



September 2020

Playing Regulations: Women's Soccer

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## 1. CHAMPIONSHIP ROSTER

Each championship team can declare up to 22 players from their most recently submitted U SPORTS Eligibility Form. Team's rosters must be declared by the Championship Technical meeting. Teams may dress any eighteen (18) of these players for each championship game.

Note: In the event a player is injured prior to kick-off, the player can be replaced by a substitute and the injured player is still eligible to play in the match.

## 2. TEAM BENCH

A team can have a maximum of 25 people in the bench area including athletes, coaches and support staff (this includes the eleven (11) players on the field).

Note: Any team member above the 25 is considered a spectator and will sit in the stands.

## 3. PARTICIPANTS

### 3.1 TEAMS

The participants will be:

- Atlantic University Sport Representative
- RSEQ Representative
- OUA Representative
- Canada West Representative
- Host (**Cape Breton University**)
- 1 Assigned berth OUA
- 1 Assigned berth CW
- **1 Assigned berth CW**

(Refer to Policy 20.20.4.10 for more details.)

### 3.2 IDENTIFICATION

The identification of home and away teams will be based on the championship seeding (see 4.2.2). The better seeded team is the home team, and the home team will have the choice of colours.

### 3.3 INDIVIDUAL ELIGIBILITY (N/A)

### 3.4 INDIVIDUAL ENTRIES (N/A)

### 3.5 INDIVIDUAL RANKINGS (N/A)

### 3.6 TEAM ENTRIES (N/A)

### 3.7 TEAM RANKINGS (N/A)



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#### 4. COMPETITION

##### 4.1 CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT

The U SPORTS Championship shall have a total of eleven (11) games taking place over four (4) days. There will be eight (8) teams in a quarterfinal knockout format that includes a 3<sup>rd</sup> place game and a consolation 5<sup>th</sup> place game.

##### 4.2 SELECTION, SEEDING, DRAWS, POOLS, TRIALS AND HEATS

###### 4.2.1 DRAW COMMITTEE

The U SPORTS Office shall follow the criteria and procedures below in establishing the Championship draw.

###### 4.2.2 DRAW CRITERIA

The order of placing berths will be as follows:

1. Seeding of the four Sport Conference Champions (1 through 4).
2. Placement of teams receiving assigned berths (CW#2 and OUA #2 and previous year's champion berth – in rank order from previous championship).
3. Placement of Host berth.

###### 4.2.3 PROCESS FOR COMPLETING THE DRAW

###### 4.2.3.1 Seeding of the 4 Sport Conference Champions:

- A. After the previous year's U SPORTS Championship, the 4 regions will be assigned a seeding order of #1 through #4 based on final standing of the highest finishing team from each conference at the Championship.
- B. Games A through D will each have a Sport Conference champion in the game.

###### 4.2.3.2 Placement of teams receiving assigned berths:

- A. Starting with highest ranked region (as per 4.2.2.1), place its 2<sup>nd</sup> representative (not including Host) in the #6 seed. This places that team on the opposite half of the draw to its Sport Conference Champion.
- B. When arriving to a region that no longer has a team to place, continue to next ranked region.
- C. Continue assigning remaining 2<sup>nd</sup> representatives (not including Host berth), in the opposite half of the draw to its Sport Conference Champion, in the best remaining seed (5 is better than 8).
- D. If applicable, after all 2<sup>nd</sup> representatives (not including Host berth) have been placed in draw, place a region's third representative in best remaining seed (7



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is better than 8). It is possible that the 3<sup>rd</sup> representative will be on same half of draw as its Sport Conference Champion.

NOTE: When assigned berths (CW#2 & OUA#2 and previous year's champion berth) are completed the only position remaining is either the 7 or 8 seed.

#### 4.2.3.3 Host Berth:

The Host berth goes to the remaining seed (either 7 or 8).

NOTE 1: If the Host wins their Sport Conference Championship they will take the #1 Sport Conference spot and the 2nd place finisher in that Sport Conference will assume the Host spot for the purposes of the draw.

