



# 2025 REGULATIONS

**ORGANIZERS  
CANADA SOCCER**

President:	Peter Augruso
CEO/ General Secretary:	Kevin Blue
Address:	237 Metcalfe Street Ottawa, ON K2P 1R2
Telephone:	613-237-7678
Website:	CanadaSoccer.com



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## 1. TELUS MEN'S CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIP

- 1.1 The TELUS Men's Canadian Championship is an official competition owned and managed by the Canadian Soccer Association (Canada Soccer).
- 1.2 The TELUS Men's Canadian Championship will be played annually as a knock-out competition in accordance with these Regulations between teams identified by Canada Soccer from time to time. The winner of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship will advance to the Concacaf Champions Cup subject to meeting the criteria set forth by Concacaf.
- 1.3 A Club participating in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship shall have only such rights in relation to the Competition (and any match in the Competition) as are expressly granted to the Club under the Competition Regulations or by Canada Soccer in writing.
- 1.4 Canada Soccer Board of Directors shall have the power to make, delete and amend regulations for the organization, control, and management of the Competition as it, from time to time, deems expedient subject only to the authority of Canada Soccer Board of Directors where such matters relate to financial or commercial matters.
- 1.5 These Regulations regulate the rights, duties, and responsibilities of all teams taking part in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship. All Participants shall be bound by and comply with the Competition Regulations (and any rules or regulations issued pursuant to the Competition).
- 1.6 Canada Soccer By-laws, and all Canada Soccer Rules and Regulations, and Policies in force shall apply. Any reference in these Regulations to Canada Soccer By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies refers to those valid at the time of application. In case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translations of Canada Soccer By-laws, Rules and Regulations, and Policies, the English version shall be authoritative.
- 1.7 By signing the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Participation Agreement all teams undertake to:
  - 1.7.1 Observe these Regulations;
  - 1.7.2 Acknowledge that failure to comply with any of the requirements within these Regulations shall render any organization or individual subject to disciplinary procedures;
  - 1.7.3 Observe the principles of fair play.

## 2. PARTICIPATING TEAMS

- 2.1 Participation in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship shall be open to Men's Professional Clubs in Membership of Canada Soccer and a representative from each of League1 British Columbia (L1BC), League1 Alberta (L1A), League1 Ontario (L1O), and Ligue1



- Québec (L1Q). All professional teams must hold a current, valid National 1 Club License and participate in a sanctioned league approved by the Canada Soccer Board of Directors. L1BC, L1A, L1O, and L1Q teams must hold a current, valid National 2 Club License.
- 2.2 The Canada Soccer Board of Directors may reject the application of any Club to participate in the Competition at its entire discretion.
- 2.3 If a Club is removed from the league in which it is playing, once it has been accepted into the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship, the Canada Soccer Board of Directors has the power to remove the Club from the Competition.
- 2.4 If any Club entering the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship, or at any time during the course of the Competition, becomes subject to any of the following insolvency events, the Club must notify the Canada Soccer Board of Directors immediately in writing:
- 2.4.1 A manager, receiver or administrative receiver appointed in respect of that Club; or
  - 2.4.2 Any part of its undertaking or assets;
  - 2.4.3 An administration order made in respect of that Club;
  - 2.4.4 A winding up order made in respect of that Club;
  - 2.4.5 Entering into any arrangement with its creditors or some part of them in respect of the payment of its debts or part thereof.

The Canada Soccer Board of Directors will (at its absolute discretion) then decide whether to allow that Club to continue to compete in the Competition.

### 3. ORGANIZATION

- 3.1 All matches shall be organised by Canada Soccer, in conjunction with the participating Clubs, according to the Competition Regulations provided herein.
- 3.2 Where deemed appropriate by Canada Soccer, Canada Soccer will determine matchups by conducting a Draw. A copy of the Draw Procedures will be provided to participating Clubs in advance of any Draw.
- 3.3 The Preliminary Round of the Competition will be organised in a single knock-out format. The winner of each match advances to the next round. If, after the end of regulation time, the two teams involved in a Preliminary Round match are tied, the tie breaker criteria will be determined as follows:
- 3.3.1 Penalties (penalty shoot-out) as per the IFAB Laws of the Game will be used to determine the winner.



- 3.4 The Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Rounds will be organized in a home and away series format with each series winner advancing to the next round. The team which scores the greater aggregate of goals in the two matches advances to the next round. If the aggregate goals between the two teams are equal at the end of regulation time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg match, the tie-breaker criteria will be determined as follows:
- 3.4.1 Penalties (penalty shoot-out) as per the IFAB Laws of the Game will be used to determine the winner.
- 3.5 The Final Round of the Competition will be organised as a single match. The winner of the match shall be declared the 2025 TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Champion. If, after the end of regulation time, the two teams involved in the Final Match are tied, the tie breaker criteria will be determined as follows:
- 3.5.1 There will be two (2) extra time periods of fifteen (15) minutes.
- 3.5.2 If extra time is required, there will be a five (5) minute break between the end of regular time and the start of extra time. As a rule, the players must remain on the field of play during the five (5) minute break, at the discretion of the referee.
- 3.5.3 If the result is still tied after the 2<sup>nd</sup> period of extra-time, then penalties (penalty shoot-out) will take place as per the IFAB Laws of the Game and will be used to determine the winner.
- 3.5.4 A sixth substitute will be allowed in extra time.
- 3.6 As a general rule, all Clubs shall have the duty to host a match when assigned hosting duties, on the date(s) in which they are assigned. Participating Clubs shall have the duty to take all reasonable measures to secure the use of their home venue (or alternate venue approved by Canada Soccer where demonstrated venue availability or suitability challenges are presented) for matches in which they are assigned to host, on the date(s) in which they are assigned. Art 3.6.1, 3.6.2, and 3.6.3 below outline, as a general rule, the process for the assignment of hosting duties. From time to time, it may be necessary for Canada Soccer to reassign hosting duties within a matchup. Canada Soccer shall have the right to reassign hosting duties for any reason, including but not limited to, reasons of demonstrated venue availability or suitability challenges experienced by a Club.

As a general rule, the hosting duties for each match shall be determined as follows:

#### 3.6.1 The Preliminary Round

- 3.6.1.1 As a general rule, the higher-ranking Club in a matchup, as per the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Club Ranking Index, will host the match.



3.6.1.2 Canada Soccer shall have the right to reassign hosting duties for any reason, including but not limited to, reasons of demonstrated venue availability challenges.

### 3.6.2 The Quarter-Final and Semi-Final Rounds

3.6.2.1 Each Club in a home and away series shall host one of the two matches.

3.6.2.2 As a general rule, the lower-ranking Club in a matchup, as per the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Club Ranking Index, will host the first leg of the series.

3.6.2.3 As a general rule, the higher-ranking Club in a matchup, as per the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Club Ranking Index, will host the second leg of the series.

3.6.2.4 Canada Soccer shall have the right to reassign the hosting duties for each leg for any reason, including but not limited to, reasons of demonstrated venue availability challenges.

