



REGULATIONS • RÈGLEMENTS

2024



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1. NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

1.1 The National Club Championships (hereinafter referred to as, the "**National Championships**") are competitions owned and managed by Canada Soccer.

1.2 National Championships take place annually and consist of the following competitions: U-15 Cup; U-17 Cup; Challenge Trophy; and Jubilee Trophy.

1.3 For the purpose of these regulations for National Championships (hereinafter referred to as, the "Regulations"), wherever duly noted, Provincial Associations also include Territorial Associations.

1.4 All National Championships are open to one (1) representative team of each Association in Membership subject only to Regional preliminary qualifying series as may be determined by Canada Soccer and provided for in these Regulations.

1.5 These Regulations regulate the rights, duties and responsibilities of all teams taking part in National Championships (each hereinafter referred to as a "Participating Team") and of the Local Organizing Committee (hereinafter also referred to as "**LOC**") by forming an integral part of the Hosting Agreement.

1.6 *Canada Soccer By-laws, Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code, Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics, Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations, and all Policies in force shall apply. Any reference in these Regulations to Canada Soccer By-laws, Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code, Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics, Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations, and Policies refers to those valid at the time of application. In the event of any conflict, Canada Soccer By-laws, Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code, Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics, Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations and Policies shall take precedence. In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translations of Canada Soccer By-laws, Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code, Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics, Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations, and Policies, the English version shall be authoritative.*

1.7 Within the constraints of these Regulations, Canada Soccer, through its Organizing Committee may adapt these Regulations to address specific situations not otherwise provided for, as necessary to address the competition objectives of Canada Soccer.

1.8 Any rights that are not ceded by the Regulations for the National Championships to the Local Organizing Committee or any Provincial/Territorial Association or Participating Team shall remain with Canada Soccer.

1.9 For the purposes of these Regulations, a youth is any person under the age of 18 before the 1st of January of the current year participating in a Canada Soccer youth or senior National Championships.

1.10 The playing season referred to in these Regulations shall be the one ending in the calendar year in which the National Championships will be played.

1.11 On entering the National Championships, all Participating Teams automatically undertake to:

- 1.11.1 Observe these Regulations;
- 1.11.2 Sign the Participation Agreement and comply with the terms therein;
- 1.11.3 Acknowledge that failure to comply with any of the requirements within these Regulations shall render any organization or individual subject to disciplinary procedures; and
- 1.11.4 Observe the principles of fair play.

2. CANADA SOCCER COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE

2.1 The Canada Soccer Competitions Committee is an Operational Committee of Canada Soccer appointed by the General Secretary to oversee competitions in accordance with its Terms of Reference. In addition to its overall responsibilities the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee has specific responsibilities for the National Championships including, but not limited to:

- 2.1.1 Replacing teams who have withdrawn from the National Championships;
- 2.1.2 Deciding on cases of Provincial/Territorial Associations or Participating Teams failing to adhere to the timelines and/or the formal requirements for submitting the necessary documents;
- 2.1.3 Settling cases of force majeure; and
- 2.1.4 Dealing with any other aspect of the National Championship that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Regulations or Canada Soccer By-laws.

2.2 Any decisions taken by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee regarding the National Championships are final and binding, unless otherwise stated in these Regulations, on all parties and are not subject to appeal.

3. CANADA SOCCER ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

3.1 A Canada Soccer Organizing Committee shall be appointed for each National Championship. It will consist of the appointed Match Commissioner, General Coordinator, Assistant General Coordinator, Supervisor of Officials, the Local Organizing Committee Chair, and any other persons deemed necessary.

3.2 The Canada Soccer Organizing Committee shall be responsible for the in-venue operation and execution of the respective competition to which it is appointed. The duties of each position will be provided to the appointee.

3.3 The Match Commissioner (hereinafter referred to as “Match Commissioner”) acts as the senior Canada Soccer appointee and is responsible for the overall management of the competition and specifically deals with disciplinary matters, protests, admissibility, and leads the crisis management team.

3.4 The General Coordinator is responsible for all operational aspects related to the staging of the competition (hereinafter referred to as “General Coordinator”).

3.5 The Local Organizing Committee Chair is responsible for all logistics and delivering the requirements of the Hosting Agreement.

3.6 The Supervisor of Officials is responsible for the overall management of match officials and assessors (hereinafter referred to as “Supervisor of Officials”).

4. LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE (LOC)

4.1 Canada Soccer appoints the Hosts for the respective National Championships.

4.2 The Host is responsible for organizing, hosting, and staging the selected National Championship competition. It shall set up a Local Organizing Committee (LOC) in accordance with the Hosting Agreement to establish financial controls, budgets and reports, preparing concepts for review, and ensuring standards are met for each event. Canada Soccer Competitions Committee requires hosts to complete Concepts of Operations in accordance with the timelines approved by Canada Soccer.

4.3 The obligations and responsibilities of the LOC with respect to the National Championships are stipulated in the Hosting Agreement.

4.4 The LOC shall ensure that any decision taken by Canada Soccer Competitions Committee relating to its duties and responsibilities is enforced immediately.

5. PARTICIPATING TEAMS

5.1 Teams shall participate in one of the following competition categories:

National Club Championships

Senior Amateur – Men and Women’s
Open Age.

Youth U-17 – Boys and Girls

All players under 17 years of age before 1 January of the current year.

Youth U-15 - Boys and Girls

All players under 15 years of age before 1 January of the current year.

Other National Championships

As may be defined from time to time by Canada Soccer.

5.2 To be eligible to participate in the National Championships, a team must have a minimum of seventeen (17) registered players who are eligible to participate in the Provincial Tournament leading to a National Championship.

5.3 Teams must be able to field a minimum of fifteen (15) players to participate in a National Championship. Teams who fail to meet this minimum standard will be subject to sanction.

5.4 Each club team entering must be affiliated with its respective Member Association and will be certified an eligible team upon having its Member Association approve the Online Team Roster. Only players and team staff approved by the Member Association will be permitted access to accredited areas.

5.5 On entering a National Championship, the Participating Teams automatically undertake to:

- 5.4.1 Comply with the maximum number of players and officials as defined in these Regulations (see Article 11.3);
- 5.4.2 Observe these Regulations and the principles of fair play;
- 5.4.3 Accept and obey all decisions taken by Canada Soccer and its officials under the terms of these Regulations;
- 5.4.4 Respect the deadlines as set by Canada Soccer and the LOC;
- 5.4.5 Participate in all matches of the respective National Championship in which the team is scheduled to take part;
- 5.4.6 Accept all the arrangements relating to the respective National Championship made by Canada Soccer and the LOC;