NOTE 2: (when host region has 3 berths): If the Host finishes 2nd in their Sport Conference Championship they will take the #2 Sport Conference spot and the 3rd place finisher in that Sport conference will assume the Host spot for the purposes of the draw.

#### 4.2.4 DRAW PROCEDURES

1. Immediately following the completion of the Sport Conference championships, the U SPORTS office will release the final seeding and schedule.
2. The championship draw is to be reviewed by the Coaches Executive prior to the release and once they have approved
3. There shall be no appeal of decisions regarding seeding.
4. Any member institution that releases this information prior to the embargo established by the U SPORTS office will be fined \$500.00.

#### 4.2.5 DRAW:

**Based on 2019 U SPORTS Championship ranking:**

1. CW
2. OUA
3. AUS
4. RSEQ

**The draw for the 2019 Championship is as follows;**

<b>Game A</b>	<b>(Seed 2) OUA #1</b>	<b>vs (Seed 7) CW #3</b>
<b>Game B</b>	<b>(Seed 3) AUS #1</b>	<b>vs (Seed 6) CW #2</b>
<b>Game C</b>	<b>(Seed 4) RSEQ #1</b>	<b>vs (Seed 5) OUA #2</b>
<b>Game D</b>	<b>(Seed 1) CW #1</b>	<b>vs (Seed 8) AUS #2 (Host; Cape Breton University)</b>

**Note 1: if Cape Breton University wins the 2020 AUS Championship they move to Seed 3 & in such case, the order of games A to D can be reversed should host want to remain playing final game of the day for hosting purposes.**