### 3.6.3 The Final Match

3.6.3.1 The Host of the Final Match shall be determined by a Draw conducted by Canada Soccer.

3.6.3.2 Canada Soccer shall have the right to reassign the hosting duties for the Final Match for any reason, including but not limited to, reasons of demonstrated stadium availability challenges.

3.7 The visiting team shall arrive in the city in which the match is to be played no later than the evening before the date that the match is due to be played.

3.8 Both the Home Team and the visiting team representatives will be required to attend a Match Coordination Meeting on the day of the match. Details of said meeting will be provided to each team no later than one week prior to the date the match is due to be played. The Home Team is to arrange a suitable meeting room in conjunction with Canada Soccer. At the discretion of Canada Soccer, the Match Coordination Meeting may be held virtually. In the event of a virtual Match Coordination Meeting, Canada Soccer is responsible for providing the link to the meeting.

3.9 Both teams are to arrive at the match venue no later than 90 minutes prior to kick-off.

3.10 If the Home Team considers the pitch unfit for play, the Canada Soccer Match Commissioner and/or General Coordinator, the visiting team, and the match officials shall be informed no later than 48 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time. If the Home Team fails to do this, it will be obliged to cover all the expenses incurred for travel, board and lodging of the parties involved.



- 3.11 If there is any doubt regarding the condition of the pitch once the visiting team and the match officials have already left for the match venue, the referee shall decide whether the pitch is playable or not. If the referee declares the pitch unplayable, the procedure to be followed is described in Art 3.13.6 below.
- 3.12 If the match is abandoned before the completion of regulation playing time because of extreme weather, or for reasons outside the control of the Home Team, the match shall recommence with the same score at the minute at which play was interrupted.
- 3.13 The following principles shall apply to the recommencement of the match:
- 3.13.1 The match shall recommence with the same players on the pitch and substitutes available as when the match was initially abandoned;
  - 3.13.2 No additional substitutes may be added to the list of players on the team sheet;
  - 3.13.3 The teams can make only the number of substitutions to which they were still entitled when the match was abandoned;
  - 3.13.4 Players sent off during the abandoned match cannot be replaced;
  - 3.13.5 Any sanctions imposed before the match was abandoned remain valid for the remainder of the match;
  - 3.13.6 The kick-off time, date (foreseen for the following day) and location shall be decided by Canada Soccer;
  - 3.13.7 Any matters requiring further decision shall be dealt with by Canada Soccer.
- 3.14 The Competition Champion will be entitled to be referred to as the “TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship Champion”.
- 3.15 The Champion will be presented by Canada Soccer with the Competition’s trophy for its possession until 1 January the following year unless Canada Soccer requests the return of the trophy sooner. The Champion will also receive 30 medals and prize money. Additional medals may be produced upon request and at the cost of the requesting club.
- 3.16 Referees for the Final match will receive commemorative medals.
- 3.17 Separate trophies or recognition pieces will be given to individual award winners.

#### 4. WITHDRAWALS

- 4.1 Clubs having entered the Competition are obligated to play all their matches. After entering the TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship, a Club that fails to participate shall be penalized as specified below, except in unforeseen circumstances and cases of force majeure as determined by the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee.





- 4.2 If a withdrawal takes place:
- 4.2.1 After entering the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship but on, or before, the day of the first match of the Competition a fine of \$5,000.00 is to be paid;
  - 4.2.2 Anytime during the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship, a fine of \$10,000.00 is to be paid;
  - 4.2.3 Anytime after the completion of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship for the team which has qualified for the Concacaf Champions Cup, a fine of \$100,000.00 is to be paid.
- 4.3 If a team does not report for a match – except in cases of force majeure recognized by the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee for the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship – or refuses to continue to play or leaves the stadium before the end of the match, the team shall be considered as having lost and will be disqualified from the competition. In addition to the fine in Art 4.2.2, the guilty team shall be disqualified from participating in the next two editions of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.
- 4.4 Depending on circumstances and the decision of the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee, a team which withdraws at any stage of the Competition may be ordered to reimburse Canada Soccer and the opposing team(s) any expenses they have already incurred as a result of their proposed involvement or non-involvement in the Competition and also pay compensation for any damages or losses arising from its withdrawal.
- 4.5 Penalties specified in Art 4.4 above will not be applied in cases of force majeure, as verified by the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee.
- 4.6 Canada Soccer, as the governing body for soccer in Canada, shall be responsible for ensuring that specified sanctions are carried out and complied with.

## 5. CANADA SOCCER ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

- 5.1 The Canada Soccer Organizing Committee for the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship is responsible for the organization of the Competition.
- 5.2 The Canada Soccer Organizing Committee shall be responsible for, but not limited to:
- 5.2.1 Supervising general preparations, deciding on the competition format, any draws and forming groups that may be required;
  - 5.2.2 Approving stadia for the matches;
  - 5.2.3 Approving the dates, venues, and determining kick-off times;
  - 5.2.4 Where a match is abandoned, determining when and where the game will be resumed or replayed;



- 5.2.5 Verifying that the requirements concerning the eligibility of players are met;
  - 5.2.6 Appointing the Match Commissioner(s), General Coordinator(s), Marketing Officer(s), Media Officer(s), Match Officials, and Referee Assessor(s);
  - 5.2.7 Approving requests from the Home Team in respect of match-related events including but not limited to: promotion, marketing, and match production;
  - 5.2.8 Dealing with breaches of the anti-doping regulations;
  - 5.2.9 Choosing the stipulated technical material;
  - 5.2.10 Reporting cases in relation to disciplinary action to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee;
  - 5.2.11 Judging protests and taking appropriate steps to verify their admissibility;
  - 5.2.12 Settling cases of force majeure;
  - 5.2.13 Dealing with any other aspect of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship that is not the responsibility of any other body under the terms of these Competition Regulations.
- 5.3 The Canada Soccer Organizing Committee's decisions shall be final.

## 6. ELIGIBILITY OF PLAYERS

- 6.1 Clubs will be required to field their first team eligible roster players to compete in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship, subject to the requirements outlined in Art 7.1.
- 6.2 All players must be registered with the Club and with the National Association, and eligible to play in any first or reserve team league match for the current playing season as per the FIFA transfer dates at the time of submission of each 23-player roster.
- 6.3 To be eligible to be considered as a Canadian player and meet the requirements of Art 7.1, a player must be a Canadian Citizen and/or hold a Canadian passport.
- 6.4 A maximum of six (6) registered, Canadian, academy players may be called up to the first team to play in the Competition. The club must officially submit the request to Canada Soccer for approval explaining the rationale for the call-up.
- 6.5 Clubs must submit their 35-player roster via the Competition Management Expert System (COMET) no later than seven (7) days prior to the team's opening match in the Competition. The initial roster submission must have a minimum of twenty (20) players listed. In addition, Clubs must submit their 23-player roster via COMET and to their opponent no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to each match. This roster must be able to fulfil the requirements of Art 7.1.



