



CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Guidebook

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INTRODUCTION

This Indoor 2022/23 Season, CMSA is continuing with the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition: a competitive pathway for teams interested in qualifying for Alberta Soccer Provincial Championships.

COMPETITION OVERVIEW

CMSA recognizes the importance of having a player-first and developmental approach to league matches. By modifying our league offering, we hope to provide a memorable experience through this new Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition. The modifications to our league include removing provincial qualification from league play and instead, having a league winner.

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition will feature three Cup Competitions that lead to provincial qualification. The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competitions will be opt-in at the club and teams' choice for U13, U15, and U17 at all tiers (I-IV) and both genders offered at CMSA. U12 teams will not be eligible to play in the U13 Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition this season. As CMSA moves into single year age groups we will allow even year age groups to opt-in to the Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition that is designated for them. For example, U14 teams would opt into the U15 Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition and U16 teams would opt into the U17 Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition.

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition is played alongside CMSA league games. The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition structure will include a single elimination knock-out game and the number of rounds will be determined based on the number of teams who opt-in. All CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches/finals will conclude prior to the ASA provincial declaration deadlines.

CMSA will endeavor to have consistent Match Days for the Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition that do not conflict with league play. The Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition will match league play for officials. We will look to make both the opening matches and the finals a special experience for all involved.

KEY DATES

- Dec 5, 2022: CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Team Entry Deadline
- Dec 16, 2022: CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition placeholder schedules available online
- Jan 12, 2023: CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Live Tournament Bracket Draw

GIRLS DIVISIONS – Games will be played on the following dates

- January 22, 2023
- February 5, 2023
- Finals being played at Calgary West Soccer Centre – February 26, 2023

BOYS DIVISIONS – Games will be played on the following dates

- January 29, 2023
- February 12, 2023
- Finals being played at the Calgary West Soccer Centre – March 5, 2023

Any divisions needing more than 3 rounds, those extra games will be played during the week in February.

TEAM PLACEMENT

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition that a team enters will correspond with their tier placement in the league. For example, a Tier II team would enter the Tier II CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition.

TOURNAMENT SEEDING DRAW

A livestreamed draw will take place and a tournament bracket will be made for each CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition and tier. Seeding of teams will be determined based on the current Indoor 2022/23 Season final standings up to Dec 22, 2022.

COMPETITION RULES

TEAM ELIGIBILITY

Any team registered within CMSA can participate in the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition at the Tier and age group they have been placed in for league matches. The team will only enter the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition tier that corresponds with their CMSA league tier. Once a team is entered into a CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition, that team is *cup-tied* and will not be able to move to another CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Tier for that season, regardless of competitive balancing or team movement within their CMSA League placement.

No out-of-district teams are permitted to compete in the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

All players will be deemed eligible to play in The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches provided they are registered within a member-club and the CMSA district on the roster of the team playing in the Cup Competition Match.

PLAY-UPS

Players are eligible to be used as play-ups (following normal CMSA playup rules) provided that their team did not enter the PQCC or their team has already been eliminated from the competition.

AYSL PLAYERS

No players on an AYSL roster will be allowed to be used as play-ups in any CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches.

BIO-BANDED PLAYERS

Bio-banded players are not eligible to compete in any CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition Matches unless they are bio-banded within the same age range. For example, a U15 player bio-banded onto a U14 team, would be eligible for the U15 CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches. A U16 player bio-banded into a U15 team would not be eligible to play in any U15 CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition matches. All players must be age eligible as per ASA youth Championship rules.

FEMALE PLAYERS ON MALE TEAMS

Players who identify as female are eligible to play in a male CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition of their provincial eligible age group provided that they are rostered on that male team.

CUP-TIED PLAYERS

The CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition cup-tied rules are in alignment to ASA's provincial championship rules.

MATCH FORMAT & LENGTH – 2 x 25 min halves

U13 Tier 1 & 2 – 7v7 on $\frac{1}{4}$ field

U15 Tier 1 & 2 – 7v7 on $\frac{1}{4}$ field

U17 Tier 1 & 2 – 7v7 on $\frac{1}{3}$ field

U19 Tier 1 & 2 – 7v7 on $\frac{1}{3}$ field

U13 Tier 3 & 4 – boarded – ASA boarded rules

U15 Tier 3 & 4 – boarded - ASA boarded rules

U17 Tier 3 & 4 – boarded - ASA boarded rules

U19 Tier 3 & 4 – boarded - ASA boarded rules

TIE-BREAKER

Should a match be tied at full-time, the match will go straight to penalty shootout to determine the winner of the match. Five (5) rounds of penalties will be taken in an alternating format between the teams and should the match still be tied, sudden death penalties will ensue.

Should the final of any CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition be tied at the end of regulation time, the match will go straight to penalty shootout to determine the winner of the match. Five (5) rounds of penalties will be taken in an alternating format between the teams and should the match still be tied, sudden death penalties will ensue.

PROVINCIAL QUALIFICATION

The winning team from the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition will qualify as CMSA 1 for Provincials with the Cup Final runner-up will attend as CMSA 2. In some cases, CMSA may be awarded a third qualifying spot at a provincial competition, and this would see the two (2) losing semi-finalists play off in a one (1) match play-off to determine what team represents CMSA as CMSA 3 at that provincial competition. Determining CMSA 3 will see this one (1) game playoff will go straight to a penalty shootout should it be tied at the end of full-time. Five (5) rounds of penalties will be taken in an alternating format between the teams and should the match still be tied, sudden death penalties will ensue.

ROSTER SIZES

Roster sizes for the provincial qualifier cup competition must meet CMSA minimum roster guidelines. If you do go to provincials, your roster size can not be increased above the current number on your team with any replacement players.

ADDITIONAL

Any situations not covered in these rules will defer to CMSA Rules and Regulations for that Season.

TEAM ENTRY

Teams interested in participating in the CMSA Provincial Qualifier Cup Competition must express interest directly to their club prior to the team Entry Deadline of December 5, 2022.