- 5.4.7 Accept the usage by Canada Soccer, as well as the recording and broadcast of the images, names and records of all participants that may appear in connection with the National Championships; and
- 5.4.8 Ensure the provision of adequate insurance to cover the team and any other person carrying out duties on its behalf against all risks, including, but not limited to, injury, accident and travel.
- 5.5 In addition, each Participating Team shall be responsible for:
- 5.5.1 The actions of its players, team staff, and spectators and must take all precautions necessary to prevent them from threatening or assaulting anyone at matches, especially the match officials;
- 5.5.2 Paying for costs incurred not covered by the LOC during the course of its stay in the host venue;
- 5.5.3 Attending official media activities when requested to do so; and
- 5.5.4 Attending team meetings, Provincial/Territorial Representative meetings, disciplinary hearings, and other meetings called by Canada Soccer in-venue.
- 5.6 Players and staff cannot temporarily leave and return to the National Championship, without prior approval of the Match Commissioner. Depending on the reason for leaving, players may be required to submit a Return to Play Form.
- 5.7 A player who receives any medical attention during the National Championship will be required to provide the Match Commissioner with a return to play form signed by the registered medical practitioner who attended the player.
- 5.8 Players/team staff who wish to permanently leave the National Championship and are not returning must notify the Match Commissioner prior to their departure, confirmed by the Provincial/Territorial Representative.
- 5.9 Provincial/Territorial Associations must confirm their participation for entry in the respective National Championship competitions annually as determined by Canada Soccer.
- 5.10 Any Province/Territory that withdraws after the deadline will be subject to sanction in accordance with Articles 7.2 and 7.3.
- 5.11 Provincial and Territorial Associations must advise Canada Soccer of its qualified teams. No qualified team(s) may be replaced without the approval of the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee. (see Article 8).
- 5.12 Once a Province or Territory has declared its representative teams and before departure to the National Championship competition, the team staff and Provincial/Territorial Representative must review these Regulations and attend

a virtual meeting where Canada Soccer will review expectations. The Canada Soccer Competitions Department will provide the content for this meeting.

5.13 Following the Canada Soccer preparation meeting, team staff shall meet with their players and review these Regulations and expectations. Players are also to be informed of the procedures to follow, and who to contact, in the event of any problems during the competition.

5.14 Participating Teams must meet the minimum Canada Soccer Club Licensing Program requirement for that competition year in order to be eligible to participate in the National Championships.

6. PROVINCIAL/TERRITORIAL REPRESENTATIVES

6.1 Each Province/Territory participating in a National Championship competition must appoint a person to act as its representative (referred to in these Regulations as "Provincial/Territorial Representative"). The Provincial/Territorial Representative must:

- 6.1.1 Not be a member of the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee, team staff, a player, or immediate family of a player/team staff in the competition regardless if he/she serves on the Provincial/Territorial Board or staff from the Provincial/Territorial Association;
- 6.1.2 Stay at the host hotel, unless dispensation has been granted by Canada Soccer, but not share a hotel room with team staff members or players;
- 6.1.3 Be present in the host venue for the entire duration of the National Championship. They must arrive with, or on the same day as, the first team and depart with, or after, their last team has left the host venue;
- 6.1.4 Be approved by the Provincial/Territorial Association Board and hold Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC) Clearance or Criminal Record Check (CRC) with Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC). For this purpose, an E-PIC or CRC with VSC clearance must have been issued within 12 months of the end date for respective competition;
- 6.1.5 Be present at all Canada Soccer mandated meetings. This includes the information meeting held in the Province/Territory for staff of teams traveling to any Canada Soccer National Competition;
- 6.1.6 Attend, together with a team representative, the Pre-Competition Meeting;
- 6.1.7 Attend all disciplinary hearings involving a player or staff member with one of his/her teams;
- 6.1.8 Attend daily meetings with the Match Commissioner during the competition;

- 6.1.9 Be responsible to the Match Commissioner for the communication of all matters relating to the teams. In this regard, the Provincial/Territorial Representative must be in possession of a cell phone that can operate in the host venue;
- 6.1.10 Ensure that all players and team staff adhere to the Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics;
- 6.1.11 Ensure players and team staff wear their team accreditation at the hotel, to and from matches, at the playing venues, and any official functions;
- 6.1.12 Participate on a Competition Discipline Committee if appointed by the Match Commissioner during the competition;
- 6.1.13 Attend all official functions of the competition and must be dressed appropriately as advised by the LOC; and
- 6.1.14 Report all incidents of property damage by the team(s) involved to the Match Commissioner and to the LOC Chair.

6.2 Accreditation will be provided for one Provincial/Territorial Representative.

7. WITHDRAWAL, UN-PLAYED MATCHES, AND ABANDONED MATCHES

7.1 All Participating Teams undertake to play all of their matches.

7.2 Any Participating Team failing to attend or withdrawing from a National Championship competition after the deadline shall be fined a minimum of \$2,500 plus any associated expenses incurred by Canada Soccer and/or the LOC.

7.3 Depending on the circumstances of the withdrawal, Canada Soccer may impose additional sanctions, including the expulsion from subsequent competitions.

7.4 Where a match is not played, except in the case of force majeure recognised by Canada Soccer Organizing Committee, the Match Commissioner shall be presented with the facts. The Match Commissioner will determine if/when the match can be played and if any disciplinary action needs to be taken.

7.5 A Participating Team must arrive at the venue for its scheduled match no later than fifty (50) minutes before the designated KO time. Failure to do so, without just cause, may result in the Participating Team forfeiting the game or expulsion from the competition and all its scheduled matches declared null and void. The Provincial/Territorial Association in membership will be required to provide an explanation of the actions of its representative team to Canada Soccer, and may be subject to sanction.

7.6 Where a match is abandoned because of floodlight failure, weather, or any outside influence, and more than seventy percent (70%) of the match has been played, the result at the time of abandonment will be recorded as the final score. If the score is tied and the competition requires a result, the winner will be determined by the toss of a coin, which will be conducted by the General Coordinator in the presence of the Match Commissioner and the respective Provincial/Territorial Representatives.

7.7 Where a match is abandoned because of floodlight failure, weather, or any outside influence, and less than seventy percent (70%) of the match has been played, the match shall recommence with the same score at the minute at which play was interrupted. The following principles shall apply to the commencement of the match:

- 7.7.1 The match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was initially abandoned;
- 7.7.2 No additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the team sheet;
- 7.7.3 The teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned;
- 7.7.4 Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced;
- 7.7.5 Any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
- 7.7.6 The kick-off time, date and location shall be decided by the Match Commissioner in consultation with the LOC; and
- 7.7.7 Any matters requiring further decision shall be dealt with by the Match Commissioner in consultation with members of the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee as necessary.

7.8 Where a match is abandoned because of floodlight failure, weather, or any outside influence on the final day of the competition, regardless of how much of the match has been played, the result at the time of abandonment will be recorded as the final score. If the score is tied the winner will be determined by the toss of a coin, which will be conducted by the General Coordinator in the presence of the Match Commissioner and the respective Provincial/Territorial Representatives.

7.9 Where match(es) is(are) cancelled or cannot take place because of adverse weather conditions, Canada Soccer will determine the subsequent action and outcome of the competition. This decision will be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

7.10 Where a match is abandoned as a result of a discipline issue from one of the competing Participating Teams, the matter shall be reported to the Match Commissioner who will convene a disciplinary hearing to decide the appropriate

course of action. On the final day such issues will be referred to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for its action.

7.11 Where a Participating Team forfeits a match, it is considered to have a loss of 3-0, unless the goal difference on the pitch is greater than 3-0, in which case the score at the time of abandonment is upheld. The Canada Soccer Competitions Committee may take further action as deemed appropriate.