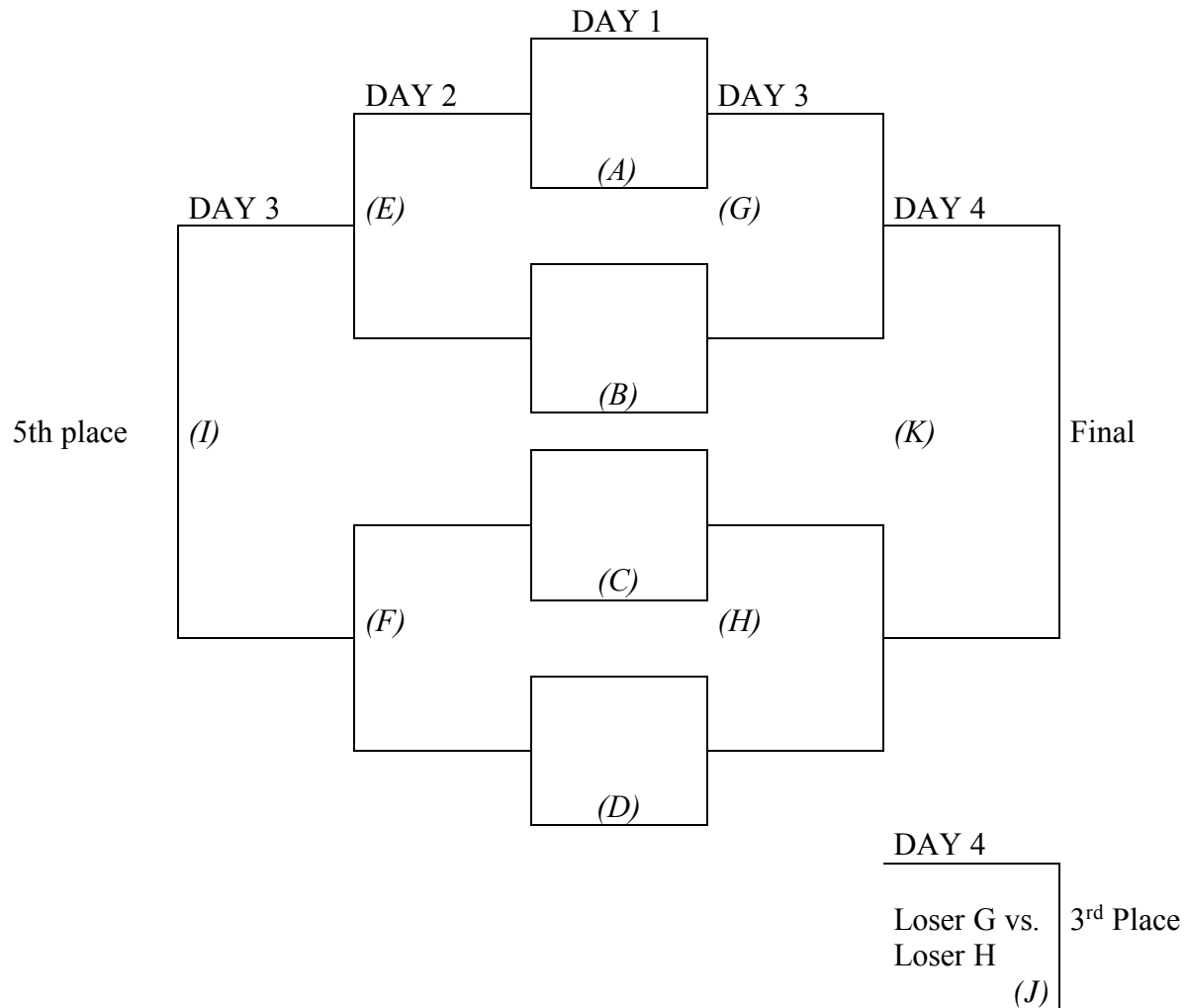


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4.3 FORMULAS AND FORMAT



Note 1: To ensure the integrity of the draw, the structure of the brackets must be maintained (i.e. Game A and Game B must always stay together and Game C and Game D must always stay together) so that common rest times are protected. Game A and Game B can however be moved to the bottom side of the draw, allowing Game C and Game D to move to the top side of the draw.

Note 2: Without affecting the integrity of the draw, games in the upper half of the draw can be switched to accommodate travel and time zone adjustment (i.e. Canada West teams traveling east). If the teams playing are not impacted by the time zone change then there can be no switching of game times.

4.4 PROCEDURES AND PROTESTS (N/A)

4.5 SCHEDULES OR ORDER OF EVENTS



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The Championship Awards celebration, where possible, is to be held prior to the start of competition.

#### 4.6 GAME TIMES

In the event that all games are held on one field, the first game will not start before 10:00 am.

There must be a minimum of 2 ½ hours between game start times with a recommendation that if all games are on one field additional time should be added.

#### 4.7 PRACTICE TIMES / WARM-UPS

A minimum of twenty (20) minutes on the field of competition must be allocated for warm-up prior to each game.

#### 4.8 OVERTIME

All games must be played to a positive result. If a game is tied at the end of regulation time the following will apply.

##### 1. All Quarter-final, Semi-final and Gold Medal Games:

At the end of regulation time two (2) 15-minute halves will be played. If the score is still tied at the end of extra time, the winner shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. A team official may accompany each team to the centre circle for the taking of such kicks.

##### 2. Consolation Semi-finals, Consolation Final and Bronze Medal Games:

If the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the winner shall be decided by the taking of kicks from the penalty mark, in accordance with the FIFA Laws of the Game. A team official may accompany each team to the centre circle for the taking of such kicks.

#### 4.9 TIE-BREAKING (N/A)

#### 4.10 SCORING AND STANDARDS

The Host Organizing Committee will supply a form to each Head Coach, per game, with a list of the declared 22 players from the championship technical meeting.



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Coaches must identify their 18 players (must declare the 11 starters) to the Host Organizing Committee 60 minutes prior to start of game.

Coaches are permitted to note more than 18 players on the form if a final decision on an injured player is pending.

From this the Host Organizing Committee will complete the game sheet for both teams. At the end of warm-up OR no less than 10 minutes prior to the start of game (whichever comes first) the Head coach must sign off on the final game sheet.

