



CAPITAL ALUMNI NETWORK LEAGUE WIDE RULES

Effective 1-1-2019

1. Alumni and Varsity Participation, Suspension of Players, Penalties, and Enforcement

1.1. Definition of "Alumni"

1.1.1. Definition - any individual who has either graduated with a degree from or who has enrolled in and completed* twelve (12) academic credits** at a college or university is considered an alumnus of the college or university conferring the degree or academic credit. *Acceptance of credits of failing grades, professional development, or any other coursework in which courses were completed but credits were not received is at the discretion of the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s) on a case-by-case basis. **If the college or university attended does not award academic credits based on a "3 credit/course" standard, its equivalent may be considered. All questions related to numbers of acceptable credits and credit equivalency should be forwarded to the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s) for a determination before an individual commences play for a team. An individual must play for the college or university they are considered an alumnus of in order to be considered an alumnus in CAN. An individual is considered a non-alumni participant for all other colleges and universities.

1.1.2. Spouse Exemption - The spouse of an individual (through legal marriage, civil union, domestic partnership or any officially recognized legally binding union) who satisfies the definition of "Alumni" under **Rule 1.1.1** will be considered an Alumnus of any college or university through which his/her spouse satisfies the "Alumni" definition.

1.1.3. Grandfather Exemption - A CAN participant who has shown a commitment to one team can be counted as an "alumni" if they fulfill the following requirements:

- A. Participation in the five previous, consecutive seasons
- B. No years played under varsity/professional status can be counted
- C. Qualified for the tournament in each of the previous five years

1.1.3.2. Teams may use the grandfather exemption for one person per sport. That person must qualify as above in each individual sport. The spouse of a grandfathered alumni does not count as an alumnus under **Rule 1.1.2**.

1.2. Definition of Varsity Athlete

1.2.1. College Varsity - Any person, under the age of 35 years old, who, by definition of any two- or four-year institution's athletic department, has been listed on the active varsity roster for its college/university team in at least one scheduled athletic contest in the same sport for which the person competes in CAN is considered a "Varsity" athlete.

1.2.2. Professional - Any person, under the age of 50 years old, who has played professionally or semi-professionally in the same sport for which the person competes in CAN is considered a "Varsity" athlete.

1.2.3. For purposes of this section, professional and semi-professional includes any person who has received or could receive compensation, in any form. This (includes but is not limited to collecting regular salary for a permanent, temporary, or short-term assignment from a regular job for the purposes of playing their sport, bonus-pay, incentive-pay compensation, expense coverage or reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses, sponsorship, etc.) for playing in a professional, semi-professional, or minor sports league, association, or otherwise during the time that s/he participated in that league/association. For purposes of CAN, softball and baseball are considered the same sport.



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1.3. DEFINITION OF PARTICIPANT MOVED TO INDIVIDUAL SPORT RULES

1.4. Alumni Participation – During the regular season, at least seventy percent (70%) of a team's participants, as defined in **Rule 1.3**, who are on the playing field/court at all times must qualify as an Alumnus, as defined in **Rule 1.1**, of the college or university that sponsors the team's participation in CAN. For post-season play, seventy-five percent (75%) of participants as defined in **Rule 1.3**, who are on the playing field/court at all times must qualify as an Alumnus, as defined in **Rule 1.1**, of the college or university that sponsors the team's participation in CAN.

1.4.1. For all CAN sports, other than softball, any non-alumni participant on the field/court at any given time, must be wearing an identifying armband of the league's choosing.

1.4.2. Softball – For softball, at least seventy percent (70%) of the participants in the regular season and at least seventy-five percent (75%) of the participants in the tournament, as defined in Rule 1.3, a) in the field at any given time, AND b) in the batting lineup at any given time, must qualify as an Alumnus, as defined in Rule 1.1, of the college or university that sponsors the team's participation in CAN.

