

# **Okotoks Minor Soccer Association**



## **Manual of Club Policies and Procedures**

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## **Introduction**

This manual sets out club policies and procedures of the Okotoks Minor Soccer Association (OMSA).

The Manual of Club Policies and Procedures outlines major policies, procedures and regulations in addition to other information related to the day-to-day operations of OMSA. In special instances, exceptions are determined and administered by the Board of Directors.

This document is intended to assist OMSA members and club volunteers in the delivery, promotion and participation of youth soccer programs enjoyed by all.

## **Club Structure**

OMSA is a registered not-for-profit society in the province of Alberta governed by the Board of Directors as outlined in its official By-laws and Manual of Policies and Procedures. OMSA employs a Director of Programs and Director of Administration to facilitate OMSA youth soccer programs.

## **Club Organization**

OMSA is a member of the Foothills District Soccer Association (FDSA) and the Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA). OMSA, FDSA and CMSA are in turn members in good standing with the Alberta Soccer Association (ASA). The ASA is a member of the Canadian Soccer Association who is ultimately governed by FIFA – Federation International de Football Association.

## **Foothills District Soccer Association**

The Foothills District Soccer Association (FDSA), representing District 7, is directly affiliated with ASA and is one of the largest districts geographically. The FDSA boundaries include all clubs in Alberta south of highway 1 and west of highway 2. It organizes house leagues and registers teams in provincial and inter-city competitions.

## **Calgary Minor Soccer Association**

The Calgary Minor Soccer Association (CMSA), representing District 4, is directly affiliated with the ASA. CMSA administers competitive and premier league play for all youth divisional teams in Calgary and surrounding communities.

## **Alberta Soccer Association**

The Alberta Soccer Association is a member of the Canadian Soccer Association. ASA is the governing body for amateur soccer in Alberta. ASA is responsible for certification coach development courses and facilitation of the Alberta Summer Games and provincial indoor and outdoor championship competitions.

## **FIFA**

FIFA is the international governing body of soccer worldwide. FIFA administers, defines and revises the "Laws of the Game", which apply to the world's largest spectator sport- soccer!

## League Play

OMSA registers teams in three levels of youth play; Community House, Developmental & Competitive Leagues.

### House League

House league teams participate in programs that take place in Okotoks and rural surrounding communities. The programs are organized for the U4-U8 age groups (Indoor) U4-U12 (Outdoor).

### Developmental League

U10 & U12 teams are registered with CMSA Developmental Leagues. U10 teams represent OMSA in City Finals post season. U12 teams represent OMSA post season at Provincials Tier IV, Inter-City Championships tier V, City Finals tier VI.

### Competitive League

U14-U18 teams are registered with CMSA to compete in Tier I-IV levels of play. Teams compete to represent the OMSA and Foothills district at ASA Provincial Championship competitions post season.

## Rules and Regulations

OMSA registers all U10 and older youth teams to play in leagues organized by CMSA. Therefore all coaches must be familiar with the CMSA Club Administration Rules of Play (available on [www.calgaryminorsoccer.com](http://www.calgaryminorsoccer.com)). Failure to know the rules does not excuse any coach from violating the rules which may result in OMSA being fined or issued discipline by CMSA.

## Game Schedules

All CMSA games are scheduled by CMSA. League schedules and game locations are available on the CMSA website; [www.calgaryminorsoccer.com](http://www.calgaryminorsoccer.com). It is the responsibility of OMSA coaches to communicate the location for games played on community fields to parents, and as requested, coaches of away teams.

## CMSA Game Re-Schedules

Please refer to the CMSA website for game rescheduling policy due to rainout.

Team officials from both teams will contact each other and set up a new date and time to play the game. The home team will notify the CMSA league director with the new date and time (and location if possible). Please take note of the seeding round and playoff round deadlines when rescheduling.

## All Other Rescheduling Requests

Rescheduling of games are left up to the teams to work out. If both teams are in agreement, then the game can be rescheduled. Once the teams work out a new date, time, and location, the home team is responsible to inform CMSA at [leagues@calgaryminorsoccer.com](mailto:leagues@calgaryminorsoccer.com) of the original game information AND the new game information. Please be aware of the seeding round and playoff round deadlines when rescheduling a game.

