

SWEMSA 2025 Cheat Sheet

Unless we send a follow-up email, you can consider this to contain correct information for SWEMSA games.

ARBITER:

- Have Arbiter updated by April 22nd midnight as we are going to start assigning club soccer April 23rd.
- Games for all round 1 community are set to be assigned April 27th. Please accept or decline them before April 28th midnight. If you do not, we will unassign you and reassign because we do not know if you are intending to take the game or not.
- If you are declining games, you need a reason. This should be a valid reason as you should have blocked the date if the reason is something like "soccer practice".
- Continuously keep your blocks updated please, this makes our job much easier.
- After you accept a game, you can turnback the game without contacting us up to 5 days before the game.
- If you need to turn back the game less than 5 days before the game, you must contact us.
- Please have a valid phone number and address in Arbiter.
- For any Arbiter issues please let us know sooner rather than later.
- Reminder to check self-assign (which will be open to all officials April 29) if you are wanting more games than you are getting assigned.
 - You cannot see games on days you have blocked off
- Contact us April 29th 8AM if you have not received assignments and you expected to.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Arrive a minimum 20 minutes before kickoff.
- Perform a field inspection, get the game sheets, and check cards if needed (see cards).
- Look professional.
- Do not carry your phone while refereeing.
- Contact Al or Mazzen with problems.

FIELD CLOSURE LINES:

- City field closure can be accessed [HERE](#).
- Ivor Dent EMSA and CLUB Field closure can be accessed by calling: 780.490.5789
- We will try to update Arbiter accordingly.
- If fields are open, you MUST go to the game. If fields are unsafe, you can make the decision to cancel the game when there. Write that on game sheets and collect payment if appropriate (see payment).
 - Take a picture of the field and email to Al and Mazzen so we can provide EMSA with the reason for game cancellation.

GAME SAFETY:

- For ASA lightning policy please access [HERE](#). Take this seriously. Any reports of this not being followed will have serious repercussions.
- Air Quality Monitoring Guidelines can be accessed [HERE](#). This is normally a concern later in the year.
 - EMSA will be site specific-policy attached to end of document.
- For wet fields use your judgement and please remember to take a picture of the field.
- For extreme temperatures (>30C) please consider adding cooling breaks and drink breaks to games. Discuss with coaches beforehand. View ASA's policy [HERE](#).

GAME TIMES:

- U9 - 2X30min (7v7)
- U11 - 2x35min (9v9)
- U12 – 2x40min (9v9) ball size 4
- U13 - 2x40min (community 11v11, club 9v9)
- U15-U19 - 2x45min (11v11)
- Reduce halves if necessary to stay on time.
- Limited added time in community. Added time in club games.
- Minimum length to be considered a complete game is 2/3s. If abandoning game for any reason, write on game sheet at what time game was ended and score at time it was ended.
 - If coaches agree upon modifying game length to 2x30min halves and if only 45 minutes completed, that game stands.

YELLOW AND RED CARDS:

- U9-no yellow or red cards (except for coaches). Can ask a misbehaving player to sit out. Communicate with coaches. Please review 7v7 laws-to be sent out by email.
 - NOTE WE ARE USING EMSA MODIFIED U9 RULES.
- Of special note for 7v7 is the retreat line (rule 8). We need to have this consistently enforced. Please remind coaches of the retreat line and when it is used. As well, please note that all kicks are indirect at U9 (it must touch a player before going into the net)
- U11-yellow and red cards given, but teams never play short. Please review 9v9 laws (modified laws). Will be sent.
- Special note for U11: offside line-enforce whether or not it is marked on the field. We do not use ARs at the U11 level so this is the responsibility of the referee. Mark with cones.
- U11 also using a retreat line.
- Mercy rule for U9 and U11-never record a score more than a spread of 5. Eg. Team wins 11-2, score should be reported 7-2
- U13 and above- as per [IFAB LOTG](#).
- No misconduct reports for 2nd yellow cards!
- U11 and above: If issuing red card except for a second yellow card, a misconduct report is needed. This MUST be submitted as below by 1:00PM the following day. ASA Misconduct Report to be sent by email.