#### 4.11 RECORDS AND STATISTICS (SUSPENSIONS)

The soccer statistician or the soccer convener from each Sport Conference must send to the Host institution a copy of the team eligibility form along with a record of the number of red and yellow cards of any team advancing.

##### 4.11.1 IN SEASON

The accumulation of three yellow cards results in a one game suspension. A red card results in a minimum one game suspension. Upon returning from either of the above, two yellow cards will result in a one game suspension. If a player receives a second red card during the season, there will be a disciplinary review.

##### 4.11.2 PLAY-OFFS/U SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.11.2.1 All suspensions resulting from Conference playoffs (yellow card accumulation, red cards or coach/staff ejections) for teams participating in the U SPORTS Championship are applied & enforced at the U SPORTS Championship. If a coach were ejected in their last game prior to the U SPORTS Championship, then they would be suspended for the first game of the U SPORTS Championship.

4.11.2.2 Yellow card accumulation from Conference playoffs is erased at the start of the U SPORTS Championship.

4.11.2.3 The accumulation of two yellow cards in one game at the U SPORTS Championship will result in being ejected from that game and an automatic minimum one game suspension will result. All red cards issued during the games of the U SPORTS Championship shall result in a minimum one game suspension. Further suspensions will apply if warranted by the Championship Management Committee.

4.11.2.4 The accumulation of three yellow cards over the course of the U SPORTS Championship will result in a one match suspension to be applied to the player's



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following year of participation in regular season play at any U SPORTS member institution in the sport of soccer.

4.11.2.5 All red cards issued to players during their last game at the U SPORTS Championship shall result in a minimum one game suspension. Further suspensions will apply if warranted by the Championship Management Committee. The resulting suspension is to be applied to the player's following year of participation in regular season play at any U SPORTS member institution in the sport of soccer.

4.11.2.6 All ejections to coach/staff during their last game at the U SPORTS Championship shall result in a minimum one game suspension. Further suspensions will apply if warranted by the Championship Management Committee. The resulting suspension is to be applied to the coach/staff in regular season play in the following year of involvement at any U SPORTS member institution in the sport of soccer.

## 5. EQUIPMENT AND FACILITY

### 5.1 BALL

**The Nike Merlin is the U SPORTS Official Game Ball.**

### 5.2 RECORDING

#### 5.2.1 FIRST ROUND OPPONENT (N/A)

#### 5.2.2 HOST REQUIREMENT

The Host must record all games at the U SPORTS Championship. The Host will download game video to any participating team who provides a USB stick. The Host will determine the process with the participating teams at the championship technical meeting.

### 5.3 UNIFORMS

5.3.1 U SPORTS reserves the right to require participants in a U SPORTS Championship to wear a U SPORTS logo on their uniforms. These logos will be provided to each team in advance of the championship. The logo must be placed on the top, right chest area of each uniform.

5.3.2 Player uniforms must be numbered, including the goalkeeper's uniform. Effective by the 2011 U SPORTS Championship, uniforms are to be numbered on the front and back of tops while shorts must also be numbered. Numbers must be in contrasting color to the uniform color (easily distinguishable from the predominant background color and pattern).



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Suggested size requirements:

Back of jersey - at least eight inches (20.32 cm) in height

Front of jersey – at least four inches (10.16 cm) in height

#### 5.4 BIBS, SOCKS, SHIRT COLOR, TIGHTS AND TOWELS

1. Players are allowed to wear the same color (as the uniform) lycra shorts/spandex under their regulation uniform shorts provided it is a solid color and all players on the team are wearing the same color.
2. Players are allowed to wear tights in adverse weather.
3. If wearing a light jersey, the undergarment must be white. If wearing dark jersey, any spandex/undergarment must be black or same colour as the uniform.
4. Teams wearing dark jerseys must wear dark socks and teams wearing light jerseys must wear light socks.
5. Players are allowed to wear knee braces as long as they have proper padding. A knee brace sleeve can be worn regardless of color.
6. Players are allowed to wear ankle guards, over socks, regardless of color.
7. Goalkeepers must wear jersey and sock colors that distinguish them from the other players and goalies on the field (includes their own team).
8. It is mandatory for all players to wear shin guards for safety reasons.