8. REPLACEMENT TEAMS

If a qualified team is unable to participate in the National Championships, Canada Soccer Competitions Committee shall decide on the matter at its sole discretion.

9. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

9.1 Only players registered with an Association in Membership shall be eligible to compete in a National Championship. Each player must be either:

9.1.1 A Canadian Citizen; or

9.1.2 A Permanent Resident (as defined by the Government of Canada);
or

9.1.3 A Protected Person (as defined by the Government of Canada); or

9.1.4 Has received an exemption from the Competitions Committee in compliance with Article 9.16

9.2 The Match Commissioner may request proof of eligibility at any time. Failure to provide the proof will result in the player not being permitted to play. Proof of eligibility is as follows for:

9.2.1 Canadian Citizen – valid passport or birth certificate (or colour copy of birth certificate);

9.2.2 Permanent Resident – valid permanent resident card; or proof of permanent residency as provided by the Government of Canada;

9.2.3 Protected Person – documents as provided by the Government of Canada; and

9.2.4 Proof that the player has received an exemption from the Competitions Committee in compliance with Article 9.16

9.3 The deadline for registration with the Provincial/Territorial association shall be 31 July of that competition year unless an earlier date within the competition year is stipulated by the respective Provincial/Territorial Association.

9.4 The deadline for player transfers shall be 31 July of that competition year, unless an earlier date within the competition year is stipulated by the respective Provincial/Territorial Association.

9.5 Transfers to another Province/Territory must be in writing, duly signed by the club and forwarded to the Provincial/Territorial Association where the player is currently registered for final approval. A player will be considered transferred once the transfer has been accepted by the receiving Provincial/Territorial Association.

9.6 Any player who registered with one Provincial/Territorial Association and then registers with another without the proper inter-provincial transfer will be ineligible to play in the National Championships for that calendar year.

9.7 All registered players must be assigned to the team by 31 August or earlier of that competition year, as stipulated by the respective Provincial/Territorial Association.

9.8 A player who participates in a Regional Masters competition, organized by Canada Soccer, is eligible to participate at a National Championship in that same competition year.

9.9 A player who is registered to a team and appears on a match sheet in a standards-based league is not eligible to participate at a National Championship in that same competition year. Players who appear on a match sheet as a guest player throughout the season are permitted to play.

9.10 A Participating Team may not register additional players or have additional players assigned to the team after qualifying for a National Championship.

9.11 A Participating Team may request to call up additional players that are not assigned to the team, in accordance with Article 28.

9.12 Any player registered as a professional player will only be eligible to play when reinstated as an amateur player. Any player reinstated after 31 July shall not be eligible to play in the National Championships for that calendar year.

9.13 An amateur player who is registered and is listed on a match sheet with a professional, semi-professional, or League One team after 31 May in the current year shall not be eligible to play in any National Championships, except if the player has a trial permit to play a maximum of 2 sets of three (3) trial matches per outdoor season with any professional team provided a permit-to-play form, available from Provincial/Territorial Associations, has been duly completed and approved.

9.14 A player who is registered to an amateur club which has an amateur team participating in a Provincial/Territorial semi-professional or League One league and who has been called up to play with said amateur team over the course of

the season, shall be deemed eligible to participate in the National Championships.

9.15 A youth-age player who has been registered as senior amateur for the current season will be ineligible to play in youth club championships, unless he/she has, upon request, been reinstated to youth status by his/her Provincial/Territorial Association on or before 31 July of the competition year.

9.16 Any player not meeting the required eligibility outlined in 9.1.1, 9.1.2 or 9.1.3 may apply, via their respective Provincial/Territorial Association, to the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee Eligibility Panel for an exemption. To apply, the player must have an International Transfer Certificate and a student or work visa valid at least until the end of the competition. The decision of the Competitions Committee Eligibility Panel is final and not subject to appeal. The deadline for submitting the exemption request is 30 September of the current year or prior to qualifying for the National Championships, whichever comes earlier. Any exemption granted is only valid for the year in which it was issued.

10. ELIGIBILITY OF TEAM STAFF

10.1 One member of the Participating Team's staff must be the same gender as the Participating Team. This staff member must be on the Participating Team bench at all matches and remain with the Participating Team until the end of the competition. This role cannot be fulfilled by a player.

10.2 At least one member of the Participating Team staff must have completed the CCES E-learning requirements as mandated by the Canada Soccer Competitions Department. A copy of the CCES certificate for each of the required courses must be submitted with the Canada Soccer online team roster.

10.3 All coaches and team personnel must have completed proper Background Screening, including a Criminal Record Check (CRC) with Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC) or Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC) within the last 12 months.

10.4 Head Coaches are required to have the following in order to meet the coaching requirements:

1. Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screen or E-PIC
2. Soccer for Life – Theory Module
3. Soccer for Life – Practical Module
4. NCCP Make Ethical Decisions Module and/or Online Evaluation
5. Respect in Sport Activity Leader Program
6. NCCP Making Headway Module
7. NCCP Emergency Action Planning Module
8. NCCP Rule of Two Module

10.5 No Participating Team staff member may be a youth, except if an exemption has been granted by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee in accordance with Article 10.7.

10.6 A Participating Team with a staff youth coach must apply, through their respective Provincial/Territorial Association, to Canada Soccer for an exemption. The criteria is as follows:

- 10.6.1 The respective Club has a coach mentorship program in place as part of the Club Developmental Plan, in which the youth staff member is a participant;
- 10.6.2 The youth staff coach must be at least sixteen (16) years of age and under the age of nineteen (19) years before 1 January of the current year;
- 10.6.3 The youth staff coach must be at least one year older than the Participating Team;
- 10.6.4 The youth staff coach must have been a member of the staff during the season;
- 10.6.5 The youth staff coach must comply with Canada Soccer and Provincial/Territorial volunteer screening policies, including having valid E-PIC Clearance;
- 10.6.6 The youth staff coach must be supervised by a senior staff member at all times; and
- 10.6.7 The youth staff coach must be supervised in the same manner as a youth player as outlined in these Regulations.

10.7 Coaching qualifications are set annually by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee in consultation with Canada Soccer Technical Department. Please refer to your Provincial/Territorial Member Association for the current requirements.

11. PLAYERS AND OFFICIAL DELEGATION LIST

11.1 Provincial/Territorial Associations must provide the following information to Canada Soccer within seven (7) days of each team qualifying for a National Championship:

- 11.1.1 Name of the Participating Team;
- 11.1.2 Participating Team Contact; and
- 11.1.3 Club President name and contact information.

11.2 Participating Teams will be provided with a link to an online form to complete the National Championship requirements. The deadline to complete this requirement will be within seven (7) days of receiving the link.

The online requirements are:

11.2.1 Players: name, date of birth, passport style headshot, jersey number, position, player ID number and CCES Certificates, where applicable;

11.2.2 Coaches: name, date of birth, Coaching Certification Number, headshot and CCES Certificates where required; and

11.2.3 Participating Team Colours – Light and Dark plus Goalkeeper colours.

11.3 Participating Teams must enter the names of players and staff in the Canada Soccer Competitions Website online team roster. The online team roster shall be the final list.