1.4.3. Penalties for violations of Rule 1.4, Alumni Participation – Each time a team violates **Rule 1.4**, it will forfeit the game (or volleyball match) in which the violation occurred and the team will receive the applicable number of "Strikes" according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for "forfeiture of a regular season game...". *If the violation occurs during the post-season tournament, the team will be ejected from the tournament, and assessed the applicable number of "strikes", as well as automatic exclusion from the following season in that sport.*

1.5. Participation on Multiple teams - Each person may play on the sports team of one (1) college or university in the league during the regular season of each sport. (Exception: If a person qualifies as an Alumnus defined in **Rule 1.1** of multiple colleges or universities, s/he may participate during the regular season for any school for which s/he satisfies the Alumni definition in **Rule 1.1**.) A player may not represent the same chapter on multiple teams in a season. This rule would apply to the situation where a chapter has a team in multiple/separate leagues (Volleyball-Rec and Volleyball-Comp, for example) or when a chapter may have multiple teams in the same league (i.e. Basketball, School A has a Team 1 and Team 2).

1.5.1. Tournament Participation - Each person may participate on only one (1) team during the post-season tournament.

1.5.1.1 Exception: If a player qualifies as an Alumnus for multiple chapters under **Rule 1.1** (not by spouse or grandfather exemptions) and qualifies for tournament participation on each team per the rules for the sport, they may participate on each team for which they have qualified. To do so, they must pay (when applicable) as a player for each chapter for which they participate. There will be no special scheduling circumstances and adjustments considered for participants of multiple teams. If the player's teams meet in tournament play, the player must choose one team to continue forward with from that point onward.

1.5.2. Penalties for violations of Rule 1.5, Participation on Multiple Teams



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1.5.2.1. First Offense – The first time a person violates Rule 1.5, the person will receive a warning, and if the CAN sports chair determines a team initiated the violation of the rule, the team in question will receive a forfeit for that game, and the team will receive the applicable number of “Strikes” according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “forfeiture of a regular season game...”. *If the first offense for violating Rule 1.5 OR Rule 1.5.1 occurs during the post-season tournament the team in violation (defined above) will be ejected from the tournament and assessed the applicable number of “strikes”, as well as automatic exclusion from the following season in that sport.*

1.5.2.2. Second Offense (Team) - The second time a team is involved in a violation of **Rule 1.5** in the same season, the team will receive the applicable number of “Strikes” according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “forfeiture of a regular season game...”, and the team will be ineligible for the post-season tournament. *If the second offense occurs during the post-season tournament the team in violation (defined above) will be ejected from the tournament, and assessed the applicable number of “strikes”, as well as automatic exclusion from the following season in that sport.*

1.5.2.3. Second Offense (Individual) – The second time a person is involved in a violation of **Rule 1.5**, s/he will be suspended from playing for any team for the remainder of the season and the post-season tournament.

1.6. Varsity Athletes’ Participation – Each team may play no more than one (1) Varsity Athlete, as defined in **Rule 1.2**, at any time except as described below. (Exception: A team may play two (2) Varsity athletes, as defined in **Rule 1.2**, concurrently in a game if and only if one Varsity athlete is male, the other Varsity athlete is female, **and both** Varsity athletes satisfy the Alumni definition in **Rule 1.1**)

1.6.1. Penalties for violations of Rule 1.6, Varsity Athletes’ Participation –

1.6.1.1. First Offense – the first time a team violates Rule 1.6 it will forfeit the game during which the violation occurred and the team will receive the applicable number of “Strikes” according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “forfeiture of a regular season game...”.. The first time a Varsity Athlete violates **Rule 1.6**, s/he will receive a warning.

1.6.1.2. Second Offense (Team) – the second time a team violates **Rule 1.6** in the same season, it will forfeit the game during which the second violation occurred and the team will receive the applicable number of “Strikes” according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “forfeiture of a regular season game...”, and the team will be ineligible for the post-season tournament.