If this initial request is approved, the team requesting the reschedule must follow all of these steps:

1. Contact the opposition team and find out if they will agree to reschedule.
2. Find a new date, time, and suitable field to play this rescheduled game.
3. Find an ASA registered and certified referee (and assistant referee for U15/U16/U18 Tier I) who are properly qualified to officiate your game. (Do not contact CMSA or the CSF Referee Schedule for referees)\*
4. Email all of this info (the original game information AND the new game information including referees names) to

the CMSA league Director. The league Director MUST receive all the information no later than 3 full business days prior to the original game or prior the rescheduled game date (whichever game comes first).

5. If approved, teams will receive a game update email, and the game will be changed on the website schedule. It is NOT approved until the website is changed.

\*Note: CMSA CANNOT give you contact information for referees due to our privacy policy (PIPA). We suggest you contact your club or community field and referee coordinator for help with this. Once you have all this information, you must get the other team to confirm it.

**TO RECAP: Email all of this info (the original game information AND the new game information including referees names) to the CMSA League Director. CMSA MUST receive all the information no later than 3 full business days prior to the original game or prior the rescheduled game date (whichever game comes first). ANY RESCHEDULING REQUESTS OR EMAILS THAT COME IN AFTER THIS DEADLINES WILL NOT BE APPROVED or ENTERTAINED.**

### **Field Closures**

OMSA field closures are posted on the OMSA website and updated daily by 4:00pm weekdays and 8:00am on weekends. The City of Calgary Rain-Out Line (268-2300 code 9855) is the authority for field closure information related to CMSA assigned game fields.

### **Player Identification Cards**

Photo ID cards are required for all CMSA players in the U12 to U18 age levels, as well as all team officials (Coach, assistant coach & team manager). Failure to supply ID cards may result in forfeiture of the match and lead to disciplinary action against the coach by CMSA. Player cards identify team players and coaches registered with CMSA. ID cards must be presented to the referee at the start of each game. Coaches are required to return ID cards to the players at the end of each season.

### **Club Colours and Logo**

OMSA Club colours are green and white jerseys with black shorts and socks. Club teams shall reflect this colour scheme and will include the club logo on the chest area only.

The Club logo shall be reflected whenever possible on all team clothing, coaches' jerseys, equipment and merchandise. Expressed approval by the Board of Directors is required prior to the design, purchase and use of team clothing representing OMSA teams.

### **Registration Fees**

Player registrations must be made in the form specified for that purpose by OMSA and must be accompanied by all applicable association waivers and fees in order to be considered complete. Payment in full must be received in order for the player to be registered. including outstanding fees from previous seasons.

There is an administration fee of \$25.00 for any cheque returned for non-sufficient funds.

### **Refunds**

Refunds will be issued less an administration fee of **\$100.00** (CMSA competitive teams) & **\$25.00** (OMSA House League teams) up to the CMSA Team Entry Deadline or player attendance at tryouts, **NO REFUNDS** will be issued unless the request is accompanied by a doctor's note. In the event a player suffers a season ending injury a refund will be prorated based on the date of the physician's note or the date of the request.

Technical training fees are non refundable after the CMSA Team Entry Deadline Date.

All requests for refunds must be submitted to the OMSA office in writing or by e-mail to: [omsaprograms@shaw.ca](mailto:omsaprograms@shaw.ca). Requests can also be mailed to Box 472, Okotoks Alberta, T1S 1A7 or faxed to 403-982-2200. Refund requests made by phone will not be accepted. Pending player registrations on waiting lists will receive a full refund if they are not placed on a team.

### **Fees for Late Registration**

Late fees may apply for player registrations received after the registration deadline prior to the indoor and outdoor seasons of play. Receipt of late fees and completed player registration forms **after the OMSA player registration deadline** will not guarantee the player is placed on a team. Player team placement is subject to roster availability as per OMSA.

### **Outstanding Club Fees**

All outstanding club fees from previous seasons must be paid in full prior to placing a player on a team roster for the current season. Fees include: Registration, Academy, SAQ & Volunteer payments.

### **Appeals**

Anyone wishing to appeal a discipline decision assessed by OMSA must adhere to the club's approved Bylaws; Article 7 "Appeals". Appeal requests must be accompanied by a \$100.00 hearing fee. The appeal will be heard at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors.

### **Grievances/Problem Solving**

From time to time issues arise within the club that requires clarification, more information and or follow-up by OMSA. Procedures are required to expedite the process and ensure all issues are identified and addressed to make every effort those situations do not occur in the future. The steps to be used are as follows:

Team Management /Code of Conduct: Address concerns with team coaching volunteers. If unsuccessful, forward concerns to OMSA Board of Directors.

