



WELCOME BACK

FROM THE
ALBERTA SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

INFO PACKAGE

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BACK-TO-SCHOOL, BACK-TO-SPORT!

The 2021-22 school year has begun and the ASAA is here to support you in a safe return to high school athletics. This information package has important updates you'll need to review to ensure a smooth transition back to school sport.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

Welcome back to what will hopefully be a great year of school sports!! A few months ago, when COVID-19 cases in Alberta dropped into double digits per day, I was optimistic about a return to normal for this school year. We had planned at that time for a full slate of provincial championships in 2021/22, and we are still planning for that to be our outcome.

Of course, with COVID-19 cases averaging around 1,000 per day in the past week, we have to continue to be in a state of readiness, and to pivot as required. Our first championship, golf, is on September 27/28, and we anticipate that there may be some school districts that may choose not to allow travel at this time. However, the ASAA, in

coordination with Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr high will plan a safe golf championship with appropriate guidelines in place and our hope is that as it is an outdoor event the number of schools/zones not participating will be at a minimum. Our Cross-Country Running championship is scheduled for October 16 in Red Deer, hosted by the Central zone and again, as an outdoor event, we hope for as full representation as possible from zones.

The logistics of holding future events may require some organizational changes to reflect the need for PPE or other safety measures, but rest assured that the ASAA will continue to connect with a variety of stakeholders (e.g. Alberta Education, CASS, Sport Physical Activity and

Recreation branch of the Ministry of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women, etc.) to ensure we are staying abreast of all best practices and follow government requirements.

The one thing the ASAA has no authority over is what is decided at the school jurisdiction level. This means that if a school jurisdiction makes a decision, for example, that there can be no spectators at sporting events, then any host of an ASAA championship in that jurisdiction would be required to follow that direction and not allow spectators. If a school jurisdiction requires masking, then masks must be worn during an ASAA championship in a school of that jurisdiction. These are just examples of how collaborative efforts can allow ASAA Provincials to occur.

I am as enthusiastic as anyone about seeing high school students participating in school sports again, and I look forward to the coming school year with anticipation of outstanding ASAA Provincial Championship events. In advance, I want to thank all of those who will host an ASAA Championship this year, and to thank all of those who administrate athletics in schools.

JOHN PATON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ASAA



WILL PROVINCIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS BE OFFERED THIS YEAR?

Based on current physical activity guidelines from the Government of Alberta, the ASAA is planning for a full return to high school athletics, including Provincial Championships for all sports. Normally at least five of eight zones are required for the continuance of provincials in a sport. There may need to be flexibility around this in 2021/22.

ASAA provincials **will** occur unless:

- a. The ASAA Executive determines there are not enough participants/zones registered to make a viable championship.
- b. Alberta Government restrictions prohibit it
- c. A championship host is not confirmed at least one month prior to the championship.



CAN MY SCHOOL PARTICIPATE IN ATHLETICS THIS YEAR?

The Government of Alberta and the ASAA have no restrictions in place that limit a school's ability to participate in athletics.

HOWEVER, PARTICIPATION IS SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL OF INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL JURISDICTIONS AND SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIONS.

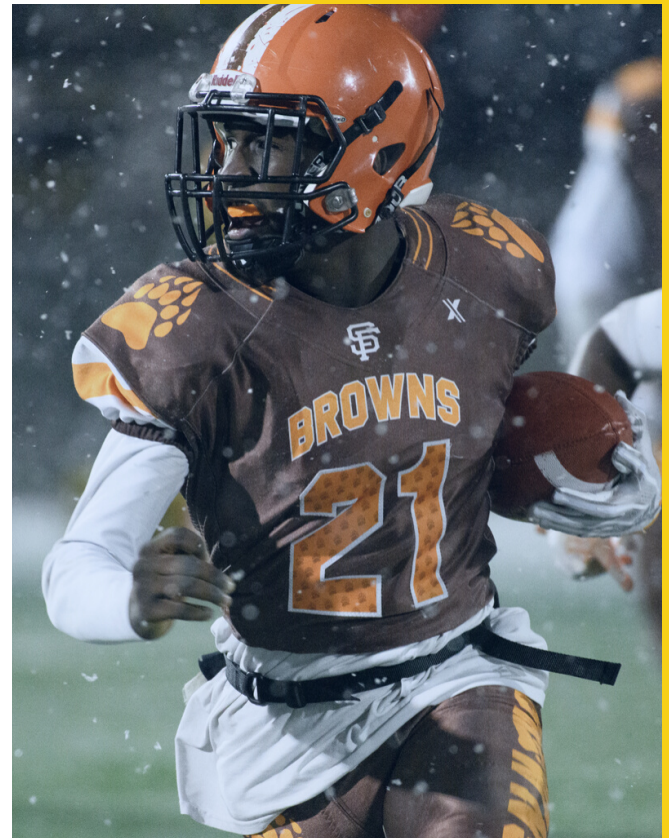
Be sure to confirm what activities are permitted at your school.