Note: The Goalkeeper and player jerseys must be shown at the pre-championship technical meeting.

#### 5.5 HEAD GEAR AND HELMETS (N/A)

#### 5.6 CAPTAIN'S IDENTIFICATION (N/A)

#### 5.7 DEPTH CHARTS (N/A)

#### 5.8 SPOTTER PHONES (N/A)

#### 5.9 FACILITY AND MEET REQUIREMENTS

- 5.9.1 One or two regulation size pitch(s) with an alternate pitch available, lights are optional. A grass surface is preferred for the U SPORTS Championship.
- 5.9.2 Where possible, football goal posts should be completely removed so as not to be visible in the vicinity of the field of play, or at the very least, they be removed if they interfere with the field of play.
- 5.9.3 Music can only be played before the games and a half time for all games at the Championship.
- 5.9.4 A minimum of eight ball people will be used during the Championship game for all games at the national championship.

### 6. RULES

Competition shall be governed by the FIFA Laws of the Game with the following modifications:





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1. Game Duration: 2 x 45 minute halves, with a fifteen (15) minute half time. When extra time is necessary, two 15-minute halves will be played.
2. Substitution: A maximum of six (6) substitutions per 90 minutes of regular time, and unlimited substitutions at half time, within the eighteen (18) named players for the soccer championship (substituted players can re-enter the game). Either goalkeeper may play in the outfield. No substitution will be allowed for a player ordered from the field by the referee for misconduct.

For games that go into extra time, unlimited changes can be made at the end of the regulation time and a maximum of three (3) substitutions for the additional 30 minutes of play, within the eighteen (18) named players for the soccer championship (substituted players can re-enter the game)

Rules changes made by FIFA are to be incorporated by U SPORTS in the following academic year (i.e. 13 months later).

## 7. MEETINGS

### 7.1 COACHES TECHNICAL MEETING

The Technical meeting will be held at least two (2) hours prior to the first game.

### 7.2 COACHES ANNUAL MEETING

The coaches will require a meeting room for their annual meeting during the championship. Date and time of the meeting is at the discretion of the Host Organizing Committee working in consultation with the President of the Coaches Executive.

### 7.3 COACHES CLINIC

The host coach or designate is responsible for arranging and organizing the Coaches Clinic at the U SPORTS Championship. The time of the clinic should be included in the bid package.

### 7.4 PRESS CONFERENCE

The date and time for a championship press conference is at the discretion of the Host Organizing Committee, working in consultation with the U SPORTS Office.

## 8. OFFICIALS

### 8.1 FUNDED OFFICIALS (N/A)



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Canadian Soccer Association to assist U SPORTS with the increased travel costs for the additional 3 officials, from nine (9) officials to twelve (12) officials.

## 8.2 ASSIGNMENT

Canadian Soccer Association will work to ensure the best twelve (12) officials are assigned for the U SPORTS Championship.

## 8.3 NEUTRALITY

For all championship games the referee and linesmen shall be from a neutral Sport Conference. If funds are not available to provide linesmen from a neutral Sport Conference, they shall be from a city of the host Sport Conference other than the city of the host team. For the Gold medal game the top 3 or 4 officials are to be selected to referee the game regardless of conference.

## 8.4 QUALIFICATIONS

National Referee, Class 1 Assistant Referee  
The referees should have experience refereeing women's soccer.

## 8.5 HOST RESPONSIBILITIES

To provide accommodation (double occupancy), meals (per diem), local ground transportation, hotel parking and game fees.

The provision of a fourth official for all games is a responsibility of the Host. The Host must work with the local officials association to ensure that they are provided.

## 8.6 NSO'S RESPONSIBILITIES

To provide accommodation (double occupancy), meals (per diem) and ground transportation for the assignors/evaluators.