1.6.1.3. Second Offense (Individual) - The second time a Varsity Athlete violates **Rule 1.6**; s/he will be suspended from participation in the league for the remainder of the season, including the post-season tournament.

1.7. Suspension of players -

1.7.1. Types of suspensions

1.7.1.1. Violation of Multiple Team rule (**Rule 1.5**)

1.7.1.2. Violation of Varsity rule (**Rule 1.6**)

1.7.1.3. Player Ejection from a CAN athletic contest.

A. Types of Ejections

1.7.1.3.A.1. Game misconduct – When a player or coach is ejected from an athletic contest for fighting, intent to injure,



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similar aggressive play, or verbal abuse of an official or other player or coach. Ejections of this type will be subject to **Rule 1.7.2** Penalties.

1.7.1.3.A.2 Coach misconduct – When a coach acts in ways that is detrimental to the team and/or league, the commissioners of that league and sports chairs have the authority to issue a suspension for that coach.

1.7.1.4. Misconduct separate from or during a CAN athletic contest or during a CAN athletic contest with no ejection.

A. General Misconduct – When a coach, player, or non-player acts in ways separate from or during a game that are detrimental to the team and/or the league, the commissioners of that league and sports chairs have the authority to issue a suspension or ban for that coach, player, or non-player for an appropriate length of time as determined by the sports chairs and commissioners. A majority vote by the sports chairs and commissioners is needed to enact this rule.

1.7.2. Penalties for violations of Rule 1.7.1.3, Player ejection –

** If a municipality has their own league rules for ejections, those rules take precedence over the CAN rules below **

1.7.2.1. First Offense –

1.7.2.1.1. Subject to commissioner and Sports Chair review, the player/coach may be suspended for one (1) or more games in that sport.

1.7.2.1.2. Suspension will carry into tournament/playoffs or to the following season for that sport, if necessary.

1.7.2.1.3 No penalty to team

1.7.2.2. Second Offense – if the same player/coach is ejected from a game in the same sport within one (1) calendar year of first offense.

1.7.2.2.1 Subject to commissioner and Sports Chair review player/coach may be suspended for the equivalent of half the total number games in a season of that sport (ex. if in soccer, and the soccer season is an 8 game season, player/coach is suspended for 4 games)

1.7.2.2.2 Suspension will carry into tournament/playoffs or to the following season for that sport, if necessary.

1.7.2.2.3. The team for which s/he plays will receive a warning.

1.7.2.3. Third Offense – if the same player/coach is ejected from a game in the same sport for a third time within one (1) calendar year of the first offense.

1.7.2.3.1. Subject to commissioner and Sports Chair review player/coach may be suspended for one (1) calendar year in that sport.

1.7.2.3.2. Player/coach suspended for the equivalent of half the total number games in a season for ALL other CAN sports (ex. if reaching a third ejection in soccer, the player/coach will be suspended for 7 games in softball assuming a 14 game softball season, 4 games in basketball assuming an 8 game season, and so forth).

1.7.2.3.3. The team for which s/he plays will receive a forfeit for



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the game in which the third ejection occurred and receive the applicable number of "Strikes" according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for "Forfeiting a game..."

1.7.2.4. Multiple Third Offense – if the same player/coach ever reaches a third offense again in any sport.

1.7.2.4.1. Subject to commissioner and Sports Chair review player/coach may be suspended from CAN sports for life.

1.7.2.4.2. The team for which s/he plays will receive an additional forfeit for the game in which the third ejection occurred and receive the applicable number of "Strikes" according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for "Forfeiting a game..."

1.7.2.5. Additional strikes to schools/teams may be assessed depending on the circumstances, including, but not limited to, multiple players/coaches being ejected from the same team over the course of one (1) calendar year.

1.7.2.6. Fighting in any sport will not be tolerated and is likely to incur heavier penalties than the guidelines above.

1.7.2.7. Special Circumstances – If a majority of the commissioners/sports chair(s) agree, suspensions may be increased, waived, or reduced.