- 6.6 No reinforcement players may be registered.
- 6.7 Players must hold a valid passport, national identity card or a current Provincial or nationally-issued driver's license, otherwise they will not be permitted to play. At the Match Coordination Meeting of each team's first match in the Competition, the identification documentation for all players listed on the 35-player roster, specified in Art 6.5 above, will be verified by Canada Soccer. At subsequent games, player identification will be required for any player listed on the 35-player roster whose identification has not previously been verified by Canada Soccer. In the event of a virtual Match Coordination Meeting, the Canada Soccer Match Commissioner and/or General Coordinator may arrange with the teams a separate time to conduct the passport checks. Alternatively, at the discretion of the Canada Soccer Match Commissioner/General Coordinator, the passport check may be conducted virtually.
- 6.8 Once having appeared in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship for a Club, a player may not appear for any other Club for the duration of that Championship competition.

## 7. START LIST AND SUBSTITUTES

- 7.1 Each Club shall submit to the General Coordinator, via COMET, the final roster of twenty (20) players for the match, from their list of twenty-three (23) players as specified in Art 6.5 above, no later than ninety (90) minutes before the scheduled kick-off time.
- 7.1.1 At least three (3) Canadian players, per Art 6.3 above, shall be listed as starters.
- 7.1.2 At least three (3) U23 Canadian players shall be listed on the final roster. If listed as a starter, they will count towards the contingent listed in 7.1.1.
- 7.2 A maximum of nine (9) substitutes may be nominated. A Club may, at its discretion, use up to a maximum of five (5) of those nine (9) substitutes. To reduce disruption to the match each team will have a maximum of three (3) opportunities to make substitutions during the game. Substitutions may also be made at half time and will not count towards the three (3) opportunities. Substitutions can only be made when play is stopped for any reason and the Referee has given permission. Prior to the substitution being made, the Club must identify to the Match Officials the number of the player out and the player in, in accordance with the final roster. A player who has been replaced may take no further part in the match.
- 7.3 The Competition will use additional permanent concussion substitutions in accordance with the protocol listed under 'Notes and modifications' in the IFAB Laws of the Game:

### Principles

- Each team is permitted to use a maximum of one 'concussion substitute' in a match.
- A 'concussion substitution' may be made regardless of the number of substitutes already used.
- In competitions in which the number of named substitutes is the same as the maximum number of 'normal substitutes' that can be used, the 'concussion



substitute' can be a player who has previously been substituted and may be used at any time, regardless of the number of substitutes already used.

- When a 'concussion substitute' is used, the opposing team then has the option to use an 'additional substitute' for any reason.

#### **Procedure**

- The substitution procedure operates in accordance with Law 3 – The Players (except as outlined otherwise below).
- A 'concussion substitution' may be made:
  - immediately after a concussion occurs or is suspected;
  - after an on-field assessment and/or an off-field assessment; or
  - at any other time when a concussion occurs or is suspected, including when a player has previously been assessed and has returned to the field of play.
- If a team decides to make a 'concussion substitution', the referee/fourth official is informed, ideally by using a substitution card/form of a different colour.
- The player with concussion or suspected concussion is not permitted to take any further part in the match, including penalties (penalty shoot-out), and should, where possible, be accompanied to the dressing room and/or a medical facility.
- The opposing team is informed by the referee/fourth official that it has the option of using an 'additional substitute' and an 'additional substitution' opportunity, which may be used concurrently with the 'concussion substitution' made by the other team or at any time thereafter (except as outlined otherwise in the Laws of the Game).

#### **Substitution opportunities**

- Making a 'concussion substitution' is separate from any limit on the number of 'normal substitution' opportunities.
- However, if a team makes a 'normal substitution' at the same time as a 'concussion substitution', this will count as one of its 'normal substitution' opportunities.
- Once a team has used all its 'normal substitution' opportunities, it cannot use a 'concussion substitution' to make a 'normal substitution'.
- Where a team makes a 'concussion substitution', the opposing team can use an 'additional substitute' and receives an 'additional substitution' opportunity. This additional opportunity can be used only for the 'additional substitute' and not for a 'normal substitute'.

#### **Match officials**

The referee and other match officials, especially the fourth official:

- Are not part of a team's decision-making process as to whether a player should be substituted or not, nor whether a player should be replaced by a 'normal substitute' or a 'concussion substitute';
- Must not decide whether an actual or suspected injury qualifies for a 'concussion substitute' to be used;
- Should give appropriate support where a player has an actual or suspected injury, including by informing the team captain, coach and/or medical staff if they suspect that a player needs to be assessed and/or treated;



- Should support a decision by the team captain, coach and/or medical staff that an injured player cannot continue playing, which may require the referee to delay the restart until after the player has left the field of play; and
  - Must inform the appropriate authorities if there are concerns that a 'concussion substitution' has been made inappropriately.
- 7.4 If any of the 11 starting players submitted on the start list 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 is officially informed prior to kick-off. The General Coordinator will advise the Referee and the opponents.
- 7.5 Further to the above, any injured or ill player who is removed from the start list will no longer be eligible to take part in the match, must be listed as injured on the Start List, and will be ineligible to play the match, and thus cannot be selected as a substitute at any time during the game. The replacement player may not be replaced on the bench by an additional player and the quota of substitute players shall be reduced accordingly. Such a change to the start list will not reduce the number of official substitutions that may be made by a team during the match. In accordance with Law 3 of the Laws of the Game, up to a maximum of five (5) substitutions may still be made.
- 7.6 Although no longer eligible to be named as a substitute, the injured or ill player who was removed from the start list may be seated on the substitutes' bench, and if so, would then be subject to the referee's authority and also be eligible for doping control selection.
- 7.7 Only the players who were identified on the official start list submitted to the 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 Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee.
- 7.8 No more than 18 people (9 officials and 9 substitutes) shall be allowed in the technical area. The names of these officials must be indicated on the "Club Officials" form to be provided to the General Coordinator via COMET. A suspended player or official will not be allowed in the technical area. Small, hand-held electronic or communication devices are permitted in the technical area if used for coaching/tactics or player welfare. Use of unauthorized equipment or behaving in an inappropriate manner as a result of the use of electronic or communication equipment will be sanctioned in accordance with the IFAB Laws of the Game.
- 7.9 Any team found guilty of fielding an ineligible player shall forfeit the match.

## 8. DURATION OF PLAY

- 8.1 Each match shall last ninety (90) minutes, comprising two periods of forty-five (45) minutes with an interval of fifteen (15) minutes in between.
- 8.2 Clocks in the stadium showing the amount of time played may run during the match, provided that they are stopped at the end of normal playing time in each half, i.e., after



forty-five (45) and ninety (90) minutes respectively.

- 8.3 At the end of the two periods of regular playing time (45 and 90 minutes), the Referee will indicate to the Fourth Official the number of minutes he or she has decided to allow for time lost. Each allowance for lost time shall be announced to the public by the Fourth Official using electronic display boards and by the Public Address Announcer.