11.3.1 Will have a minimum of 15 players and will have a maximum of twenty (20) players (one of whom shall be a goalkeeper)

11.3.2 Will have a minimum of two (2) team staff and a maximum of five (5) team staff

11.4 Once the online team roster has been completed by the team and the eligibility confirmed by the Provincial/Territorial Association on the Canada Soccer Competitions Website, changes may only be made with the approval of Canada Soccer.

11.5 Participating Team staff and players who have received Canada Soccer accreditation and are indicated as present on the match sheet must occupy a position in the Technical Area unless dispensation has been granted by the Match Commissioner.

11.6 At National Championships, Participating Team staff and players must wear the Canada Soccer accreditation at the hotel, to and from matches, at the competition playing venues and any official functions.

12. MATCH SHEETS

12.1 Participating Teams must submit their completed match sheets through Canada Soccer's Competitions Website no later than forty-five (45) minutes prior to the scheduled kick-off time. Once submitted, the Participating Team roster is locked, and no changes will be permitted to the match sheet unless approved by the General Coordinator or designate.

12.2 Participating Teams must list players and staff on the match sheet, up to a maximum of twenty (20) players and five (5) team staff. Participating Teams must identify the goalkeeper and captain for each match.

12.3 Up to a maximum of five (5) substitutions may be used in regulation time. Unlimited substitutions may be made at half-time, or at the end of regulation time. A player who has been substituted is eligible to re-enter.

12.4 If any of the eleven (11) starting players submitted on the match sheet are not able to begin the match due to injury or illness, they may be replaced by any of the eligible substitutes as long as the General Coordinator/Assistant General Coordinator is officially informed prior to kick-off. The General Coordinator/Assistant General Coordinator will advise the Referee and the opponent.

12.4.1 Further to the above, any injured or ill player who is removed from the starting eleven (11) will no longer be eligible to take part in the match, and thus cannot be used as a substitute player at any time during the match. Such a change will not reduce the number of official substitutions that may be made by a Participating Team during the match.

12.4.2 Although no longer eligible to be used as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the starting eleven (11) must be seated on the substitutes' bench unless medical attention is necessary. The player would then be subject to the referee's authority and also be eligible for doping control selection.

12.5 Only the players who were identified on the official match sheet submitted to the General Coordinator/Assistant General Coordinator or were confirmed as a warm-up injury/illness replacement player, may start the match. In the case of any discrepancies of players on the pitch at the beginning of a match, the matter will be submitted to the Match Commissioner.

12.6 The minimum number of players required to start a match is seven (7), one of whom must be a goalkeeper.

12.7 If a player, from a team with only seven (7) players, leaves the field of play to receive medical attention, the match will be suspended until this player has received treatment and is able to return to the field of play. If the player is unable to return, the match is abandoned and the team forfeits the match in accordance with Article 7.11. A report will be submitted by the Referee to the Match Commissioner.

12.8 If a player from a team with only seven (7) players is sent from the field of play for a disciplinary offence, the match is abandoned. The team causing the abandonment will forfeit the match and a report will be submitted by the Referee to the Match Commissioner. See Article 7.11.

12.9 Players serving a suspension are not permitted to sit in the technical area. Youth players must serve their suspension by sitting in a designated position on the team bench in the technical area. This position is subject to approval of the referee. Suspended players sitting in the technical area may not take any part

in the match, including engaging with match officials or opposing players and team staff, and are subject to the authority of the referee.

12.10 A Participating Team that is found guilty of fielding an ineligible player for any reason shall forfeit the match in accordance with Article 7.11.

12.11 The referee shall submit the Referee Report online immediately after the match.

13. COMPETITION FORMAT

13.1 The format for each competition shall be determined in advance by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee and set out in the championship schedule.

13.2 Participating Teams will be seeded on the basis of their Provincial/Territorial Associations team's final standing in the previous year's championship.

13.3 Host teams may be added at the discretion of the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee in consultation with the Provincial/Territorial Association concerned. The host team shall be the 2nd place team from the Provincial/Territorial Association qualifying provincial championship. If the 2nd place team is unable to compete the hosting Provincial/Territorial Association may request permission from the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee to enter another team. The decision taken by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee will be final and binding and not subject to appeal.

13.4 When a host team is required at a National Championship, the team shall be seeded in last position and shall be eligible for medals. The seeding for the following year will exclude the host team.

13.5 Canada Soccer may, at its discretion, revoke the addition of a 2nd team.

14. DURATION OF PLAY, TIE-BREAKING, AND STANDINGS

14.1 The duration of play and size of match ball shall be as follows:

AGE GROUP	REGULAR	EXTRA TIME	SIZE OF FOOTBALL	HALF TIME
Senior/Open	2 x 45 min.	No extra time	5	15 min.
U-17	2 x 40 min.	No extra time	5	10 min.
U-15	2 x 35 min.	No extra time	5	10 min.

14.2 Participating Teams will be afforded a thirty (30) minute warm up period on the pitch before each match, subject to the condition of the field. The General Coordinator/Assistant General Coordinator will monitor the warmup period and teams abusing the privilege will be subject to sanction. If the pitch is not in good condition, or if the warm-up sessions would negatively affect the state of the pitch for the match, or if the pitch is to be used for ceremonies related to the National Championships, Canada Soccer may shorten or cancel the warm-up session.

14.3 In National Championship competition (or parts thereof) organized on a knock-out basis, all matches shall be played to a decision. If at the end of regulation time, the score is tied, kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with the Laws of Game, will be used to determine a winner.

14.4 In National Championship competition (or parts thereof) organized on a round-robin basis all matches shall be played to regulation time only.

14.5 Three (3) points shall be awarded for a win and one (1) point for a tie (including the taking of kicks from the penalty mark). Standings shall be determined by points won at the completion of the round robin.

14.6 In the third match of any three (3) team round robin, if the team not participating has zero points, has been suspended, or has withdrawn whether part or all of the championship, the match shall be played to a decision in accordance with this rule. In the event that the score is tied after regulation time, the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with the Laws of the Game will be used to determine the winner.

14.7 The following criteria shall be used to determine the final standings:

14.7.1 Most points in all group matches;

14.7.2 If two (2) Participating Teams are tied in points in all group matches:

14.7.2.1 Greater number of points in matches between the Participating Teams concerned (head to head competition);

14.7.2.2 Greater goal difference in all group matches;

14.7.2.3 Greater number of goals scored in all group matches; and

14.7.2.4 Kicks from the penalty mark as per the Laws of the Game, at a time and place decided by the Canada Soccer General Coordinator.

14.8 Where kicks from the penalty mark are used for tie breaking (Article 14.7.2.4) players under suspension are not eligible to participate; however this does not constitute the serving of any disciplinary suspension already awarded.

14.9 If three (3) or more Participating Teams are tied in points in all group matches the following are the only criteria to break the tie:

- 14.9.1 Greater goal difference in matches between the Participating Teams concerned (head to head competition);
- 14.9.2 Greater number of goals scored in all matches between the Participating Teams concerned;
- 14.9.3 Greater goal difference in all group matches;
- 14.9.4 Greater number of goals scored in all group matches; and
- 14.9.5 Drawing of lots to determine ranking at a time and place decided by the Match Commissioner.

14.10 All National Championship competition placement matches that are tied at the end of regulation time shall go directly to the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with the Laws of the Game.