CMSA Programs: CMSA has requested all concerns related to programs are channeled via each local club. Therefore concerns that include examples such as location and time of games, rain-outs, referees, parents/coach/player code of conduct should be forwarded to OMSA for follow-up with CMSA.

OMSA Programs: Please forward all concerns and inquires about programs to OMSA. Examples such as field conditions, short notice gym closures and rain outs should not be directed to the Town of Okotoks and respective school divisions.

### **Confidentiality**

All information pertaining to OMSA members or officials (i.e.: players, coaches, referee lists, etc.) shall be kept confidential. Confidentiality also pertains to player registrations each season and club evaluation and player selection results.

### **Correspondence**

All written correspondence on behalf of OMSA by an elected board member or staff position of the OMSA should use official established stationery with the OMSA Logo and return address. A copy of club correspondence should be provided to the Club office for record keeping.

## **Club Communications**

**Team coaches, managers, age group coordinators, board of directors, committee members, volunteers and paid staff work together to deliver OMSA soccer programs. Therefore respect and restraint in communications are vital to the success of OMSA.**

**E-mail has been chosen as the primary method of communication to disseminate information to OMSA members on a timely basis. The designated contact for each player will provide at least one email address to which club & team communications can be sent.**

**The designated contact will receive communications as required to ensure club and team information is received in a timely manner.**

## **Coaches**

OMSA Coaches shall be appointed by the Director of Programs in conjunction with the Coach Selection Committee. Coach appointments will be for the duration of a single, indoor or outdoor season. Coach assignments will apply to the team their child/children are registered with as per the formal OMSA evaluation and player selection process. All coaches shall sign the required "Coach Code of Ethics" detailing the responsibilities of the Coach. Any coaches not adhering to the terms of the coaches' Coach Code of Ethics or policies of the OMSA, FDSA, CMSA, or ASA will be subject to sanctions, including loss of their position as an OMSA coach.

## **Criminal Records Check (CPIC Clearance).**

All team officials including coaches, assistant coaches and team managers are required to provide a CPIC clearance. CPIC clearance applications are available from OMSA administration ([omsa@shaw.ca](mailto:omsa@shaw.ca)) at no cost to team officials. CPIC clearances are non transferable from one organization to another.

U4-U12 team officials are not required to provide a CPIC clearance, it is mandatory that a parent/guardian be present at all soccer practices & games.

An individual shall not attend any tryout session, team practice, or game in any team-official capacity until such time as a clean Criminal Records Check has been submitted to OMSA consistent with CMSA and OMSA policy.

In the event that a coach submits a CPIC with evidence of wrongful activity, no involvement with any team will be permitted until OMSA has undertaken further inquiries and has authorized the coach's involvement. The CPIC shall be forwarded to the OMSA President for appropriate action and follow-up.

The volunteer shall be required to submit a waiver form to allow the release of record of convictions to the OMSA. Should the coach choose to withdraw their application, no further inquiries will be undertaken by OMSA.

## **Respect in Soccer Certification**

The Respect in Soccer Program is designed as a tool to create awareness and assist team officials in identifying and dealing with abuse, bullying, harassment and neglect in soccer. As more knowledgeable team officials, it will be easier to mitigate personal liability in what can potentially be a very volatile sport.

All CMSA team officials; coaches, assistant coaches & team managers are required to complete the CMSA "Respect in Soccer" certification program before the CMSA team roster deadline each season. Recertification is required every four years.

OMSA team officials that do not complete the "Respect in Soccer" certification will not be permitted to volunteer as an OMSA team official.

## **Coaching Development**

Coach Development and education programs shall be the responsibility of the Director of Programs. The Director of Programs shall conduct or arrange for coach clinics and workshops throughout the year to enhance the technical and tactical skill development of all coaches. Coaches shall contact the Director of Programs related to the development of players and game play ups.

Coaches wishing to be assigned to teams participating at the premier level of play are expected to upgrade their qualifications by participating in the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) and the related sports-specific courses. OMSA will reimburse the course fees incurred by any coach upon successful completion of any courses which serve to enhance the coach's level of certification.

Re-imbusement will be considered only when a reimbursement request has been authorized by the Director of Programs, prior to the start of the course. Such request must be received in writing and include the following information: name of coach, name and description of the course, location of course, course dates, fees, and justification for taking the course.