## **9. STADIA, FIELD OF PLAY, and ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT**

- 9.1 Each Club organizing matches in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship shall ensure that the stadia and its facilities in which the matches are to take place fulfill FIFA requirements and comply with the standards of safety and security required for professional matches. In the event that the match is not played in the home venue of a Club, Canada Soccer may request verification of compliance from the Provincial Association where the match is to be played. The fields of play and the ancillary equipment shall comply with the provisions stipulated in the Laws of the Game. The fields and the facilities shall be in optimum condition.
- 9.2 As a general rule, matches may only be played at the recognized home venue of the Home Team.
- 9.3 The matches of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship may be played on natural or artificial surfaces. Only soccer-specific markings are permitted on the field of play. Where artificial surfaces are used, the surface must meet the requirements of the FIFA Quality Concept for artificial turf or the International Turf Standard, unless special dispensation is provided by FIFA. Authorization for such exception must be requested from Canada Soccer at least thirty (30) days prior to the match. In such cases, the visiting team must be permitted a minimum of two (2) training sessions on the artificial surface prior to the match.
- 9.4 Teams will be permitted one-hour official training on Match Day -1 at the stadium. The Home Team is responsible for advising the Match Commissioner or General Coordinator no later than 48 hours prior to training if there is any doubt in the condition of the stadium field which may affect training or the match. The Home Team is to make best efforts to accommodate any reasonable request for training time by the Away Team. Where a conflict cannot be resolved, the Match Commissioner or General Coordinator will decide on training times for both teams which will be final and not subject to appeal.
- 9.5 The Home Team shall guarantee that the field of play complies with the Laws of the Game. This shall be subject to the approval of the General Coordinator and the appointed match Referee.
- 9.6 The match balls for the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship shall be supplied by the Home Team. The Home Team will provide the Away Team with twenty (20) balls, similar to the ones to be used for the match, for practice at the Official Training on MD-1 and warm-up. The multiple ball system (where more than one ball may be used in a match) is permitted. However, the Referee may withdraw this privilege where they consider that the spirit of Fair Play is not being adopted in the use of the multiple ball system. All balls that may be used



are to be provided to the Referee one (1) hour before kick-off for inspection. A new, unused, match ball is to be provided by the Home Team to the referee for the kick-off of each game.

- 9.7 All games shall be played on grounds enabling matches to be played wholly under floodlight conditions, provided that the installation meets with the approval of the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee.
- 9.8 Floodlights shall be switched on prior to the team warm-up.
- 9.9 Electronic substitute boards should be provided by the Home Team for the Fourth Official to display the substitutions and the minimum additional time allowed at the end of each half. If electronic boards are not available, the normal manual substitute boards should be used.

## 10. EQUIPMENT

- 10.1 A Club's equipment must comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game with the following modifications.
- 10.2 Uniform Colours – Clubs must communicate their preferred and alternate uniform colours to Canada Soccer, via COMET, no later than twenty-one (21) days prior to their opening match in the competition. Notice of uniform colours will be communicated to both team managers one week prior to the match. Should a conflict arise onsite, the Home Team will change to their alternate colours. Both teams shall have a least two (2) different uniforms for each goalkeeper.
- 10.3 Player Names – Players may be identified by means of their surname, or an abbreviation, or nickname on their shirts. The player's name shall correspond with the name on the players' list.
- 10.4 Sponsor Advertising – Teams may wear the uniform they wear in their current league competitions. However, the advertising of tobacco or related products, cannabis or related products, hard liquor, or distilled spirits, as well as slogans of a political, religious, or racist nature, or for other causes that offend common decency, is prohibited.

## 11. PROTESTS

- 11.1 For 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, ancillary match equipment, eligibility of players, facilities, and footballs.
- 11.2 Protests shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner at the match not later than two (2) hours after the game and followed up immediately with a full written report, including the original protest, to be sent to the Canada Soccer General Secretary.
- 11.3 Protests for reasons outlined in Art 11.4, 11.5 and 11.6 are subject to a fee in the amount of \$1,000.00 payable to Canada Soccer within seven (7) days.





- 11.4 Protests against the eligibility of players chosen to take part in the match shall be submitted in writing to the Match Commissioner no later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- 11.5 Subject to the conditions of Art 11.7 below, protests against any incidents that occur during a match shall be made in writing to the Match Commissioner at the match not later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- 11.6 Protests against the state of the pitch, the markings, the floodlights, the ancillary equipment (goals, etc.) or the match balls shall be made in writing to the Referee before the start of the match by the Official responsible for the team lodging the protest and followed up in writing to the Match Commissioner no later than two (2) hours after the match in question.
- 11.7 No protests may be made against the Referee's decisions on points of fact connected with play, such decisions being final.
- 11.8 If any of the formal conditions of a protest as set out in these Regulations are not met, such protest shall be disregarded by the competent body. Once the Final match of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship has ended, any protest described in this article shall be disregarded.
- 11.9 If an unfounded or irresponsible protest is lodged, the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee may impose disciplinary measures.
- 11.10 Clubs may not bring disputes with Canada Soccer before a Court of Justice and they shall undertake to submit any such disputes, without reservation, to the jurisdiction of the competent authority of Canada Soccer, Concacaf, and FIFA.

## 12. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

- 12.1 The participating clubs and their Delegation Members agree to comply with the IFAB Laws of the Game and with Canada Soccer By-Laws, Rules and Regulations, the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code, the FIFA Anti-Doping Regulations, and the Canada Soccer Code of Conduct and Ethics.
- 12.2 Disciplinary incidents are dealt with in compliance with the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code in force, as well as with all relevant circulars and directives, with which the participating clubs undertake to comply.
- 12.3 In cases of infringement of these Competition Regulations, misconduct, or unsporting behaviour on the part of the participating teams, their players, officers, and directors, or in any kind of incident, Canada Soccer's Disciplinary Committee shall be empowered to:
  - 12.3.1 Admonish, sanction, fine, suspend or disqualify players, match officials, teams, team officials or coaches;





- 12.3.2 Take action in accordance with the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code against any person or Club(s) which may violate the Competition Regulations, the Laws of the Game or the rules of Fair Play;
- 12.3.3 Prohibit violators from participating in a specific number of Canada Soccer-organized tournaments in which they might otherwise have participated.
- 12.4 Where a player accumulates two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship they will be automatically suspended from the Club's next game in the competition. A fine of \$500.00 will also be levied against the player. The fine must be paid in full prior to the player participating in any subsequent TELUS Men's Canadian Championship matches. This is not subject to appeal. In accordance with Law 10, although players who receive a yellow card during both the match and during penalties (penalty shoot-out) are not sent off, yellow cards received during penalties (penalty shoot-out) do count towards caution accumulation.
- 12.5 Where a team official accumulates two (2) cautions (yellow cards) during the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship they will be automatically suspended from the Club's next game in the competition. A fine of \$500.00 will also be levied against the team official. The fine must be paid in full prior to the team official participating in any subsequent TELUS Men's Canadian Championship matches. This is not subject to appeal. In accordance with Law 10, although team officials who receive a yellow card during both the match and during penalties (penalty shoot-out) are not sent off, yellow cards received during penalties (penalty shoot-out) do count towards caution accumulation.
- 12.6 After the conclusion of the Preliminary Round, the yellow card count will be reset to zero for all teams moving forward in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.
- 12.7 The Final Match shall be exempt from automatic suspension arising from caution accumulation. A fine will be imposed in lieu of any suspension that may have been incurred.
- 12.8 Where a player is sent off (red card) the player will automatically receive the standard sanction for the offence, as outlined in Art 12.10 below.
- 12.9 Where a team official is sent off (red card) the team official will automatically receive the standard sanction for the offence, as outlined in Art 12.11 below.
- 12.10 The standard sanctions for sending off offences committed by players are as follows:

