**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** December 12, 2019

**To:** Rugby Tours, especially Rugby 7’s tours

**From:** John Paton, Executive Director

**Re:** Rugby Tours 2019/20 and beyond – no change to current policy

In Spring 2019, following several requests for flexibility on ASAA Policy so that students could attend rugby tours, in particular Rugby 7’s tours, outside of the dates allowed in ASAA policy, the Executive Committee of the ASAA submitted a Notice of Motion to propose a change of policy to allow such flexibility. However, the Executive Committee’s proposal was soundly defeated at the ASAA AGM by the ASAA’s 47 member Board of Governors of the Association at the ASAA AGM in May, 2019.

Given the ASAA Board of Governors affirmation of current policy, this memo is to provide certainty around policy, its intent, and confirm that no exceptions to the policy noted below will be considered. As noted in policy, Section IV, Eligibility, Participation on a non-school team:

*In rugby, students are permitted to play on a club/tour until the conclusion of the Canada 7’s Rugby Tournament (Vancouver March 7-8, 2020) while still trying out for an ASAA member school team. Otherwise, after March 15, no students can participate on any community/club or non-school team tour. After the conclusion of the Canada 7’s Rugby Tournament, students are only permitted to play for their respective school team or an interschool touring team that will travel during designated spring breaks of the schools participating in the tour.*

*NOTE: Participation is defined as taking part in any game, tournament, playoff, invitational or championship of an ASAA sport.*

For clarity, if the respective sports governing body recognized by ASAA (in this case Rugby Alberta or Rugby Canada) invites a student to be a member of an Alberta Rugby or Canada Rugby representative team for a tournament after March 15, the same criteria as those two associations would use for selecting any other provincial representative team must be used. Involvement of students from ASAA member schools on a recognized provincial or national team would be considered as per policy section IV, Eligibility, 5.B.i (page 43, 2019/20 ASAA Policy Handbook). Written requests must be submitted to the ASAA Executive Director for approval.

**Note**: requests from an entity other than Rugby Alberta or Rugby Canada will not be considered.