## **Team Formation**

The size of team rosters is dependent upon age group criteria and player registrations for each season of play. Player registrations each season may create exceptions or circumstances to the above-noted team roster sizes at the discretion of the Programs Director.

Team officials for male teams must include one male adult. Team officials for female teams must include one female adult. All teams should recruit a volunteer as team manager to assist coaches in the administration and communication of various tasks to team players and parents.

Player requests to play on teams with other specific players will only be considered for play at the level of the lowest placed player. Player requests to play with another player will not be considered for Premier teams.

Team formations each season will include review of previous season performance in consultation with team coaches, player feedback forms and age group player evaluations for the upcoming season.

Player placement appeals may be made to OMSA within 48 hours of team announcements. All appeals must be submitted in writing to the Director of Programs. All appeals will be reviewed by OMSA before league play begins. All appeal decisions are final.

## **Team Formation Process**

The most important purpose of the team evaluation process is to place players on teams with other players of a comparable skill level and to play against other teams of comparable skill level. It is the experience of OMSA that this is the best way to secure player's enjoyment of the game and maximize opportunities for individual skill development and confidence. It is extremely important to reassess each player's skill development season to season to assure that they remain properly placed.

It is of paramount importance that the team evaluation process is fully understood by players, parents and coaches to be fair providing equal opportunities for all players participating in the evaluation process.

Head Coaches will evaluate their team players prior to the end of each season. The player assessment will be completed on the OMSA Coaches Player Feedback Form and will be returned to the Director of Programs. The purpose of the OMSA seasonal player assessment is to monitor player development and contributions to team performance. Parents and players that wish to review their player feedback will contact the Director of Programs to arrange a meeting. Player assessments are confidential in nature, the property of OMSA and not available for distribution.

OMSA will make a continuous effort to build a strong team of soccer evaluators to always conduct evaluation of players in a fair and unbiased manner. Core competencies of the team evaluation process include a measure of fitness and assessment of each player's technical and tactical abilities utilizing short sided games and scrimmages in varying degrees.

The formal evaluation process will select the players for each team based on the number of teams, number of players and level of play for each team; for example Premier and Competitive Leagues. OMSA may from time to time consult with specific team coaches allowing them with a choice of up to three players to finalize team rosters. The choice of up three players will be made only from an approved list of players supplied by OMSA. Players not provided for bubble cut considerations cannot be selected for movement using the bubble cut process.

Upon the completion of player evaluations new players and one season only players will be placed on teams at the discretion of the OMSA team evaluators. Guidelines for team placement are as follows:

- A new player that has never played soccer may be placed with a team in the lowest level of play in the age group.
- One season players that play year to year initially will be placed on teams of the same level of play during their previous season with OMSA.
- New players to OMSA with playing experience will be placed on teams at the discretion of OMSA team evaluators in consultation with team coaches.

### **Player Recruiting**

Consistent with CMSA policy; "Recruiting of players" is defined as any effort, action or direct solicitation of a player who is currently playing on another team or club with the committed offer of a roster position on another team. OMSA prohibits recruiting of players from other OMSA teams or other club teams. CMSA Club Administration Rules and Regulations are clear related to recruiting of players from other clubs.

### **Player Development**

Player development of all youth players shall be the responsibility of team coaches under the supervision of the Director of Programs. The Director of Programs shall establish technical player development programs for competitive and premier league teams.

Technical development training programs are mandatory for OMSA competitive and premier teams. All technical development training programs shall be approved by OMSA prior to implementation.

### **Playing Time Policy**

Everyone gets to play! Playing time will change based on level of play and age group.

Prior to the start of each season the team officials will communicate the playing time policy expectations to parents and players of their respective team(s). Team officials shall make every reasonable attempt to give every player equal playing time.

Coaches may reduce playing time as a consequence for poor practice attendance, bad attitude and disrespectful behaviour. Player effort and improvement should be rewarded.

### **Community House League Programs**

Poor skill or inexperience shall not be a factor in reduced playing time. Team officials will make every effort to the best of their ability to provide every player with equal playing time.

### **Developmental & Competitive league Programs**

The U10 & U12 age groups are classified as the grassroots “Golden Age of learning”. Coaches will make every effort to provide all players with equal playing time and exposure to all team positions including goalkeeping. Each player is entitled to play a minimum of 50% of each game.