Offence	Match Suspension	Fine
Receiving a second caution in the same match	ONE (1) match	\$50.00
Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by a handball offence (except a goalkeeper within their penalty area)	ONE (1) match	\$50.00



Denying the opposing team a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity by committing a non-deliberate handball offence outside their own penalty area	ONE (1) match	\$50.00
Denying a goal or an obvious goal-scoring opportunity to an opponent whose overall movement is towards the offender's goal by an offence punishable by a free kick	ONE (1) match	\$50.00
Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	TWO (2) matches	\$75.00
Biting or spitting at someone	SEVEN (7) matches	\$1000.00
Serious Foul Play	TWO (2) matches	\$100.00
Violent Conduct	THREE (3) matches	\$100.00

12.11 The standard sanctions for sending off offences committed by team officials are as follows:

<b>Offence</b>	<b>Match Suspension</b>	<b>Fine</b>
Receiving a second caution in the same match	ONE (1) match	\$250.00
Delaying the restart of play by the opposing team e.g. holding onto the ball, kicking the ball away, obstructing the movement of a player	ONE (1) match	\$500.00
Deliberately leaving the technical area to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Show dissent towards, or remonstrate with, a match official</li> <li>• Act in a provocative or inflammatory manner</li> </ul>	ONE (1) match	\$500.00
Enter the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner	THREE (3) matches	\$1000.00
Deliberately throwing/kicking an object onto the field of play	ONE (1) match	\$500.00
Entering the field of play to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confront a match official (including at half-time and full-time)</li> </ul>	ONE (1) match	\$500.00



• Interfere with play, an opposing player or a match official		
Physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, match official, spectator or any other person (e.g. ball boy/girl, security or competition official etc.)	SEVEN (7) matches	\$1500.00
Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	THREE (3) matches	\$1000.00
Using unauthorised electronic or communication equipment and/or behaving in an inappropriate manner as a result of using electronic or communication equipment	ONE (1) match	\$500.00
Violent conduct	THREE (3) matches	\$1000.00

12.12 The following terms apply to match suspensions issued in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship:

- 12.12.1 Match suspensions issued in accordance with the standard sanctions indicated in Art 12.10 and 12.11 above are final and not subject to appeal;
- 12.12.2 Match suspensions automatically come into immediate effect, beginning with the Club's next match in this competition;
- 12.12.3 Match suspensions will only be served in the competition in which the offence was committed.
- 12.12.4 Should a player or team official be unable to serve their match suspension in full in this competition (i.e. their club is eliminated from the competition before they are able to serve the full number of matches issued), the player/team official will be fined \$250.00 for each unserved match remaining in their suspension. This is in addition to the standard fine issued for the offence.

12.13 In certain circumstances, a club, on behalf of their player or team official, is entitled to submit a Claim following a send-off in a TELUS Men's Canadian Championship match.

- 12.13.1 A club must, on behalf of their player, indicate in writing to Canada Soccer, by email ([discipline@canadasoccer.com](mailto:discipline@canadasoccer.com)), their intention to submit a claim and the particulars upon which the claim is founded by 23h00ET on the day following the match in which the send off occurred. Once an intention to submit a claim



is received, the Club must then proceed to submit a complete claim in accordance with Art 12.13.3, 12.13.4, or 12.13.5. It is important to note that this timeline is strict. If an intention to submit a claim is not received within this timeline, the match suspension will come into immediate effect following the expiration of the claim window, regardless of whether a Club has received notice of such. Once a match suspension comes into effect, a Club is no longer eligible to submit a claim.

12.13.2 There are three (3) types of claims in which a Club is entitled to submit, the terms of which are defined below. These are the only types of claims considered by the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee and are as follows:

- Claim of Mistaken Identity
- Claim of Wrongful Dismissal
- Clearly Excessive or Clearly Insufficient Claim

12.13.3 Claim of Mistaken Identity

12.13.3.1 Having indicated their intention to submit a claim in accordance with Art 12.13.1, a club must, by 23h00ET on the second Business Day following the match, submit to Canada Soccer written statements and evidence (including video where available) in support of the claim. A signed statement by the player or team official reported by the referee that they were not responsible for the offence reported and identifying specifically the name of the person responsible must be included. A written statement from the player or team official responsible for the offence should also be supplied.

12.13.3.2 The decisions available to the Disciplinary Panel considering a claim of Mistaken Identity are as follows:

- a) The claim is rejected - the player or team official reported by the referee serves the standard punishment;
- b) The claim is rejected and considered frivolous and/or abuse of process - the Disciplinary Panel will have the discretion to increase the match suspension to up to twice that of the standard punishment;
- c) The claim is successful - the standard punishment is transferred from the record of the player or team official reported by the referee to the appropriate identified offender.

12.13.3.3 Where, despite there being clear evidence that there is a case of mistaken identity, a player or team official or their Club does not submit a claim within the specified time limits, Canada Soccer may within seven (7) days of the incident request the Disciplinary Committee to review the matter. A Club failing to submit a claim for mistaken identity may be charged with misconduct by Canada Soccer if there is evidence that the Club sought to gain an advantage by remaining silent on the matter.

12.13.4 Claim of Wrongful Dismissal



- 12.13.4.1 A player or team official and their club may seek to limit the disciplinary consequences of the dismissal of a player or team official from the Field-of-Play or Technical Area by demonstrating to Canada Soccer that the dismissal was wrongful.
- 12.13.4.2 A claim of Wrongful Dismissal for a player may be lodged only for on-field offences which result in a sending-off, except for two cautions leading to a dismissal.
- 12.13.4.3 A claim of Wrongful Dismissal for a team official may be lodged for sending off offences, except for two cautions leading to a dismissal.
- 12.13.4.4 Having indicated their intention to submit a claim in accordance with Art 12.13.1, a club must, on behalf of the player or team official, by 23h00ET of the second Business Day following the day of the match submit written statements and evidence (including a video of the incident where available) in support of the claim.
- 12.13.4.5 A Disciplinary Panel will be convened as soon as is practically possible to decide the matter on any relevant documentary and video evidence submitted. The Disciplinary Panel considering a claim of Wrongful Dismissal is only concerned with the question of whether any sanction of a suspension from play/participation is one which should be imposed in view of the facts of the case.
- 12.13.4.6 It must be noted that in accordance with the Laws of the Game, the match referee's decision is final and the player or team official's dismissal from the field of play or technical area will remain on the record of the player or team official and the club. Consequently, the club, player, team official and match official(s) will not attend the meeting of the Disciplinary Panel when the matter is considered.
- 12.13.4.7 The decisions available to a Disciplinary Panel when considering a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal are as follows:
  - a) The claim is rejected - the player or team official serves the standard punishment;
  - b) The claim is rejected and considered frivolous and/or an abuse of process – the Panel will have the discretion to increase the match suspension beyond the standard punishment;
  - c) The claim is successful - the standard punishment is withdrawn.
- 12.13.5 Clearly Excessive or Clearly Insufficient Punishment Claim
  - 12.13.5.1 In truly exceptional circumstances a player or team official and their Club may seek to limit the disciplinary consequences of a sending-off offence by making a claim that the standard punishment would be clearly excessive.