RETURN TO SPORT

The the ASAA is planning for a full return to high school athletics. To ensure the safest environment for student-athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators the ASAA advises that health measures are observed and adhered to.

It is important to note that any health guidelines and restrictions should always follow the appropriate order of importance. Please consider any health mandates, recommendations, or guidelines outlined by the Federal or Provincial Governments, Alberta Health Services, or your School Jurisdiction.



The ASAA previously released [a document regarding COVID-19](#) and return to sport in August 2020. While many of the specific government directives and policies are now out-of-date, there is a wealth of valuable information in terms of best practice and guidance contained in the document

In reviewing the content of this document, we recommend specific attention to the following sections:

- Spectators, pg. 4
- Screening Forms, p 5
- Pre-Screening, p 9
- Rapid Response, p 10
- Masks, p 11
- Equipment, p 12



SRS & WEBSITE FEEDBACK

The ASAA will be upgrading the public website and sport registration system (SRS) over the next year. If you have suggestions for improvements, please send them to info@asaa.ca

Be sure to include "Website/SRS Suggestion" in the subject line.



TRANSFERS + ELIGIBILITY

Please be sure to complete all transfers in a timely manner through the School Registration System.

The ASAA office has received inquiries from member schools about students returning for a fourth year of high school since starting grade 10.

Since June of 2020, the ASAA Board and Executive have maintained a position that current policy regarding fourth year students will be followed; that is, they are not eligible to participate in 2021/22.

If schools wish to appeal this policy on behalf of a student, they must do so following the ASAA Appeals process which is noted in the [policy handbook](#) and available in the SRS under "Transfers and Appeals"



COACHING REQUIREMENTS

FAQS AND CHANGES

Q What are the coaching course requirements this year? Are they the same as in past years?

A There are modified coaching requirements for the 2021-22 school year. See the chart below. Coaches are required to register an NCCP account in the Locker.

Q How can I check to ensure coaches are completing their required courses?

A On the Coaching Association of Canada website there is a public feature called the "Coach Transcript". It can be accessed [HERE](#). Enter the last name and NCCP number of the coach and you can review their coaching transcript, where completed courses will be listed.



Course	ASAA Policy Requirement	Modified Requirement for 2021/2022
Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning	One staff member in every school is required to complete "Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning" by October 10.	One staff member in every school is required to complete "Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning" by June 30, 2022
ASAA Bylaws and Policies	One team official (coach, teacher sponsor, etc.) on every school team is required to complete the ASAA Bylaws and Policies course prior to any interschool sport being played.	The ASAA Bylaws and Policy course is not yet available at this time . It is being rebuilt for the Locker and will be ready in February 2022. Once it has been completed, one team official (coach, teacher sponsor, etc.) on every school team is required to complete the ASAA Bylaws and Policies course by June 30, 2022
Making Head Way	Every team official (coach, assistant coach, teacher sponsor, etc.) is required to complete Making Head Way by one month into the season of play.	The requirement remains the same, however, ASAA will not require proof of completion for SRS registration. It will be the responsibility of individual schools/school jurisdictions to ensure coach compliance. This can be done using the public "coach transcript" feature on the CAC website. Coach registration in the SRS is still required.

JOINT TEAMS POLICY

The process for setting up a joint school team has changed due to policy modifications at the ASAA 2021 Annual General Meeting. All joint teams must now be approved by the Principals of the participating schools, the Zone(s) of the participating schools and the ASAA Compliance Officer.

Please review the joint teams guiding principles and joint team request form located on the ASAA website [here](#)



SANCTIONING EVENTS

The ASAA will be sanctioning events as normal for interprovincial competition and events hosted by non-school entities.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT ALL SANCTIONING APPROVALS ARE ALSO SUBJECT TO GOVERNMENT AND SCHOOL JURISDICTION POLICIES AND RESTRICTIONS.

While the ASAA may provide sanctioning approval, it remains the responsibility of member schools to ensure that they are operating in alignment with any travel restrictions that may apply.





ASAA EVENTS CALENDAR

SUBSCRIBE NOW

THE ASAA CALENDAR OF EVENTS IS
NOW AVAILABLE AS A DIGITAL
GOOGLE CALENDAR. TO ACCESS IT,
[CLICK HERE](#)

PROVINCIAL HOST NEEDED

The ASAA is still seeking a provincial championship host for 2021/2022 Curling. The event is to take place March 3-5, 2022.