15. EQUIPMENT

15.1 All Participating Teams must have two (2) sets of numbered playing uniforms (one light and one dark). A player shall be identified by the same number on both sets of uniforms.

15.2 Goalkeepers must wear playing uniforms that distinguish them from the other players and the match officials. Each team goalkeeper must have two (2) sets of jerseys, three (3) sets of separate and different colour socks and may have a third goalkeeper jersey which must be numbered in the same way. Both the goalkeeper and substitute goalkeeper must wear the same colour playing jersey and socks.

Goalkeepers who are outfield players must dress the same as their team's players but still wear the same number as on the online team roster.

Participating Teams must bring an additional Goalkeeper jersey with a number that is not allocated to any player.

All Participating Teams must bring an additional light/dark jersey that has no number or a jersey with a number that is not allocated to any player in case blood cannot be removed from a jersey or a jersey is damaged beyond repair.

15.3 Canada Soccer will inform the Participating Teams of the colours that they shall wear for each match. Teams who fail to wear the assigned colours, without the approval of the General Coordinator will be subject to sanction.

Participating Teams who fail to wear the jersey number entered on the online roster without the approval of the General Coordinator will be subject to sanction.

15.4 Participating Teams must bring both sets of playing uniforms to each match.

15.5 During the match, substitutes must wear bibs of a different colour than the players on the pitch. Coaches and team staff must also wear a colour different from the colours of the players on the pitch.

15.6 Undershirts must be the same colour as the main colour of the shirt sleeve; undershorts/tights must be the same colour as the main colour of the shorts or the lowest part of the shorts – players of the same team must wear the same colour. Players not complying will not be allowed to enter the field until the match officials are satisfied that the equipment conforms to the Laws of the Game.

15.7 Where tape or similar material is applied externally to a sock it must be the same colour as the part of the sock to which it is applied.

15.8 Players are not permitted to wear anything that is dangerous to themselves or other players. NO jewelry: that includes rings, bracelets (except medical alert bracelets — which must be either made of Velcro or similar soft material, or covered with a sweatband), earrings, necklaces, other visible body piercing, etc. The practice of taping jewelry is not acceptable.

15.9 Canada Soccer will supply a sufficient number of players sleeve badges with the official crest of the National Championship competition. Participating Teams shall affix the National Championship crest badge to the RIGHT-HAND SLEEVE of the shirt, between the shoulder point and the elbow point of both light and dark jerseys. If the goalkeeper has a third set of uniforms the National Championship crest must be affixed to these as well. It is the responsibility of Participating Team staff to inform their Provincial/Territorial Association of such and to request additional crests from Canada Soccer.

15.10 Each team is to bring its Provincial/Territorial Flag (6' x 3') to every match.

16. FIELDS OF PLAY, KICK-OFF TIMES, TRAINING SITES, AND FACILITIES

16.1 The selection of fields and kick-off times shall be proposed by the LOC and approved by Canada Soccer.

16.2 The fields of play, accessory equipment and all facilities for each match shall be in optimum condition. All goals shall be equipped with white goalposts, a white cross bar and goal nets. Matches may be played on natural grass or artificial surfaces. Artificial surfaces must be approved by Canada Soccer. Where multi-purpose fields are proposed, all other sport appurtenances are to be removed.

16.3 Matches may be played in daylight and under floodlight. Where matches are played at night, the venue floodlighting installations must provide that the whole pitch is evenly lit. In the event that some or all of the match is required to be played under floodlit conditions, the floodlights are to be switched on for team warm-up.

16.4 The LOC shall provide a training site for the Participating Teams. This should not be the same pitch as identified for the competition. Where the competition is played on artificial surface, the competition pitch may be used for training prior to the opening match provided that adequate maintenance is provided after each training session. The training site should be within reasonable travel distance from the team hotel. It should be equipped with adequate changing and washroom facilities.

16.5 The LOC shall manage the training site allocation and training times on an equitable basis. The Match Commissioner or General Coordinator shall rule on any disputes with that decision being final.

16.6 Where a time clock exists in an approved venue, it may be run during the match, provided that it can be stopped at the end of normal playing time at the end of each half. This stipulation shall also apply if extra time is played.

16.7 Panels or electronic substitution boards, shall be provided by the LOC for use by the fourth official to indicate the substitution of players and the number of minutes of time allowed at the end of each half.

16.8 All venues used for competition play shall be free of any and all commercial activities and identifications (e.g. boards and signage) other than those approved by Canada Soccer from at least one (1) day prior to the opening match to the day following the final match on that field.

16.9 Smoking is not allowed in any of the competition accredited areas including but not limited to the technical area, the vicinity of the field of play, or within the National Championship areas such as the dressing rooms.

17. MEDICAL/ANTI-DOPING

17.1 A player who receives any form of medical attention from any registered medical practitioner (i.e. Emergency Medical Technician or Doctor) during the National Championship, shall provide to the General Coordinator, Assistant General Coordinator, or the Match Commissioner a letter signed by the attending medical practitioner advising that the player can return to play.

17.2 The Canada Soccer Cast Policy shall apply. Any player wearing a cast is to be presented for inspection prior to the pre-competition meeting. Where a player intends to wear a brace or medical support the player and the brace or medical support is to be presented at the same time. The Supervisor of Officials will assess the player's eligibility to play in accordance with the Laws of the Game. This decision is final and binding for the whole National Championship.

17.3 Where a player sustains an injury during the National Championship that requires a cast, brace or medical support to be worn an inspection will be carried out by the Supervisor of Officials. The player shall also have a certificate from a medical practitioner advising that the player can return to play.

17.4 Canada Soccer has accepted and adopted the 2021 Canadian Anti-Doping Program (CADP) to protect the integrity of our sport, to safeguard the health of our athletes, to permit our elite athletes to participate in international competitions, to fulfill obligations imposed by the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), and to satisfy government policy that requires all financially supported sport organizations to have World Anti-Doping Code (Code) compliant anti-doping programs.

17.5 Administered by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES), the 2021 CADP is fully compliant with the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code and its associated International Standards. Athletes, including those participating in the National Championships, accept these rules as a condition of participation in sport and agree to be bound by these rules.

17.6 Athletes and athlete support personnel registered for the National Championships are subject to the rules of the CADP and are responsible for meeting the requirements of the CADP.

17.7 Canada Soccer will provide meaningful and effective anti-doping education to all participants (athletes and athlete support personnel) in advance of the National Championships. This education will be delivered in collaboration with the CCES, and may include mandatory online education completion, webinars and in-person education sessions.

17.8. Proof of education completion (e.g., certificate of completion, attendance records, etc.) must be submitted to Canada Soccer upon registration.

18. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

18.1 Disciplinary incidents are dealt with in compliance with the FIFA and Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code in force as well as any relevant FIFA Circulars or Directives with which Canada Soccer is required to comply.

18.2 Participating Teams and their delegation members agree to comply with the Laws of the Game, and with Canada Soccer By-laws, Rules and Regulations and Policies, in particular the Disciplinary Code, Anti-Doping Regulations, Code of Conduct and Ethics, as well any instructions or decisions that have any significance regarding the National Championships.