- 12.13.5.2 Having indicated their intention to submit a claim in accordance with Art 12.13.1, a club must, on behalf of the player or team official, by 23h00ET of the second Business Day following the day of the match submit written statements and evidence (including a video of the incident where available) in support of the claim.
- 12.13.5.3 In bringing such a claim, the Player, team official, and their Club must establish that the circumstances of the sending-off offence were truly exceptional, such that the standard punishment otherwise applicable to that sending-off offence would be clearly excessive.
- 12.13.5.4 Such claims may only be made by a Player and their Club for the following sending-off offences (claims for players only):
- a) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
  - b) Serious foul play
  - c) Violent conduct
  - d) Biting or spitting at someone
- 12.13.5.5 Such claims may only be made by a Team Official and their Club for the following sending-off offences (claims for team officials only):
- a) Entering the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner
  - b) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures
  - c) Violent conduct
  - d) Physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, match official, spectator or any other person (e.g. ball retriever, security or competition official, etc.)
- 12.13.5.6 Canada Soccer may seek to increase the disciplinary consequences of a sending-off offence by making a claim that the standard punishment is clearly insufficient.
- 12.13.5.7 Canada Soccer may bring such a claim where it is satisfied that the standard punishment otherwise applicable to that sending-off offence would be clearly insufficient. Such claims may only be made by Canada Soccer for the following sending-off offences:
- a) Serious foul play (players)
  - b) Violent conduct (players and team officials)
  - c) Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures (players and team officials)
  - d) Entering the opposing technical area in an aggressive or confrontational manner (team officials)
  - e) Physical or aggressive behaviour (including spitting or biting) towards an opposing player, substitute, team official, match official, spectator, or any other person (e.g. ball boy/girl, security or competition official, etc.) (team officials)



- 12.13.5.8 The ability to claim clearly excessive or clearly insufficient punishment is provided only so exceptional cases may be rectified. It is not intended to lead to the systematic, regular review of standard punishments. Disciplinary Committees will be instructed to approach such cases with these principles in mind and it is envisaged that, for the vast majority of sending-off offences, the standard punishments will be appropriate and will be applied.
- 12.13.5.9 Notwithstanding the outcome of a claim for clearly excessive or insufficient punishment, the player or team official will be suspended for at least one (1) match. The sending-off offence will remain on the record of the Club and the player or team official.
- 12.13.5.10 Where a participant submits a notification of their intention to make a claim that the standard punishment is clearly excessive but fails to complete the claim; or withdraws a complete claim prior to it being considered by a Disciplinary Committee, and, in either case, Canada Soccer believes that the notification or claim had no prospect of success or amounted to an abuse of process, the Participant may be charged with Misconduct by Canada Soccer.
- 12.13.6 Regardless of the type of claim and irrespective of the decision reached, the Disciplinary Panel shall have the discretion to make an order of costs against the claimant(s).
- 12.13.7 Regardless of the type of claim, the decision of the Disciplinary Panel in relation to a claim is final and binding on all parties and not subject to appeal.
- 12.14 Canada Soccer reserves the right to prefer an appropriate charge of misconduct against a Club, player, or team official, in accordance with one or more of the provisions under the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code.
- 12.15 Breach of Competition Regulations, misconduct, or unsporting behaviour on the part of participating Clubs or their officials, shall be reported by the Canada Soccer Organising Committee to the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee for application of such sanctions as it may deem appropriate.
- 12.16 When taking a decision, the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee shall refer to the reports made by the Match Officials, Match Commissioner, Referee Assessor, and General Coordinator. It may also refer to reports from the technical delegate, other Canada Soccer officials present, television and video recordings. The latter may be used as evidence but only as far as the disciplinary aspects of the case being dealt with are concerned and shall not affect a Referee's decision regarding facts connected with play.
- 12.17 The Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee may convene a personal hearing in accordance with the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code and the directive titled *Canada Soccer Process for Conducting Virtual Personal Hearings*.





- 12.18 If a team does not report for a match, except in cases of force majeure, recognized by the Canada Soccer Organizing Committee, or if it refuses to continue to play, or leaves the stadium before the end of the match, the team shall be considered to have lost the match.
- 12.19 If a game is abandoned due to withdrawal, the team(s) refusing to complete the match shall be ineligible to participate in the next two (2) editions of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.
- 12.20 Any other infringement of these Competition Regulations, whether by players, match officials, team officials, coaches or officers that are punishable by economic sanctions shall be reported to the Canada Soccer General Secretary for consideration by the Canada Soccer Board of Directors.
- 12.21 All economic sanctions administered must be paid by the appropriate Club no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the Club's next match unless otherwise specified. Where this involves a financial penalty against an individual, and the payment has not been made within the timescale outlined in this paragraph, the individual will not be permitted to participate in the Competition until such payment has been received in full. The total amount of all fines will accrue to Canada Soccer.
- 12.22 An Appeals Committee shall hear appeals lodged against decisions passed by the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Committee in accordance with the Canada Soccer Disciplinary Code except when such decisions are final and binding.

### **13. MEDICAL AND DOPING CONTROL**

- 13.1 Each team must have a duly licensed medical professional (i.e., a doctor) as part of their official delegation. Such doctor should be fully integrated and familiar with all medical aspects of the delegation. The Match Officials (the Referees) will refer to such team doctor in all cases as required and necessary.
- 13.2 Canada Soccer will not be held liable for any injury sustained by any participating player. Equally, Canada Soccer will not be held liable for any incident (e.g. death) linked to any injury or health problems of any participating player.
- 13.3 Each club will be responsible, throughout the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship, for providing health, travel and accident insurance coverage for all members of its delegation.
- 13.4 In regard to non-traumatic loss of consciousness during a game, the referee will assume sudden cardiac failure until proven otherwise. The hand signal is the right-hand fist against the chest. Such signal will indicate to the team doctor and the medical emergency team (stretcher team) to immediately institute comprehensive resuscitation that includes the use of a defibrillator (AED) and CPR. It is the responsibility of the Home Team to ensure that there is a properly functioning AED immediately at hand and that there is an ambulance with an access and egress plan.