Competitive team U14-U18 age group players are expected to give both practices and games their best efforts.

**Tier I-IV teams** represent the district at provincial competitions. Playing time is directly proportional to attendance at practices, academy sessions & games. In addition attitude, ability & contribution to team performance may affect playing time as well.

**Tier V-VI team players** are entitled to play a minimum of 50% of every game. In the event a player demonstrates a continued lack of attendance at practice & training sessions, it will be at the coaches’ discretion to reduce the playing time of the player at the next game.

**Game Play Up players** invited to participate with another OMSA team should not receive more playing time than the players listed on the approved roster for the play up team. Coaches will make every effort to afford playing time in each half of the game for players that have been invited to play up. Play ups are approved as per the OMSA play up policy and procedures.

**Indoor Soccer Rules of the Game** significantly affects the ability for any player to play a minimum of 50% of every game. Coaches will make every effort to maximize playing time affected by unlimited substitutions, time penalties, and injury loss time considerations.

### **Uniforms and Playing Equipment**

OMSA supplies the necessary field training equipment to all teams of the Club to be used and then returned at the end of each season. Shorts, socks and a ball are included in player registration fees which are theirs to keep at the end of the season. All players are provided team jerseys which must be returned at the end of each season.

OMSA teams may purchase additional equipment (e.g. track/training/rain suits and kit bags) from the official Club supplier but must maintain OMSA colors, as specified elsewhere in this document.

### **Pick-up and Return Procedures**

A volunteer equipment coordinator is responsible for distributing and collecting OMSA uniforms and training equipment. Coaches are responsible for returning club inventory in a timely fashion upon completion of each season and or provincial competitions.

### **Team Travel Policy**

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance as to minimum standards considered appropriate by OMSA. OMSA supports and encourages the development of teams whereby they are travelling to other jurisdictions for tournament play.

The safety and behavior of OMSA players is first and foremost the responsibility of their parents. It is in no way a replacement for appropriate adult supervision. Adult chaperones and coaches will be held accountable for behavior judged to be detrimental to the reputation of OMSA.

OMSA is not responsible for the payment of any lodging, travel and meals costs for the team associated with an away tournament or game. These costs are the responsibility of each team and are to be managed at a team level.

The policy of OMSA is that each player in attendance will be there will be one adult coach/chaperone per every 8 children. Under no circumstances shall an adult/chaperone share accommodations with any player of the

opposite sex unless the adult is the parent of such player. Participation at away tournaments with players unaccompanied by their parents shall have arrangements for supervision by another parent chaperone.

Travel by teams and individuals are at the risk of the individuals undertaking the travel. OMSA shall not be liable for any damages caused or incurred during team travel to soccer related events.

Travel permits are required consistent with ASA rules and regulations.

### **Provincial Championship Competition**

OMSA teams that travel to compete in ASA provincial championship tournaments are eligible to receive compensation from OMSA for tournament fees. There is no application process. Only teams that finish in league standings in first or second place will be reimbursed for provincial tournament fees.

### **Fields and Schedules**

Indoor and Outdoor practice facilities are assigned by OMSA. Teams may be required to share practice fields. Insurance and safety requirement dictate teams shall only use venues authorized by OMSA.

### **Discipline Policy**

The Discipline Committee is empowered to fine, suspend or penalize in any other manner it shall deem fit, those players, coaches, managers and members whom it finds guilty of misconduct, subject to OMSA Bylaws , Manual of Club Policies and Procedures or those of any higher body.

Failure to adhere to the policies detailed below may result in additional disciplinary measures being assessed by the Club for such failure.

For these purposes, a “reportable incident” is any event occurring at a game or practice which a team official reasonably believes should be brought to the attention of OMSA in the interests of preserving the reputation of the game or of the Club officials involved. All events which resulted in the issue of a card by a referee must be reported directly to the Discipline Committee (see below) regardless of what other information the Club might expect to receive from the league or ASA.

Additional reportable incidents would include, but are not restricted to: unreasonably severe harassment or verbal intimidation of referees, team officials or parents; verbal or physical abuse of players by team officials or parents; violations of OMSA, FDSA, CMSA or ASA Rules and Regulations.

### **Carded Infractions Involving Players**

It is the responsibility of the coach or their designate to contact the Discipline Committee Chairperson if their team player(s) have received a yellow or red card.

### **Coaches, managers and Other Team Officials**

It is the responsibility of the coach or their designate to contact the Discipline Committee Chairperson if they are involved in any incident during a league game or tournament.