1.7.3. Participation of Suspended Player/Coach –

1.7.3.1. When a player is suspended, s/he may not play for any team during the time period (number of games) specified by the sports chair(s) and commissioner(s) of the sport for which s/he was suspended. If the player is eligible to play for multiple teams (**Rule 1.5**), the player is suspended from both teams for the number of games determined by the commissioners and sports chairs.

1.7.3.2. If a coach is suspended, s/he may not be present for any game during the time period (number of games) specified by the sports chair(s) and commissioner(s) of the sport for which s/he was suspended.

1.7.3.3. Penalties for violations of Rule 1.7.3, Participation of Suspended Player

A. First Offense – The first time a person violates **Rule 1.7**, the team will receive a forfeit for that game and receive the applicable number of "Strikes" according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for "forfeiture of a regular season game...". *If the first offense occurs during the post-season tournament, the team in violation (defined above) will be ejected from the tournament, and assessed the applicable number of "strikes", as well as automatic exclusion from the following season in that sport.*

B. Second Offense – The second time a team is involved in a violation of **Rule 1.6**, the team will receive the applicable number of "Strikes" according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for "forfeiture of a regular season game..." and the team will be ineligible for the post-season tournament. *If the second offense occurs during the post-season tournament or, the team in violation (defined above) will be ejected from the tournament, and assessed the applicable number of "strikes", as well as automatic exclusion from the following season in that sport.*

1.7.3.4. Participation of Players Without Waiver – Each player entering a CAN athletic contest must signed an official CAN liability waiver for that sport for that season. All signed waiver must be turned in by the post season coaches meeting or some other designated deadline. Players found to have



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participated in game(s) without having a signed waiver in effect will result in a forfeit of the game(s) in which s/he participated and the team will receive the applicable number of "Strikes" according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for "forfeiture of a regular season game..."

2. Strikes

2.1. Definition of "Strike" - CAN uses a "Strike" system to address violations of its rules.

This "Strike" system is intended to recognize that teams sometimes make honest mistakes, while simultaneously trying to ensure the integrity of CAN's sports' leagues. "Strikes" are assessed against the college or university that sponsors a team's participation in any of CAN's sports leagues.

2.1.1. Sport Strike Count – Each strike accrued for a sport will be tracked for that school for that sport.

2.1.2. Chapter Strike Count - The first one-half (1/2) strike received in each sport will not be applied to the school's total strike count. All strikes beyond the half strike will be applied to the school's total strike count. (ex. if a half strike is given to College X on November 1, 2011 for football and another half strike is given October 22, 2012 for football, the second half strike will count towards College X's total strike count since the November 1, 2011 strike has not expired yet).

2.2. Issuance of "Strikes" – "Strikes" will be administered by the CAN Sports Chair(s). The Sports Chair(s) will tally and monitor the number of "Strikes" received by each college or university on a yearly basis and one (1) "Strike" will be removed from the college or university's "Strike" total on the one-year anniversary of the date on which its' oldest "Strike" was received (ex. College X received a "Strike" for forfeiting a game on Dec. 3, 2011 and another "Strike" for forfeiting a game on Dec. 10, 2011, giving them 2 "Strikes". On Dec. 3, 2012, one "Strike" will be removed from the college's "Strike" total, and College X will have one (1) "Strike", assuming no further "Strikes" were received. College X will then have one (1) "Strike" removed on December 10, 2012, bringing their "Strike" total to zero, assuming that no further "Strikes" were received.). The CAN sports chair(s) will contact the school's chapter president and the coach to let them know when and why a "Strike" is assessed. **See Table 1 for more details on when "strikes" will be assessed.**

Note: "Forfeiture of a game" includes those games a team is forced to forfeit by operation of the CAN rules.

