock, change rooms, lights, spotter booth, adequate media and timers/scorekeeper booth, and appropriate spectator capacity. Furthermore, proceeds from gate admissions will cover costs of hosting the game (i.e. field rental, officials, medical, etc.).
  - a. Zones will be asked to submit their preferred location for quarterfinal and semifinal games to the ASAA Office by June 15. The ASAA will include the preferred quarterfinal locations when it publishes the schedules (by June 30).
    - i. Zones may request an exception from the turf field requirement for quarterfinal games provided all other hosting requirements are met. The request must be made to the ASAA Executive Director within two weeks of the quarterfinal.
- B. All five provincial finals will be played no later than the fourth Saturday in November and the preceding Friday night.
- C. The ASAA Football Provincial Championships (Alberta Bowl) will be organized by a committee comprised of the following representatives:

Chairperson (appointed by the ASAA Executive Director)

Host Zone Secretary

Host Zone Member at Large

**ASAA** Football Commissioner

**ASAA Office** 

Venue Liaison (non-voting member)

Football Alberta (non-voting member)

The venue for the ASAA Alberta Bowl will be set on a rotating basis. The adequacy of the stadium will be determined by the Chairperson and ASAA office based on the criteria above. If they determine the stadium to be inadequate, the Chairperson will look to use another venue, perhaps in a different zone.

2025 - South

2026 - Edmonton

2027 - South Central

2028 - Calgary

2029 - Central

2030 - South

Note: the 2024 Alberta Bowl will be in Grande Prairie

D. The Alberta Bowl schedule will be as follows:

Friday at 2:30pm	6-a-side
Friday at 6:00pm	9-a-side
Saturday at 11:00am	3A
Saturday at 2:30pm	4A
Saturday at 6:00pm	5A

#### 6. Fees and Officials

B. All provincial playoff games will use five officials for the 6-a-side and 9-a-side games and six officials for 12-a-side games.

#### Rationale

- 1. This proposal rebrands/reorganizes football divisions to:
  - a. Align with other ASAA activities
  - b. Simplify the system
  - c. Ensure football classifications meet Championship criteria (Policy Section V.6).
- 2. This would allow the association to better achieve Strategic Goals #4 & #6 to consistently offer equitable Provincial Championships in football as the proposed breakdown of classifications is more equitable than the current tier structure.
  - a. 3A: <800 (22 teams in 2023)
  - b. 4A: 800-1399 (39 teams in 2023)
  - c. 5A: 1400+ (33 teams in 2023, including Brian Fryer)
- 3. Football is a unique ASAA activity in that the majority of teams fit in the 4A category. Further, the safety of students is more inherently at risk if you make smaller schools play larger schools. This structure provides safer competition for all schools:
  - a. 6-a-side and 9-a-side for smaller schools.
  - b. An additional category (5A) that reflects the percentage of football teams that pull from large population bases and is also based on "strength of program", not school size.
    - i. There are some massive joint-school teams in the ASAA. Having them play 5A:
      - 1. Is fair: they are pulling from a huge population base and should be expected to compete against like-size teams.
      - 2. Is safe: the 5A category is ranked and only the top-8 qualify for ASAA Provincials. This eliminates the blowouts in our opening rounds and injury concerns that come with them.
        - a. There are some concerns about the long-term feasibility of the Brian Fryer model (no guarantees that enough teams opt up, "recruitment" potential etc.)
      - 3. Promotes high school football: Students want to play for their own school. This will motivate some of the secondary schools of joint teams to start up their own programs to avoid having to be in the 5A classification. Students are more inclined to compete with their school's jersey on, than be part of a joint team with another (often rival) school.
- 4. While there are not a lot of 9-a-side teams currently, exploratory research suggests that some teams will choose to switch to 9-a-side if it was endorsed by the ASAA. The 9-a-side division is being proposed for several reasons:
  - a. Increasing participation
    - i. The 28-person roster requirement could be prohibitive to smaller schools having football teams.
    - ii. Students want to play for their own school and would be more inclined to play 9-a-side with their school's jersey on, than be part of a joint team with another (often rival) school.
    - iii. Starting a football team can be difficult. A 9-a-side option can be an avenue to starting a football program that doesn't vary from 12-a-side quite as much as 6-a-side does.
  - b. Safety: Allows Tier III & IV teams to choose between 3A or 9-a-side depending on strength of program.
  - c. Competitive balance:
    - i. Some 6-a-side teams are strong and large enough to play 9-a-side but don't because they want to maintain ASAA status.
    - ii. Some Tier III and IV teams that are not competitive may be more inclined to try 9-a-side so that they can field a competitive team.
- 5. Strategic Goal #4. Offer exceptional provincial championship experiences consistently across all sports and hosts.
  - Having a turf field policy in place only for the Tier I North semifinal is out-of-date. There are enough quality turf facilities throughout Alberta to make it feasible for all playoff games to be played in high-quality facilities.