18.3 In addition the players agree to: respect the spirit of fair play and non-violence; behave accordingly; and refrain from doping as defined by the Anti-Doping Policy.

18.4 The Match Commissioner shall investigate any formal complaint or protest prior to laying any charges of misconduct and shall form a Competition Discipline Committee to conduct a hearing and take appropriate action if necessary.

18.5 The Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee may, at its discretion, take action against any club/team/Province/Territorial Association whose players, staff or spectators have been found guilty of misconduct and/or violence toward anyone present at a match and especially towards match officials.

Club/Team/Provincial/Territorial Associations may also be fined for offences committed by their supporters.

18.6 Canada Soccer Competitions Committee shall rule on any alleged breach of these Regulations by an individual or organization. Where Canada Soccer Competitions Committee finds, at its sole discretion, an individual or organization to have breached one or more of these Regulations, the specified penalty shall be applied. Canada Soccer will collect any financial sanction directly from the Member Association in accordance with the Participation Agreement. These decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.

18.7 Canada Soccer Competitions Committee may refer an individual, team or Provincial/Territorial Association, found in breach of the Regulations, to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for further review.

18.8 Damage by a Participating Team member(s) to any property, other than his/her (their) own shall be the financial responsibility of, and dealt with equally, by the Provincial/Territorial Associations of the members involved in the incident causing the damage. All such incidents must be reported to the Match Commissioner. Sanctions may be imposed by Canada Soccer where appropriate.

18.9 A youth player at a National Championship shall not acquire, possess, purchase, or consume alcohol. Sanctions will be applied to an individual, Participating Team, and/or Provincial/Territorial Association, found in breach of this Regulation.

18.10 The Canada Soccer Competitions Committee may refer all issues of misconduct, wilful damage, and bringing the match into disrepute by an individual, Participating Team, Provincial/Territorial Association to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee.

18.11 A player or member of Participating Team staff dismissed from a match during the National Championships, except in his/her team's final match of that competition, will receive, at minimum, an automatic one (1) match suspension. Including the automatic suspension incurred, additional disciplinary action shall be imposed as follows:

18.11.1 Breaching the Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics
File to be sent to Canada Soccer Ethics Committee.

18.11.2 Minor Infringements of the Laws of the Game
As per the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code.

18.11.3 Serious Infringements of Laws of the Game
As per the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code. Disciplinary hearing at the discretion of the Match Commissioner.

18.11.4 Team Official dismissed from the technical area in accordance with the Laws of the Game
Minimum two (2) match suspension.

18.11.5 Misconduct against Match Officials
As per Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code.

18.11.6 Disorderliness at Match and Competitions
Expulsion from the competition; file to be sent to Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for further sanctions.

18.11.7 Team Misconduct
As per the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code.

18.12 A suspended youth age player must sit in the designated supervised area on the Participating Team bench.

18.13 A player who receives a third caution during the National Championship shall receive a one-match suspension to be served in their next match.

18.14 A Participating Team official who receives two cautions throughout the National Championship competition shall receive a one-match suspension to be served in their next match.

18.15 A player or member of team staff who is dismissed in the final match of the National Championships, a player who receives a third caution throughout the competition or a team official who receives a second caution throughout the competition in the final match, will be referred to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for sanction.

18.16 Fines levied by Canada Soccer must be paid within thirty (30) days after receiving written notification.

19. DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS AND APPEALS

19.1 The Match Commissioner may, at his/her sole discretion, conduct a hearing for misbehaviour on or off the field of play. A Competition Discipline Committee shall be formed to conduct this hearing in accordance with the FIFA and Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code and Canada Soccer By-laws, Rules and Regulations and Policies.

19.2 The Match Commissioner shall establish and chair a Competition Discipline Committee to conduct a hearing and take appropriate action if necessary (referred to in these Regulations as a "Competition Discipline Committee").

19.3 A Competition Discipline Committee shall include at least two (2) Provincial/Territorial Representatives.

19.4 Any decision taken by the Competition Discipline Committee shall be final as far as the competition is concerned but further disciplinary sanctions may be imposed by the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee.

19.5 Misconduct by players or team staff reported by the referee shall be dealt with by the Match Commissioner or a Competition Discipline Committee prior to the team's next match.

19.6 When summoned to a hearing by the Match Commissioner a player or member of team staff reported for misconduct must attend. The Provincial/Territorial Representative shall accompany the player or team staff to the hearing. In addition, the player or team staff may be accompanied by a team official. The individual summoned for a hearing may, at the discretion of the Match Commissioner, appoint a representative to attend the hearing on their behalf. Anyone representing an accused must provide a signed proxy from the accused before being allowed to participate at a hearing.

19.7 Failure to attend a disciplinary hearing, after receiving written notification by the Match Commissioner to do so, shall result in immediate suspension until the player or team staff involved requests a further hearing in writing and appears at that subsequent hearing.

19.8 The Competition Discipline Committee may hold a hearing into any allegation of misconduct off the field of play or bringing the match into disrepute. The Committee may take any disciplinary action if it sees fit, including suspension for the remainder of the competition. Furthermore, it may refer the matter to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for review and disposition.

19.9 An appeal may be lodged with Canada Soccer Appeals Committee in accordance with Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code, unless the disciplinary sanction pronounced is:

- 19.9.1 a warning;
- 19.9.2 a reprimand;
- 19.9.3 a suspension for fewer than three (3) matches or of up to two (2) months; or
- 19.9.4 a decision passed in compliance with Canada Soccer Competition Regulations where such decisions are final and binding.

20. PROTESTS

20.1 For the purpose of these Regulations, protests are objections of any kind related to events or matters that have a direct effect on matches, including but not limited to the state of and markings on the pitch, accessory match equipment, eligibility of players, facilities, and footballs.

20.2 Unless otherwise stipulated, any protest arising out of any match in a Canada Soccer Competition shall be made in writing to the Match Commissioner or the General Coordinator within two (2) hours of the match report having been finalized online. A protest fee of \$500 will be levied by Canada Soccer.

20.3 In all cases, the Competition Discipline Committee must rule on the protest, including the disposition of the protest fee, prior to the commencement of the next day's matches. Any decision taken by this Committee on a protest shall be final and binding, as far as the competition is concerned.

20.4 If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the Competition Discipline Committee may impose a sanction.

20.5 The referee's decision regarding facts connected with play, including whether or not a goal is scored and the result of the match, are final. There can be no protests against a decision of the referees as outlined in the Laws of The Game.

20.6 Protests or challenges in respect to player eligibility not ruled upon, or requiring further investigation, will be dealt with by the appropriate Canada Soccer Committee and may result in the overall standings being amended.

20.7 After the completion of the National Championships, any protest in regards to player eligibility already ruled on by the Match Commissioner, will not change the results of the competition.

20.8 If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations is not met, such protests shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the final match in the respective National Championship has ended, no further protests under this article will be received.

21. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

21.1 Canada Soccer is the owner of all of the rights around the National Championships. These rights include among others, audiovisual and radio recording rights, reproduction and broadcast rights, multimedia rights, sponsorship, marketing and promotional rights and incorporeal rights such as logo and emblems and rights arising under copyright law, whether currently existing or created in the future, subject to any provision as set forth in specific regulations.