## 8.7 FEES

Referee: - \$80.00 each/game  
Assistant Referee: - \$40.00 each/game  
4<sup>th</sup> Officials - \$40.00 each/game

## 8.8 STAND BY OFFICIAL (N/A)

## 8.9 SELECTION PROCESS



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The CSA Referee's Committee shall submit to the U SPORTS Office the appointments no later than 30 days prior to the championship.

#### 8.10 ON-SITE ASSIGNMENT

The Soccer Canada appointed Assignor/Evaluator will determine the final selection of officials for each game, including the Gold medal final. Feedback from participating coaches may be shared with the Assignor/Evaluator.

### 9. SEASON AND CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

*\*Please refer to policy 60.20 for more details re standard championship awards.*

#### 9.1 ALL-CANADIANS

9.1.1 First team (11) and second team (11) selected by the coaches.

9.1.2 Each Sport Conference submits nominations by October 31<sup>st</sup>, along with information to the Vice-President of the Coaches Executive.

9.1.3 All nominations must have documented and circulated statistics. Information is distributed to the executive members.

9.1.4 Voting will be by conference call. The call will be set-up by the U SPORTS Office, within two days of the October 31<sup>st</sup> Sport Conference deadline and no later than 10 to 12 days prior to the start of the championship.

9.1.5 Each Sport Conference's MVP will automatically be awarded as a first team All-Canadian.

9.1.6 To win the national award the athlete must have been named to the All-Star team in their sport conference, if such a team is named.

#### 9.2 OUTSTANDING PLAYER OF THE YEAR (CHANTAL NAVERT AWARD)

9.2.1 The player receiving the most votes for the All-Canadian teams is automatically the winner of the Chantal Navert Award.

9.2.2 To win the national award the athlete must have won the player of the year award in their sport conference, if such an award exists.

#### 9.3 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR and ALL-ROOKIE TEAM

9.3.1 Selected by the All-Canadian Selection Committee.

9.3.2 Each Sport Conference submits one nomination for Rookie of the Year with supporting information to the U SPORTS Office, along with their Top 3 Rookies as per conference voting.



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- 9.3.3 Must be in their first year of U SPORTS eligibility and be 21 years of age or under as of September 1<sup>st</sup> of current year.
- 9.3.4 Voting by conference call one (1) week prior to the beginning of the Championship.
- 9.3.5 To win the national award the athlete must have won the rookie of the year award in their sport conference, if such an award exists.
- 9.3.6 The All-Rookie Team will be made up of the Top 3 Rookies from each conference for a total of 12 athletes.

**9.4 STUDENT-ATHLETE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

- 9.4.1 Selected by the coaches following same timelines as the All-Canadian selection process.
- 9.4.2 Recipient who best exhibits outstanding achievements in three (3) areas: soccer, academics and community involvement.
- 9.4.3 Each Sport Conference must include with their nomination a bio outlining the three areas listed above.
- 9.4.4 To win the national award the athlete must have won the award in their Sport Conference, if such an award exists.
- 9.4.5 An athlete may only win the award once.
- 9.4.6 The award recipient will be decided on the U SPORTS All-Canadian Conference call and will be announced at the U SPORTS All-Canadian Awards Ceremony.

**9.5 COACH OF THE YEAR**

- 9.5.1 Selected by the coaches.
- 9.5.2 Each Sport Conference submits one nomination with supporting information to Vice-President of the Coaches Executive.
- 9.5.3 Conference call made Sunday prior to the championship by the executive.
- 9.5.4 To win the national award the coach must have won the coach of the year award in their sport conference, if such an award exists.

**9.6 CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHY (GLADYS BEAN MEMORIAL TROPHY) AND U SPORTS PENNANT**

Presented to the U SPORTS Championship Team.

**9.7 CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS**

Presented to the top 3 teams in the U SPORTS Championship.