Hosts are the most important piece in facilitating any provincial championship. In order to offer student-athletes the opportunity to compete in a championship event a host is needed.

Please contact the office to discuss hosting, or [submit a bid via the ASAA website!](#)





PLATINUM PARTNERS

**WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THAT
SUBWAY IS JOINING ALBERTA MILK
AS A PLATINUM PARTNER OF THE
ASAA.**

Please look for ways to support both of our Platinum Partners: Alberta Milk and Subway. Their support helps to support high school athletics province wide.

OFFICIAL SUPPLIER: HUDL

We have reached an agreement with HUDL to be an official supplier for the ASAA. HUDL provides exceptional sport-technology services and we are thrilled to work together to support high school sport.

Hudl does offer a discounted rate to ASAA member schools. Details to follow in a future release.



WELCOME BACK



Special Olympics
Unified Sports®



Who Can Play

Unified Sports is a partnership between Special Olympics Alberta and Alberta Schools Athletic Association (ASAA) to bring inclusive sport to the province. Teams are made up of students from the same high school and same age range.

What is Unified Sports

Unified Sports bring together high school athletes with and without intellectual abilities to play and compete on the same sports teams. Giving students of all abilities the opportunity to play sports together, to create pathways for friendships, physical activity, and social interactions and inclusion that often are not available otherwise.

Want to learn more about Unified Sports or have questions?

Contact Emily at emily@asaa.ca or 587-404-9358



LOGAN BOULET FOUNDATION MAKES A DONATION TO ASAA UNIFIED SPORTS

Logan Boulet grew up in Lethbridge where his parents encouraged him to give back to his community. He was one of the players who passed away as a result of the Humboldt Bronco's Bus Crash on April 7th, 2018.

Logan's father Toby Boulet, an ASAA Executive Committee member at the time, and Toby's wife Bernadine made the decision to donate Logan's organs, based on Logan having recently signed his organ donor card and expressing his support for organ donations. This decision would save 6 lives and eventually led to the Logan Boulet Effect.

The Logan Boulet Effect has led to more than 250,000 Canadians to register as organ donors. Arising from this initiative, Green Shirt Day was born. Every year on April 7th it is asked that people wear green shirts to recognize and remember all the victims and families from the crash, and to inspire others with Logan's legacy to remind fellow Canadians to register as organ and tissue donors.

Logan was a Special Olympic Coach in Humboldt and also took part in Unified's first ever Bocce Ball tournament held out of Winston Churchill School where he was a student.

Friends of Logan Boulet Golf Tournament (FLBGT) raises money for organizations or charities that were close to Logan's heart. This year the funds raised in the FLBGT were donated to both ASAA Special Olympics Unified Sports Program and Special Olympics Lethbridge and will be used by the ASAA to support Unified Sports programs in Alberta.

Through the Logan Boulet Endowment Fund, Logan's parents Toby and Bernadine Boulet have made a generous donation to support ASAA Unified Sports initiatives.

The ASAA and Special Olympics Alberta would like to thank the Boulet family for their generosity; both the donation and their help with our Unified programs - Toby as organizer and Logan as participant. Further to this, we want to encourage everyone to register to become an organ and tissue donor. You are all encouraged to take the first step just to talk to your close friends and family to learn and decide if this is something you would want to do.

For more information please visit <https://greenshirtday.ca/>



ALBERTA SCHOOLS' ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION STAFF



JOHN PATON

Executive Director



DEANNA METRO

*Director,
Provincial
Championships &
Member Services*



SHANNA KURYLO

*Communications
Manager*



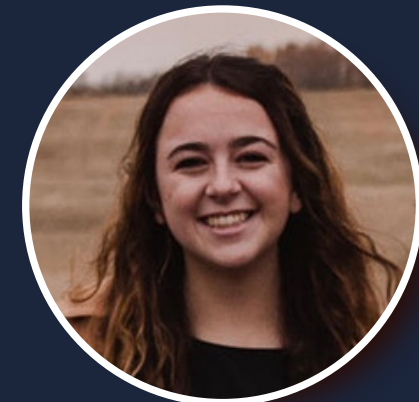
TREVOR AIELLO

*Program Assistant,
Provincial
Championships &
Member Services*



SUSAN VANDERSLUIS

*Administrative
Assistant*



EMILY LINES

*Unified Sports
Program
Coordinator*

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(780) 427-8182



info@asaa.ca



<https://www.asaa.ca/>