- U9 Coach misconduct or U11 all misconduct submit to Anika: Zone.Administrator@swemsa.org
- Community games submit misconduct to Jenna: jennad@emsamain.com
- Club games U8-U11 (Sting/SWU) submit misconduct to Martina: martinam@emsamain.com
- Club games U13-U19 (Sting/SWU) submit misconduct to Angela: angelad@emsamain.com
- **ALL misconduct should be copied to Al and Mazzen (al.jaworsky@anvilmachine.ca and mazzen.swemsa@gmail.com).**
- **ALL misconduct involving abuse of officials must be copied to Mark Pasternak at Alberta Soccer: Mpasternak@Albertasoccer.com.**

IDENTIFICATION CARDS:

- Opposing team officials will do the cards for you!
- They will come to the referee for any issues.
- All coaches at all levels need an EMSA identification card. This **MUST** be presented at the beginning of the game. It cannot be late. If a coach does not have the card at the original whistle they must remain on the spectator side for the duration of the game.
- U10 and above CLUB players require identification cards.
- U13 and above COMMUNITY players require identification cards.
- If you do not hear anything from us, assume that there will be a 1-week grace period for cards (until May 8).
- Soccer I.D. cards can be shown on an electronic device (phone, tablet, camera).
- Coaches, Assistant Coaches and Managers must show their card/e-card prior to the start of the game otherwise they are not allowed in the technical area and must sit with the spectators for the entire game even if the card arrives late.
- Players have until the end of the game to produce their card/e-card.
- NO other forms of I.D. are accepted for team officials or players. They must have an official EMSA or District I.D. card/e-card in order to participate.
- Record on game sheet any issues.

PAYMENT:

- There will be two forms – emailed to two separate places.
 - For SWEMSA community games and SWU games, email payment form to refereeforms1@swemsa.org. The form is found on the SWEMSA website - <https://emsasouthwest.com/coachref/refs-corner/>
 - For Sting games, email payment form to office.assistant@edmontonsting.com. Found on website.
- U9 and U11 community games pay referee with cash at the field. Home team.
- All community ARs get paid cash at the field. Home team pays.
- U13-U19 CRs and all club games - You must fill out the SWEMSA form at the end of the month and submit to get paid in cheque. **DO NOT** ask these teams for cash.
- Rates can be found [HERE](#). SWEMSA form will be sent by email.
- Instructions to submit form are on form itself. Please submit as an Excel sheet.

MISCELLANEOUS:

- All teams are required to have a net. If a team cannot provide a net they forfeit the game. Grace period is 15 minutes. Which is the same for the minimum number of players (refer to relevant laws). Record on gamesheet if abandoning game due to net or lack of players.
- Each team will have a gamesheet which must be presented before the game starts. Collect at the beginning of the game, use it to check ID cards. Sign your name on the gamesheet. BOTH gamesheets go to the home coach at the end of the game. Take a picture of the gamesheet if you have issued a red card or abandoned the game.
 - If no gamesheet at start time, the game is defaulted.
- For U9 - community and club - players are not required to wear numbers on their jerseys. This is a requirement at all other levels.
- Ivor Dent is different than Ivor Dent Club. If Arbiter says Ivor Dent you are on the **EAST** fields. If Arbiter says Ivor Dent Club you are on the **WEST** fields.
- Two different Blue Quill Fields (Blue Quill II is blackmud park), Blue Quill is St. Theresa. Arbiter has the correct addresses.
- Teams are only permitted 4 personnel in the technical area. The TD can join as a fifth.

EMSA SMOKE POLICY:

EMSA website access [HERE](#).

Using substation readings: https://weather.gc.ca/airquality/pages/multiple_stations/abaq-001_e.html

- Edmonton East – for the area south of the river and east of Calgary Trail.
- Edmonton McCauley – for the area north of the river and east of highway 2.
- Edmonton Lendrum - for the area south of the river and west of Calgary Trail.
- Woodcroft - for the area north of the river and west of highway 2.

For games in the City of Spruce Grove, please use the St. Albert AQI reading.

Weekdays at 4:00pm (regardless of the time it was last calculated at)

Weekends 1 hour prior to your game start time (regardless of the time it was last calculated at)

NOTE: For those teams travelling from Red Deer to the City (or surrounding area) 3 hours prior to game start time (regardless of the time it was last calculated at):

If the Air Quality Health Index is listed as:

AQI between 1 and 6: the game will proceed as scheduled. Teams are expected to show to the field or will forfeit the game. If the AQI rises to 7 or above just before game start or during the game, the game will be cancelled at the field by the referee. If 2/3's of the game has not been played already, the game will be rescheduled. See reschedule procedure on next page.

AQI is at a 7 or higher: the game will be automatically cancelled and re-scheduled. No need for teams or referees to show up at the field.

If the AQI is N/A at 4pm for the location of your game, the last available reading for that location will be the accepted reading.

the AQI as those games are being played indoors on artificial turf. Games will proceed at these locations regardless of the outside air quality.