Team officials --the coach, assistant-coach and manager -- shall be jointly responsible for the control and actions of their players and supporters at all games played by their team and for ensuring compliance with league policies and the rules of the game. Team officials violating Club policies may be subject to disciplinary measures.

### **Unacceptable Behaviour**

OMSA has a ZERO – TOLERANCE policy for abuse towards team officials, referees, spectators, parents and or players with unacceptable behaviour during OMSA sanctioned events including practices, games, tournaments and team activities with parents, players, team officials or OMSA board members present. Reports of unacceptable behaviour will be directed to the OMSA disciplinary committee for review.

## Game Play-Up Procedures

All play-ups must comply with **CMSA and OMSA** Club Administration Rules of Play. Play-ups occur when a player in a lower division and or lower division and age-group plays a game with a higher division team or higher division team and age-group.

OMSA coaches will provide players the opportunity to play-up unless the play-up is injured, has not demonstrated team commitment, playing a second game in the same day will impact player performance in the second game or will conflict with important team events.

The head coach is responsible to track the number of play-ups that each player completes so OMSA is not in violation of CMSA Club Administration Rules of Play.

Coaches, assistant coaches, team managers & age group coordinators shall become familiar with the OMSA & CMSA policies related to play-ups. OMSA game play-up procedures are as follows:

- 1 The coach, requesting play-ups will contact the coach of the team to supply the play-ups.
- 2 The coach supplying the play-up(s) will contact the players' parents/guardian to determine availability.
- 3 The coach supplying the play-up(s) will confirm the game play-ups with the coach requesting play-ups.
- 4 The play-up player collects his/her player card to bring to the game.
- 5 The play-up player is noted on the game sheet, specifying number of games played up to 6. The play-up player collects his/her ID card following the game.
- 6 The Director of Programs will monitor play-ups to ensure CMSA policies are followed.

OMSA coaches will facilitate play-ups using the following principles:

- 7 Play-ups should be considered first from all lower division teams within the same age group.
- 8 OMSA will assess play-up appeals to determine player development opportunities and game importance.
- 9 OMSA will not sacrifice the play up(s) league team's bench to benefit another team.
- 10 U10 play-ups to U12 will only be permitted with prior approval of the Club President or Director of Programs.
- 11 All "Club to Club" game play-up requests are pre-approved by the OMSA President or Director of Programs.
- 12 7<sup>th</sup> game play-ups for the same play up to the same play up team will only be permitted with prior approval of the Club President or Director of Programs.

## Insurance

Safety and insurance requirements dictate only team players and coaches are permitted on the field during games and practices. Siblings, relatives, friends and unrelated individuals are not insured to be involved with team game and training events. OMSA members while acting within the scope of their duties with the club are insured through the Alberta Soccer Association.

## Referees and Referee Development

OMSA will identify individuals interested in refereeing and will provide referee certification courses. Referees are expected to inform the Referee Coordinator if they are unable to fulfil their assigned obligations. Failure to do so may result in disciplinary action against them. Coaches shall inform the Referee Coordinator in the event of a game cancellation or reschedule. In addition if a referee does not show up for an assigned game.

### **Jewelry and Non - Compulsory Equipment.**

In District and Provincial competitions leading to National competitions, no player will be permitted to wear any jewelry, as outlined in the jewelry policy of the Canadian Soccer Association, with the exceptions that bandanas, sweatbands & sport hijabs will be allowed for religious or medical reasons, and prescription eye glasses will be permitted.

In all other competitions in Alberta, the wearing of jewelry by players will be permitted as long as it is taped to the satisfaction of the referee. This is not to be interpreted to mean that all jewelry is allowed provided that it is taped. The referee shall not allow anything to be worn by any player for any reason if the referee determines that it is a potential danger to another player.

The wearing of rigid casts or splints, even though covered with foam or other protective padding will NOT be allowed. Braces may be worn by players, where in the opinion of the referee, and such braces are not POTENTIALLY INJURIOUS to other players on the field.

Medical alert bracelets are permitted to be worn unless for any reason the referee determines that it is a potential danger to another player.

Jewelry of any nature is not permitted during practices and other team training sessions. Parents should assist coaches to ensure items such as pierced earrings, bracelets, rings, watches etc are removed before arriving for soccer events. Items not permitted also include any object that could result in personal injury.