

Rugby 7s Format Proposal

Approved by the ASAA Executive Committee January 23, 2020 for implementation in 2020 season of play.

Proposed Policy/Eligibility Changes from Format approved at 2018 APM

- Allow for joint school teams
- Schools cannot have BOTH a 7s and a 15s SENIOR team - they must choose (though a 15s team is eligible to compete in 7s tournaments during the season of play.)
- 7s is designed for small schools though there is nothing preventing a large school from competing in it. Encourage large schools to participate in 15s.
- Small schools free to choose to run 7s or 15s
- Football/6-man football model

Proposed Provincials Format

- ONE tier of competition.
- 8 teams at provincials w/ no host berth (1 berth per zone). If any wildcards, first one goes to host school. If host berth is desired, can use same contingency as in 15s to run a 10 team tournament if all zones are represented + host berth (unlikely)
- 2 Pools of 4 w/ full round robin on day 1. 3 games each on day 1.
- Full playoff with backside on day 2. 3 games each on day 2.
- Can be run on one field per gender.
 - 12 games each day x 30 min slots = 6 hours field time (per gender) per day.
 - Expectation is host would have at least 2 fields and host boys & girls.

Rationale

1. As was approved - 2 tiers w/ 16 teams at provincials - too big. We can grow to that point but growth should be organic but not forced.
2. Last year we had:
 - a. Four Tier 1 Girls teams (3 EDM, 1 south)
 - b. Seven Tier 1 Boys teams (7 EDM)
 - c. Six Tier 2 Girls teams (2 EDM, 2 SC, 2 NC)
 - d. Eight Tier 2 Boys teams (2 EDM, 2 SC, 2 NC, 2 CAL)
3. This is consistent with how we handle other sports where we have different formats for number of student athletes (6-man football, small/large squad Cheer)
4. Makes it a true provincial competition. Otherwise Tier 1 is likely to be mostly Edmonton (maybe Calgary & South get more involved?) and Tier 2 is likely to be rural zones.