- Mandating broadcasting is feasible considering the availability of appropriate equipment and crews. This helps grow the game and the interest in high school sports amongst the general population.
- This is a safety issue as grass fields in November in Alberta are not suitable for football.
- The ASAA wants skill to be on full display, and the playing surface has a significant impact on the ability to showcase excellence.
- 6. Strategic Goal #9. Collaborate and liaise with Zones in delivering quality school sport and to understand and meet the needs of the school sport community.
  - Having zones responsible for hosting quarterfinals and semifinals is more efficient and practical for scheduling, especially double and tripleheaders. These could generate tremendous local excitement and increase the potential for significant revenue.
  - The game coordinator should not be an administrator at one of the schools involved in the game; this creates a conflict of interest in case of investigations/appeals etc.
- 7. There are now so many moving parts to hosting a championship, and an increasing range of requirements (e.g. live streaming, safety & security, apparel sales, social media, gate, etc.) that having a new host committee every year is inefficient. The people impacted by this are the student-athletes, coaches and spectators.
- 8. The Alberta Bowl has a significant number of participants and spectators and requires a higher level of organization, specifically in regards to safety and security, and strategically raising the profile of the event. Further, the Alberta Bowl should not be held in Northern Regions of Alberta for various reasons:
  - a. Travel historically it has meant that most, if not all teams travel very long distances
  - b. Safety road conditions in late November are often poor, so asking every team to travel several (if not more than a dozen) hours is not wise
  - c. Costs road trips for any team are expensive, but even more so for football because of the size of rosters, meaning many hotel rooms, large buses etc.
- 9. With various promotions anticipated as ASAA ramps up its promotions and marketing of its sports in coming years, the current organizational structure of these Championships may not be sustainable.

# Notice #4: Policies - Section XVII (Rugby XV) - 3. Eligibility, page 81. For immediate implementation.

#### **Current:**

Rugby

Commissioners

B. There shall be an unlimited number of players on the team roster. Before each match a team must nominate 25 players on a game sheet that indicates name, unique jersey number or letter, captain(s) and designated forwards as per World Rugby law 3.5 (a) and U-19 Variation 3.5 (c). Only players on the game sheet may play, with a maximum of 10 substitutions.

#### **Proposed:**

B. There shall be a limit of 35 players registered on each team's Provincial roster. Before each match a team must nominate up to 25 players on a game sheet that indicates name, unique jersey number or letter, captain(s) and designated forwards as per World Rugby law 3.5 (a) and U-19 Variation 3.5 (c). Only players on the game sheet may play, with a maximum of 10 substitutions.

#### Rationale:

- Rugby Sevens has already made a similar adjustment, so this is "catch up" for XVs.
- Traveling rosters are traditionally around 30 players in Rugby XVs (Rugby World Cup 2023 is set for 33, up from 31 in 2019, for example). While teams shouldn't NEED in excess of 30 players, we feel 35 stretches to offer some flexibility for this level of play while keeping numbers reasonable.
- This cap allows tournament organizers and ASAA more predictability in terms of accommodating numbers (food, championship medals/shirts, hotel availability, etc.)
- Large programs (especially those in the zone/area hosting provincials) may gain unfair advantage over smaller programs by "platooning" fresh players over the course of the 2-day tournament.

Notice #5: Policies - Section XXI (Wrestling) - 6. Events, pages 99-100. For implementation in 2024/25.

#### **Current:**

B. Provincial Championships

I. The rotation for provincial championship host sites will be: 2023 Rural

Executive Committee and Wrestling Commissioner 2024 Edmonton 2025 Calgary 2026 Rural 2027 Edmonton 2028 Calgary

Should no school or zone within the region bid to host the championship, the next region in the rotation will have first right of refusal to submit a bid to host the championship.

### **Proposed:**

B.

The ASAA Provincial Wrestling Championships will be organized by a committee comprised of the following representatives:

Chairperson (appointed by the ASAA Executive Director)

Calgary Zone

**Edmonton Zone** 

Rural Zones (C/NC/NE/NW/S/SC) - one representative total

**ASAA Wrestling Commissioner** 

**ASAA Office** 

Venue Liaison (non-voting member)

Alberta Amateur Wrestling Association (non-voting member)

The Provincial Championships will be held in Red Deer on an annual basis.

#### **Rationale:**

Strategic Goal #4. Offer exceptional provincial championship experiences consistently across all sports and hosts.

There are now so many moving parts to hosting a championship, and an increasing range of requirements (e.g. live streaming, safety & security, apparel sales, social media, gate, medical, etc.) that having a new host committee every year is inefficient. The people most impacted by this are the student-athletes, coaches and spectators.

Red Deer is a central location, and having Championships there annually minimizes travel for everyone in the long term and creates consistency for planning as well as cost savings on accommodations.

With various promotions anticipated as ASAA ramps up its promotions and marketing of its sports in coming years, the current organizational structure of these Championships may not be sustainable.