**9.8 CHAMPIONSHIP MVP (GUNNHILDER BALDURSSON MEMORIAL AWARD)**



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- 9.8.1 Selected by a committee established by the Host.
- 9.8.2 Selection based on the athletes' performance at the U SPORTS Championship.
- 9.8.3 Must be a member of the Tournament All-Star team.

**9.9 CHAMPIONSHIP ALL-STAR TEAM AND BEST GOALKEEPER**

- 9.9.1 Selected by a committee established by the Host.
- 9.9.2 Selection based on the athletes' performance at the U SPORTS Championship.

**9.10 CHAMPIONSHIP PLAYERS OF THE GAME**

- 9.10.1 One player from each team will be picked as the player of the game.
- 9.10.2 In games that are televised, the primary lead broadcaster will make the selection of the players of the game.
- 9.10.3 In games that are not televised, the Host will work with the Coaches Executive to determine the make-up of the selection committee.

**9.11 FAIR PLAY AWARD (R.W. PUGH)**

- 9.11.1 Selected by the coaches in conjunction with Host Organizing Committee. Trophy donated by the Coaches Executive.
- 9.11.2 Selected by a committee established by the Host.
- 9.11.3 Selection based on the teams' behaviour at the U SPORTS Championship.

**9.12 SPECIAL EVENTS**

It is recommended that whenever possible if there is a banquet or special event, it be held on the Friday evening of the championship.

**10. COMMITTEES**

**10.1 CHAMPIONSHIP MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Management Committee shall rule on all matters necessary for the championship to proceed and will, in addition, act as the Protest Committee at the championship. The Management Committee shall apply U SPORTS Rules. The Management Committee may not, nor may any member, make an exception to any U SPORTS Rule or to a sanction imposed by U SPORTS. The Management Committee has no jurisdiction to consider or interpret U SPORTS Eligibility Regulations.

Composition of the Management Committee shall be:

1. Convener of Championship - non-voting chair;
2. U SPORTS Delegate;



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3. Technical Delegate (assignor/evaluator of officials);
  4. President of the Coaches Executive, or designate.
- A quorum shall require all four members, or their replacement.

If a member of the Management Committee was involved, directly or indirectly, in a decision or an interpretation of a U SPORTS Rule that is being appealed/protested to the Management Committee that member shall be excused from the Management Committee. In this event, the remaining members of the Management Committee have the authority to appoint as a replacement for the excused member an individual who is independent, unbiased and uninvolved in the matter in dispute. The decision regarding whether a member of the Management Committee should be excused and replaced lies solely with the Management Committee.

Notwithstanding the procedures described in U SPORTS policy 90.70.4.1.1 (see below), the U SPORTS Championship Management Committee shall have the power and jurisdiction to take interim on-the-spot measures to address minor code of conduct issues (inappropriate or unsportsmanlike conduct that is not criminal in nature) that arise at U SPORTS Championships, in a timely fashion. The record of the incident, including the interim measures taken to address it shall be copied to the Athletic Director(s) of the affected school(s), and the U SPORTS office and Discipline Committee.

It is the expectation of U SPORTS that persons representing Member institutions, and/or U SPORTS, at U SPORTS Championships will behave responsibly, and with propriety, and in accordance with the laws of the land.

#### 90.70.4.1.1 Procedures Regarding Misconduct

Where misconduct occurs at a U SPORTS Championship (including traveling to and from the event, practice days and competition days), the Chief Executive Officer, assisted by the event Convener, shall:

1. Investigate the particulars of the incident that gave rise to the misconduct.
2. Determine the amount and type of damage to property or injury to persons.
3. Identify the persons and institutions responsible for the incident.
4. Summarize this information in a written report.

The Chief Executive Officer shall provide a copy of the written report to the President, who may bring a complaint in accordance with U SPORTS Policy 90.40 - Discipline. A copy of the written report shall be provided to the Directors of Athletics of the institutions involved.

10.2 JURY OF APPEAL (N/A)

10.3 DELEGATES (N/A)



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11. APPENDICES (N/A)