21.2 The Canada Soccer logo and National Championships logo cannot be duplicated or manipulated by Participating Teams or the Local Organizing Committee.

21.3 Each Participating Team shall grant Canada Soccer the right to use the teams' names, logos, badges and marks in connection with their participation in the National Championships for marketing and promotional purposes, such as; website, program, etc.)

21.4 Participating Team playing and/or warmup uniforms (jerseys) may display the branding of team sponsors, to a maximum of two (2) sponsor brands per uniform. This includes any sponsor branding that may be embedded in a league logo.

21.5 The jersey manufacturer logo is exempt and does not count toward two sponsor brands.

21.6 Participating Teams wearing a playing and/or warmup uniform which features a sponsor logo that has not been approved by Canada Soccer shall cover or remove the offending logo (the jersey manufacturer is exempt).

21.7 Participating Teams will be permitted to display one (1) banner featuring team sponsor branding, provided the banner has been approved by Canada Soccer no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to the scheduled start of the championship. The banner shall be no larger than 3' x 8' and must be displayed behind the team bench. The banner must not display any sponsor branding which conflicts with the National Championships sponsor categories. The banner must display the logo of the Participating Team which indicates the relationship between the sponsors and the team.

These signs cannot be a part of the Awards Ceremonies.

21.8 Participating Teams displaying a sponsor banner which has not been approved by Canada Soccer will be subject to a fine. This rule does not apply to the display of Provincial/Territorial flags.

22. REFEREEING

22.1 The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials, collectively referred to as "match officials", shall be appointed to the National Championships by Canada Soccer working in conjunction with the LOC and Provincial Association.

22.2 Supervisor of Officials shall be appointed to each competition by Canada Soccer Referees Committee.

22.3 Match Officials shall be appointed to individual matches in the respective competitions on behalf of Canada Soccer Referee Committee by the Supervisor of Officials in venue.

22.4 The referee must complete the online referee report at the playing venue immediately after the match. The report will be complete once the match has been set to "Played". On the report form the referee must note all occurrences of significance such as misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion, unsporting behaviour or misconduct by team officials or spectators and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.

22.5 The decision of Canada Soccer Referees Committee is final and binding and not subject to appeal.

22.6 Match Assessors, where appointed, must complete the online Incident Report Form for all matches.

23. LAWS OF THE GAME

Except where provided for in these Regulations all matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force at the time of the National Championships and as laid down by the International Football Association Board. In accordance with IFAB direction, in case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translations of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.

24. TRAVEL

24.1 Canada Soccer shall make all air travel arrangements for teams and match officials for all Canada Soccer National Championships.

24.2 Participating Teams must arrive at the host venue at least one (1) day prior to the start of the National Championship in which they are competing. Except in the case of force majeure, where a Participating Team does not arrive at the hosting location in accordance with this article, it will result in expulsion from the competition at the Participating Team's expense plus any expenses incurred by the LOC.

24.3 A Participating Team shall be responsible for all costs incurred should its delegation arrive in the host venue more than two (2) days before the scheduled time for the National Championship to begin.

24.4 For National Championships, the LOC is responsible for team ground transportation as follows: to and from airport; to and from matches and one (1) training session.

24.5 Participating Teams must advise the LOC three (3) weeks prior to traveling to the National Championship competition if they are using other methods of ground transportation. Failure to do so will result in the teams being responsible for any cancellation costs incurred by the LOC.

24.6 A Participating Team may request additional training sessions and shall be responsible for all costs. Should a team cancel a training session, it will be responsible for any cancellation costs incurred by the LOC.

24.7 All Participating Teams are required to respect the deadlines as set out by the LOC as communicated in the information package.

25. ACCOMMODATION

25.1 Participating Teams must stay in the hotels designated by the LOC. Clubs or teams registered within a 50 km radius of the hosting venue may request an exemption from this article.

25.2 Parents shall not share the same hotel room as players.

25.3 Players and team staff shall not share hotel rooms.

25.4 Youth age players at any youth or senior competition must be appropriately supervised by the team staff.

25.5 Curfews shall be appropriate for the age of the players. Unless the team staff has stipulated an earlier curfew time, all youth age players on either a youth or senior team shall adhere to an "in-room" curfew of not later than 11:00 p.m.

25.6 The youth curfew time may be extended if the Participating Team is attending an official function which runs past the established time.

25.7 All team staff and senior-age players shall adhere to a curfew as set by their Provincial/Territorial Association.

26. TROPHIES AND AWARDS

26.1 The medal winning (Gold/Silver/Bronze) teams will receive a maximum of twenty-five (25) medals.

26.2 An additional medal will be allocated to the winning teams for their Provincial/Territorial Representative.

26.3 In the event that a player/team official is dismissed in the National Championship final, the Match Commissioner will have the discretion to decide if the player/team official will participate in the Awards Ceremonies.

26.4 Where a player/team official is suspended from the National Championship final, that player/team official may receive his/her medal during the Awards Ceremonies providing that the period of suspension is completed at the end of the team's game. In the event that the player is serving a suspension that extends beyond the competition, the Match Commissioner will have the discretion to decide if the player will participate in the Awards Ceremonies. Where a player/team official is not permitted to participate in the Awards Ceremonies, they shall receive their medal at a later time.

26.5 All trophies presented to the winning teams at National Championships remain the property of Canada Soccer.

26.6 The Challenge Trophy and Jubilee Trophy winning teams will not be permitted to retain possession of the trophies. These trophies will be returned to the Canada Soccer at the completion of the respective competition.

26.7 For any youth team receiving a trophy at the competition the Provincial/Territorial Association shall ensure its safe return by 1 June of the following year.

26.8 The Provincial/Territorial Representative will be required to sign a receipt for any trophy and shipping case which is won by one of its teams prior to leaving the competition.

26.9 The Provincial/Territorial Association shall insure the trophy while in its possession and be responsible for any costs for repair or restoration of either trophy and/or shipping case.

26.10 Where a trophy and/or shipping case is not returned, lost, or broken beyond repair, the Provincial/Territorial Association will be responsible for the replacement cost of the trophy.

26.11 Most Valuable Player (MVP) Award: an award shall be presented to the MVP of the competition. This player will be selected from the gold winning team post-match and the player will be awarded at the Awards Ceremonies.

26.12 Fair Play Award: an award shall be presented to the team finishing first in the fair play contest at National Championships. The criteria for the Fair Play Award are listed at Annex A.

27. OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS

27.1 All participants are required to attend all official functions associated with the National Championship. Anyone not in attendance may face disciplinary action at the discretion of Canada Soccer.

27.2 It is essential that Canada Soccer's good reputation be maintained at all times, and this can be ensured, in part, by maintaining high standards of behavior and adherence to the following minimum standards:

- Proper dress, as required by the LOC, is required at all official functions;
- Participating Team staff must not leave their team unattended at any function; and
- Punctuality shall be required for all events.

27.3 The Provincial/Territorial Representative and a minimum of one (1) Participating Team staff shall attend the pre-competition meeting and any other meetings as required.

28. CALL UPS

28.1 A Participating Team may request permission to call up players to participate who might not otherwise be eligible within the deadlines set below. This request must be in writing, to their respective Provincial/Territorial Association who will forward it to the Canada Soccer Competitions Manager. If approved, permission will be provided in writing. The appropriate Participating Team staff shall make this permission available to the Match Commissioner upon request.