Table 1

Violation	# strikes
Forfeiture of a game.	1
Failure to meet officiating requirements during the regular season (this includes not sending the required number of refs, ref(s) showing up late, and not sending the required number of "certified" refs (when applicable).	1
Failure to submit roster following each game (when applicable).	1/2
Failure to have chapter president validate alumni/varsity status of submitted pre-season roster.	1/2
Failure to have a representative at any <i>required</i> coach's meeting.	1
Failure to meet requirements at post-season tournament.	1
Failure to pay application deposit or fees on time.	1



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Failure to compete in the tournament.	2
Failure to submit required administrative documentation by commissioner-designated deadline (waivers, blackout schedules, tournament rosters, etc)	1

2.3. Special Circumstances – If a majority of the commissioners/sports chair(s) agree, strikes may be waived or reduced.

2.4. Penalty for Accumulation of Two or more “Strikes” in any one season – If a college or university accrues two (2) strikes within the season of any one sport, the team will be ineligible for the post-season tournament in that year.

2.4.1. Upon completion of the regular season, the team with 2 strikes that is now ineligible for the tournament is exempt from mandatory tournament coaches meetings, further strikes for not competing in the tournament, and any other tournament related requirements.

2.4.2. The college or university is eligible to apply the following season, but the accrued strikes will factor into the acceptance process.

2.5. Penalty for Accumulation of Three or more “Strikes” in any one sport – If a college or university accrues three (3) strikes during any 365 day period in the same sport, the team will be ineligible for the post-season tournament in that year and be ineligible to apply the following season regardless of whether or not all strikes count towards the chapter total.

2.5.1. Upon completion of the regular season, the team with 3 strikes that is now ineligible for the tournament is exempt from mandatory tournament coaches meetings, further strikes for not competing in the tournament, and any other tournament related requirements.

2.6. Penalty for accruing Three or more Chapter “Strikes” – If a college or university accrues more than 3 “strikes” against the chapter during any 365-day period, it will automatically be ineligible from participating in any of CAN’s sports’ leagues for one calendar year immediately following the end of the season in which the final “Strike”

was received. The suspension will run for one (1) full year and will be unaffected by the removal of “Strikes” from the college/university’s “Strike” total during that time.

2.6.1. Completion of Team Suspension - Upon completion of any CAN suspension, the sponsoring school will not be guaranteed re-entry into CAN’s sports leagues, but will be considered along with all other applicants.

3. Enforcement of CAN Rules

3.1. Lineups

3.1.1. Initial Lineup - Coaches must exchange lineups prior to the start of each game, specifically identifying non-alumni and varsity players. If the opposing coach offers no objection, either implicitly or explicitly agreeing that the initial lineup complies with the 70% (regular season) or 75% (post-season) alumni rule and the varsity rule, then play shall begin. If the opposing coach objects to the percentage of non-alumni or number of varsity players before the game start, the coach in question must be offered the opportunity to take corrective action



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or demonstrate compliance before play begins.

3.1.2. Completion of game - Coaches may request their opponent's lineup and/or roster from the appropriate commissioner within 72 hours of the game.

3.2. Softball

3.2.1. Substitutions - Coaches must confer whenever either team proposes a substitution. If the opposing coach offers no objection to the substitution, either implicitly or explicitly agreeing the revised lineup complies with the 70% (regular season) or 75% (post-season) alumni rule and the varsity rule, then play shall resume. If the opposing coach objects to the percentage of non-alumni or number of varsity players in the revised lineup with the substitution, the coach in question must be offered the opportunity to take corrective action or demonstrate compliance before play resumes.

3.2.2. Penalty Assessment

3.2.2.1. If following a commissioner's determination that a lineup fails to comply with either the 70% (regular season) or 75% (post-season) alumni rule or the varsity rule, the commissioners find that:

- A. no substantive objection was made against the violation before play began (or resumed), or the violating coach was not offered an opportunity for corrective action, then alumni must be substituted for non-alumni until the batting order of the violating team complies with the alumni rule, or a non-varsity player must be substituted for a varsity player until the lineup complies with CAN Rule 1.6.
- B. a substantive objection was made against the violating coach had an opportunity for corrective action before play began or resumed, the violating team will forfeit the game per CAN Rule 1.4.1 or 1.6.1

3.2.2.2. Any player not visibly wearing a wristband/bracelet (or whatever the 'player' designation is for that year's tournament) during tournament play will be considered an illegal member in the lineup and will be called out. The player cannot return to play without a legally obtained wristband.