- 13.5 During the match if there is a traumatic head injury and concussion to a player, and the player remains on the field of play, the referee will stop play. In these instances, the referee will signal (hand to the top of the head) to the team doctor to enter the field to assess and manage the player. Up to three minutes should be sufficient time to make this assessment. Once the player has left the field of play, he must be given a Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) or similar test. It is the responsibility of the team doctor to determine the player's ability to return to play.
- 13.6 Further to the above, in regard to traumatic head injury and concussion, full return to play after a previous concussion must include no signs or symptoms of the previous head injury as well as an acceptable Sideline Concussion Assessment Test (SCAT) assessment.
- 13.7 Extreme weather conditions may warrant cooling breaks to be implemented during the course of a match in accordance with the protocols established by the FIFA Medical Committee and/or documented in the FIFA Football Emergency Medicine Manual. Such breaks will be considered on a match-by-match basis. Responsibility for implementing and controlling cooling breaks resides with the referee.
- 13.8 Doping is defined as the use of certain substances or methods capable of artificially enhancing the physical and/or mental condition of a player, with a view to improving his athletic and mental performance. It is prohibited.
- 13.9 The Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) is empowered to arrange doping tests and to decide at which laboratories and who shall carry out the analysis. Every player in a team, including substitute players, will be liable to undergo doping tests.
- 13.10 Canada Soccer reserves the right to arrange random doping tests at all the matches in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.
- 13.11 Any player or Club that refuses to take a doping test, falsifies the result of a test, or attempts to do so, or is found guilty of having taken prohibited substances whether intentionally or not, will be referred to Canada Soccer.
- 13.12 Any official who encourages or incites a player, either intentionally or through negligence, to commit such an infringement as stated in Art 13.11 above, will be referred to Canada Soccer.
- 13.13 Reference is made to the FIFA Doping Control Regulations, which contain the list of prohibited substances and methods. Although legal in Canada, cannabis is recognised as an illegal substance for this purpose.
- 13.14 If, in accordance with the FIFA Doping Guidelines, a player is tested positive for using banned substances, he shall be immediately declared ineligible from further participation in the Competition and shall be referred to the Canada Soccer Board of Directors for further consideration.

#### 14. REFEREEING



- 14.1 The referees, assistant referees and fourth officials (hereinafter referred to collectively as “match officials”) for the TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship shall be appointed for each match by Canada Soccer and selected from the current FIFA International List(s) or the Canada Soccer National List of Match Officials. For the Final only, a Fifth Official will also be appointed.
- 14.2 Canada Soccer’s decision on the appointment of match officials shall be final and not subject to appeal.
- 14.3 After each match, the referee shall electronically complete and sign the official referee report forms via COMET. The referee shall submit the reports to the General Coordinator immediately after the match via COMET. On the report form, the referee shall note all occurrences of significance, such as misconduct of players leading to caution or expulsion, unsporting behaviour by supporters and/or by officials or any other person acting on behalf of a participating club at the match and any other incident happening before, during and after the match in as much detail as possible.
- 14.4 After each match, the Match Commissioner shall complete their designated official Canada Soccer report form and submit it to the General Coordinator via COMET.
- 14.5 In the event of any of the match officials failing to arrive or being incapacitated the two (2) Clubs shall agree to a substitute, arranged by the General Coordinator and the Referee Assessor, providing one is available, who is currently eligible to officiate in a league equivalent to the lowest level of soccer in which either of the two (2) teams participate.
- 14.6 The Club(s) responsible for the payment of fees and expenses of all match officials appointed by Canada Soccer to officiate in the TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship is determined in accordance with the TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship Financial Considerations (Section 18). The responsible Club(s) must pay the fees/expenses directly to Canada Soccer who will reimburse the officials accordingly.
- 14.7 In all rounds of the Competition, economy class airfares for the Match Officials will be payable by the responsible Club(s) determined in accordance with the TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship Financial Considerations (Section 18). An allowance of \$0.55 per km will be allowed to all Match Officials officiating who travel to and from the venue by private car. In the event of a match official being unable to reach their destination, going to or returning from a match, without staying at a hotel, they shall be reimbursed their hotel accommodation, by the home Club, providing that the home Club has not made appropriate arrangements for accommodation. A receipted hotel account must be provided.
- 14.8 Claims are to be submitted by the Match Officials directly to Canada Soccer who will invoice the responsible Club(s), as determined by the TELUS Men’s Canadian Championship Financial Considerations (Section 18), for the fees, air fares and expenses accordingly.
- 14.9 Scale of Fees to be paid to Match Officials:



	Preliminary and Quarter-Final Rounds	Semi-Final Round	Final
<b>Referee</b>	\$1095.00	\$1680.00	\$1900.00
<b>Assistant Referees</b>	\$615.00	\$1215.00	\$1380.00
<b>Fourth Official</b>	\$615.00	\$1215.00	\$1380.00
<b>Fifth Official</b> <i>*Final Only</i>	N/A	N/A	\$1380.00

## 15. IFAB LAWS OF THE GAME

- 15.1 All matches shall be played in accordance with the Laws of the Game in force at the time of the start of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship competition and as laid down by the International Football Association Board (IFAB). In accordance with FIFA's direction, in case of any discrepancy in the interpretation of the translations of the Laws of the Game, the English version shall be authoritative.

## 16. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

- 16.1 Canada Soccer is the sole and exclusive owner, on a worldwide basis, of all commercial rights for the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship. These commercial rights shall include, but are not limited to; marketing, media, sponsorship, intellectual property, merchandise and licensing, and all other commercial rights and opportunities, whether currently existing or created in the future, subject to any provision as set forth in specific regulations.
- 16.2 Please refer to the document entitled *2025 TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Commercial, Media & Broadcast Rights* for further details.
- 16.3 The designated broadcast media rights holder will be responsible for establishing the broadcast distribution for the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.
- 16.4 Radio rights for the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship will be provided to the club's existing primary league season radio broadcast rights holder. These rights do not extend to any other access without the express approval of Canada Soccer at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled kick-off time. Should the Away Team wish to exercise these rights the Home Team is to make every effort to accommodate the request.

## 17. TICKETING

- 17.1 The right to retain revenues and the responsibility to disperse revenues from the sale of tickets to matches in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship is outlined in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship Financial Considerations (Section 18).
- 17.2 The Home Team shall provide up to 120 Category 1 match tickets (or equivalent highest level of available stadium bowl seating) for competition sponsors, printed with a \$0.00-dollar value, to be delivered to Canada Soccer no later than 28 days prior to the match day



for which the tickets apply. Tickets may be allocated from various sections in Category 1 pricing; however, they must be provided in minimum blocks of ten (10).

- 17.3 The Home Team shall provide match tickets for youth programme participants (flag bearers and player escorts) and one accompanying adult per child (flag bearers, ball retrievers, and player escorts). Canada Soccer reserves the right to provide direction regarding the distribution method of youth programme tickets (but not the selection of participants), with such direction being provided no less than two weeks in advance of match day.
- 17.4 The Home Team shall arrange for the provision of a private suite or loge area for a minimum of 12 people for the use of the Competition National Sponsors. Where a suite or loge is not available, an alternative hospitality or premium ticket product must be provided for a minimum of 12 people. All accommodations must be confirmed no later than 28 days prior to the match day for which the hospitality tickets apply.
- 17.5 The Home Team shall provide:
- 10 complimentary Category 1 match tickets for Canada Soccer
  - 10 complimentary match tickets for the Match Officials for the Preliminary Round, Quarter-Final Round, and Semi-Final Round, and 12 complimentary match tickets for the Final
  - 30 complimentary match tickets for the Away Team

## 18. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 18.1 The Home Team in each match of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship shall have the right to retain all revenues resulting from the sales of food and beverage, parking, and local team merchandise.
- 18.2 Entry fees for Each Participating Club is as follows:

League1 British Columbia, League1 Alberta, League1 Ontario, Ligue1 Québec	\$1,000.00
Canadian Premier League	\$3,000.00
Major League Soccer	\$5,000.00

Entry fees for Clubs to participate in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship are due at the time of signing the Participation Agreement.