28.2 Participating Teams may call up a maximum of two (2) players to replace players already registered with the Participating Team Roster who are unable to take part in the National Championships.

28.3 Call-up requests must be submitted on the appropriate form a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the start of the National Championships.

28.4 The criteria for a player to be eligible for call-up will be as follows:

- 28.4.1 Call-ups must meet the age requirement outlined in Article 5 for the National Championship they are being called to play in;
- 28.4.2 Call-ups must be registered with the Provincial/Territorial Association of the Participating Team requesting the call-up in accordance with Article 9 of these Regulations;
- 28.4.3 Call-ups must come from the Participating Team's club system, if such a system is in place;
- 28.4.4 Call-ups must not be cup tied. For the avoidance of doubt, a player is cup tied where they have participated at the Provincial/Territorial or Regional Competition qualifying for the respective National Championship;
- 28.4.5 Call-ups shall not be called to a Participating Team from a higher level of play or a higher age group. For example, a U-15 player registered on a U-17 team cannot be called to play on a U-15 team in the National Championship;
- 28.4.6 Call-ups cannot be selected from a team that has also qualified for another National Championship;
- 28.4.7 If the playing season is not over, a call-up must have written permission of the team/club for which they play;
- 28.4.8 Call-ups may not be a nationally carded athlete; and

28.4.9 A senior Participating Team cannot call up a player who is under the age of 17 as of 1 January of the current year unless the player has participated with the senior team during that season.

28.5 Once a player has been replaced by a call-up, they cannot participate in a National Championship in the current year.

28.6 Where, after approval, a call-up player is injured and cannot compete in a National Championship a Participating Team may seek to replace this player with another call-up. A medical certificate must accompany this request. Subject to meeting the criteria outlined, the Chair of Canada Soccer Competitions Committee may, at their sole discretion, approve this call-up.

28.7 A Participating Team may request a goalkeeper call-up within the 14-day window referred to in Article 28.3. Subject to meeting the criteria outlined, the Chair of Canada Soccer Competitions Committee may, at their sole discretion, approve the call up of a goalkeeper. The Participating Team must outline the reasons why the goalkeeper is unable to participate in its request.

28.8 Where a Participating Team has exhausted its maximum number of call-ups outlined in Article 28.2 a Participating Team may request additional call-up(s) if the approved online team roster falls below the mandatory fifteen (15) player threshold. The Participating Team must provide in writing the reasons for the additional call-up(s). Subject to meeting the criteria outlined, the Canada Soccer Call-Up Panel may, at their discretion, approve this call up.

28.9 Replaced youth players cannot be listed on the online registration in any other capacity.

28.10 Regular registered team members who wish to play may not be replaced.

28.11 Decisions taken by Canada Soccer regarding call-ups are final and binding and not subject to appeal.

29. BREACH OF REGULATIONS

29.1 Where a breach of these Regulations occur, the Match Commissioner shall complete a Breach of Regulation Form and submit it to Canada Soccer. A copy of the form will be provided to the Participating Team's Provincial/Territorial Representative. Mitigating circumstances to be taken into consideration by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee must be provided by the Provincial/Territorial Association to the Canada Soccer Competitions Manager within fourteen (14) days of the last day of competitions.

29.2 Canada Soccer has approved a schedule of fines which shall be levied by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee. This schedule is at Annex B.

29.3 Any decision taken by the Canada Soccer Competitions Committee on a breach of Regulations is final and binding and not subject to appeal.

These Regulations were approved by Canada Soccer November 2023 and came into force immediately thereafter.

Any previous versions of these Regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis to any matters that arose before these Regulations came into force.

Canada Soccer
The Office of the General Secretary
Ottawa 2024

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FAIR PLAY AWARD FOR YOUTH CRITERIA

The Fair Play Award encompasses the principles of sportsmanship and respect for others. This award is given to the Participating Team who demonstrated the dedication to the principles of Fair Play both on and off the field.

The Fair Play Award is intended to foster the spirit of fair play including:

- Respect for the Laws of the Game;
- Respect for the opponent;
- Respect for match officials and acceptance of their decisions;
- Respect towards LOC;
- Maintaining of dignity under all circumstances;
- Good Sportsmanship; and
- Compassion.

Participating Team includes all players, coaches and other team staff on team credential form.

Guidelines

Each Participating Team will be judged on the following:

On Field behaviour:

- Cautions given to players and / or team staff;
- Expulsion of player(s) and / or team Staff;
- Equipment not worn correctly or missing equipment;
- Late arrival of a team for a match; and
- Behaviour of team leaving the field.

Off Field behaviour:

- Not attending Official Ceremonies where required;
- Behaviour at Hotel;
- Behaviour to LOC and other volunteers; and
- Any other incidents will be judged by the Match Commissioner.

The Match Commissioner at each competition shall have discretionary power to decide not to award the Fair Play Award.

ANNEX B

APPROVED SCHEDULE OF MINIMUM FINES FOR BREACH OF REGULATIONS 2024

Provincial/Territorial Representative not in attendance at pre-Competition meeting or other meetings mandated by Canada Soccer.	\$500 per meeting
Team representative not in attendance at pre-Competition meeting or other meetings mandated by Canada Soccer.	\$500 per meeting
Failure of Participating Team representative or Provincial/Territorial Representative to attend all official functions.	\$500 plus expenses
Failure to wear the assigned team colours.	\$500
Failure to wear the registered online jersey number.	\$250 - \$500
Failure to have a second set of uniforms.	\$500
Failure to have the alternate set of uniforms at the playing venue.	\$500
Failure to have Canada Soccer National Championship crests on light and dark jerseys (including a third goalkeeper jersey when applicable).	\$1,000
Failure for a Participating Team to participate in a scheduled match without just cause.	\$2,500 plus expenses.
Failure to return trophies by June 1.	\$500
Failure of the Provincial/Territorial Representative to be present in the host location for the entire duration of the competition. They must arrive with, or on the same day as, their first Participating Team and depart with or after their last Participating Team.	\$500 - \$1,000
Failure to attend the National Championship (Provinces/Territory withdrawing after the deadline).	\$2,500 plus expenses
Failure to comply with gender requirement for a Participating Team.	\$1,000
Failure to comply with requirements for team signs/banners.	\$1,000
Failure to submit required information to the Canada Soccer office by the deadlines.	\$500
Failure to submit the duly signed Participation Agreement to the Canada Soccer Competitions Manager seven (7) days prior to the start of the National Championships.	\$500
Having a youth team staff member without an exemption from Canada Soccer.	\$500
Submitting an incomplete match sheet.	\$250 - \$500
Failure of participants to use appropriate washroom facilities at competition venues.	\$250

Where no penalty is specified, a breach of the Regulations shall carry a penalty as follows:

*By a Provincial/Territorial Association – From a minimum of \$1,000 to a maximum of \$5,000 per breach plus any expenses incurred.

* By a Participating Team – From a minimum of \$500 to a maximum of \$2,000 per breach plus any expenses incurred.

* By an individual – From a minimum of \$500 to a maximum of \$1,000 per breach plus any expenses incurred.



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