- 18.3 Canada Soccer will be responsible for the following competition-related expenses:
- Costs for the Match Commissioner, General Coordinator, Marketing Officer, and Media Officer;
  - Awards and medals;
  - Competition branding costs and associated rights;
  - Its own costs associated with press conference participation;
  - Costs to secure Broadcast Partnerships;
  - Prize money;



- Fulfilment of National Sponsor Deliverables/Activations;
- Media backdrops and signage;
- Perimeter field level signage;
- Shipping costs associated with moving competition materials between venues'

18.4 The Home Team is responsible for the following competition-related expenses:

- All staging and in-venue expenses within their home venue, including match officials' fees and expenses (Referee, Assistant Referee #1, Assistant Referee #2, 4th Official, and 5<sup>th</sup> Official where assigned).
- Meeting Room expenses for the Match Coordination Meeting.
- Costs associated with enabling broadcasting such as power supply, satellite uplink or equivalent, infrastructure, and security of equipment.
- All promotional expenses, posters and local advertising which require approval of Canada Soccer.
- Cost to provide a clean stadium for marketing rights.
- Home Team delegation expenses (i.e. accommodations, ground transportation, training facility rental, etc.).
- Disbursing Canada Soccer 10 % of the ticket revenues net of tax and building capital fees (CRF). Excluded from the ticket revenues are tickets issued under Art 17.2, 17.3, 17.4 and 17.5.
- Its own costs associated with press conference participation.
- Insurance costs.
- Storage of National Sponsor or Canada Soccer field boards where required.

18.4.1 For single knockout rounds only, the Home Team is responsible for certain expenses of the Away Team for a maximum of twenty (20) players and nine (9) staff as follows:

- Meal expenses not to exceed \$160.00 CAD/per person/per day, before taxes and service fees.
  - The Home Team is responsible for a maximum of six (6) meals per person to include at most MD-1 dinner, MD breakfast, MD lunch, MD pre-game snack, MD post-match dinner, and MD+1 breakfast.
  - When less than 3 meals are required in a day (ex. MD-1 dinner and MD+1 breakfast), the Home Team is responsible for a per-meal rate as follows:
    - Breakfast - \$40.00 CAD per person before taxes and fees
    - Lunch - \$55.00 CAD per person before taxes and fees
    - Dinner - \$65.00 CAD per person before taxes and fees
- Accommodation for a maximum of two (2) nights and a maximum of ten (10) double rooms and nine (9) single rooms. The nightly room rate must not exceed \$160.00/room before taxes and fees.
- Transportation to and from the host city via the lowest available air or rail fare or the rental of one (1) 56-passenger charter bus.
  - Should the Away Team not be travelling to and from their home market, the Home Team is responsible for:



- The cost equivalent to travelling to/from the Away Team's home market OR
- The cost of travelling to/from an alternative city/cities in which the travelling team has just played or will play next, whichever cost is less
- The travelling team shall choose their preferred method of transportation.
- Should the Visiting Team elect to travel via air charter or business class air or rail travel, this is not an eligible expense for the Home Team to cover.
- In Market Transportation
  - One (1) 56-passenger charter bus for in-market transportation to include:
    - Transfers to and from the airport upon arrival and departure
    - Transfer to and from the Official Training session on MD-1
    - Transfers to and from the host stadium on MD

The Home Team must liaise with the Away Team in making these arrangements.

18.4.2 For rounds in which home and away series are played, the Home Team shall not be responsible for any expenses associated with the Away Team's delegation's meals, accommodation, or transportation.

18.5 The Away Team is responsible for the following competition-related expenses:

18.5.1 For single knockout rounds, the Away Team is responsible for any of their own additional expenses incurred outside of the allowed expenses listed in Art 18.4.1.

18.5.2 For rounds in which a home and away series is played, the Away Team is responsible for any expenses associated with their own delegation's meals, accommodations, and in-market transportation, and for any other additional expenses incurred.

18.6 The Home Team will be responsible for disbursing Canada Soccer 10% of the ticket revenues net of tax and building capital fees (CRF). Excluded from the ticket revenues are tickets issued under Art 17.2, 17.3, 17.4 and 17.5 in these Competition Regulations. The Home Team will retain the balance of the ticket revenue.

18.7 Where a match is abandoned and must be replayed in accordance with Art 3.11 or 3.12 of these Competition Regulations each team will be responsible for its own expenses incurred in respect of the abandoned match and any subsequent costs related to the game being replayed in accordance with Art 3.13.6.

18.8 Any expenses other than those stipulated in these Regulations and explicitly outlined to be borne by Canada Soccer and/or the Participating Teams shall be borne by the relevant party incurring the expense.

18.9 The Participating Teams agree to share information for the purposes of greater understanding of the Soccer Community. The information includes but is not limited to all details relating to gate receipts, attendance, customer contact information, promotional



campaigns, and various expense contracts. Notwithstanding the above, any information restricted by law (Privacy Act) that is not shareable is not to be shared.

- 18.10 Within 60 days after the Final match, the Participating Teams shall provide Canada Soccer with all financial and other information, as well as an un-audited financial statement, including a profit and loss statement with respect to the matches staged by them as the Home Team.

## 19. INSURANCE

- 19.1 Each team shall secure and maintain, at its expense, comprehensive general liability insurance with an insurer of recognised international standing with minimum insuring limits of \$5,000,000 (five million) for each occurrence of bodily injury, property damage and financial losses arising out of any operations associated with the staging and hosting of the Competition. Such insurances shall be in broad form. Any losses of gross receipts and expenses incurred as a result of cancellation, abandonment, postponement, curtailment, or failure of the television transmission of the Competition will be the responsibility of the Home Team. Canada Soccer shall be included as Additional Insured.  
*Note: Gross Receipts shall mean all income including sale of tickets and any value in kind provided.*
- 19.2 Canada Soccer will not secure Cancellation Insurance for any of the matches in the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.
- 19.3 Any value in kind which may be provided by Sponsors is to be adequately insured by the Participating Teams. All costs associated therewith shall be the sole responsibility of the respective Participating Team.
- 19.4 The Home Team has an obligation to insure all Participating Teams, Canada Soccer appointed staff, and any other persons carrying out duties on their behalf against all risks, including but not limited to injury, accident, and disease in consideration of the relevant regulations while at the Home Team venue.
- 19.5 All insurance policies which the Participating Teams shall be required to maintain shall be effective (at a minimum) from 30 days prior to the commencement of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship opening round and remain in force until a minimum of 60 days after the conclusion of the Competition.
- 19.6 Canada Soccer may request copies of Certificates of Insurance prior to the commencement of the TELUS Men's Canadian Championship.

## 20. COPYRIGHT

- 20.1 The copyright of the fixtures and matches adopted by the Canada Soccer Board of Directors and drawn up in accordance with these Competition Regulations are the property of Canada Soccer.



These Regulations were approved by Canada Soccer on 6 December 2024 and came into force immediately thereafter.

Any previous versions of these regulations shall apply mutatis mutandis (with the necessary changes having been made) to any matters that arose before these Regulations came into force.

Kevin Blue  
General Secretary & CEO

Ottawa, December 2024