3.3. Soccer /Football/Basketball/Volleyball

3.3.1. Substitutions – Substitutions will be made in accordance with the CAN varsity rule.

3.3.2. Penalty Assessment –

3.3.2.1. If following a determination that a lineup fails to comply with either the alumni rule or the varsity rule, the violating team will forfeit the game per CAN rule 1.4.3 or 1.6.1

3.4. Commissioner/Sports Chair(s) Ruling - If an opposing coach believes the lineup to be out of compliance after play starts or resumes, the coach may request a commissioner ruling.

3.4.1. Regular Season

3.4.1.1. If a commissioner/sport chair is available at the game in question, s/he may review the issue and make a determination.

3.4.1.2. If a commissioner/sports chair is not available for the game, the coach must submit a request for a commissioner(s) review within 24 hours after the completion of the game in question.

3.4.1.3. The commissioner(s)/sports chair(s) may retroactively make compliance determinations and/or assess penalties during the regular season if



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unavailable to make a ruling during the game in question.

3.4.2. Post-season Tournament

- 3.4.2.1. A commissioner/sports chair will be summoned to review of the issue and make a determination.
- 3.4.2.2. The game clock will be paused until the issue is resolved.
- 3.4.2.3. The commissioner(s)/sports chair(s) may not retroactively assess penalties once a tournament game has been completed, rosters have been exchanged, and no objections were raised.
- 3.4.2.4. An independent party must be witness to the initial lineup exchange (Rule 3.1) and the substitution exchange (Rule 3.2.1, Rule 3.3.1, Rule 3.4.1, Rule 3.5.1, or Rule 3.6.1).
- 3.4.2.5. An independent party for the purposes of this rule is defined as an umpire, scorekeeper, or field lead assigned to that field.

3.4.3. Commissioner/Sports Chair(s) Review

- 3.4.3.1. If the review finds that a team violated the alumni rule, the violating team will forfeit the game.
- 3.4.3.2. If the review finds that a team violates the varsity rule, the violating team will forfeit the game.
- 3.4.3.3. If the review finds that a roster included players that did not play in the game, the violating team will forfeit the game.
- 3.4.3.4. If the review finds that a team used a player who does not appear on the post-season roster, that team will immediately forfeit the game and strikes assessed based on **Rule 2, Table 1**.

4. Administration of CAN Rules

4.1. Team Administration

4.1.1. Pre-season Roster

- 4.1.1.1. Coaches must send a pre-season team roster to the designated commissioner(s) of the league within the established and published timeline prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s).
- 4.1.1.2. Coaches must also send a copy of the pre-season roster to the president of the alumni association chapter that sponsors the team's participation in CAN within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s).
- 4.1.1.3. The alumni association chapter president must communicate to the league commissioner(s) whether each individual listed on the team's pre-season roster satisfies **Rules 1.1** and **Rule 1.2** (Alumni and Varsity Athlete definitions, respectively), respectively within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s).
- 4.1.1.4. If the alumni association chapter president cannot determine if an individual is an Alumnus of its college or university under **Rule 1.1**, s/he must notify the league commissioner(s) of the same. Such individuals will be considered non-Alumni unless additional proof of Alumni status is submitted to the league commissioner(s) by the individual or the team coach. Examples of proof include copies of a diploma or transcripts or such other documentation deemed by the college or university to validate to confirm one's Alumni status and accepted by the league commissioner(s).
- 4.1.1.5. If the alumni association chapter president cannot determine whether an individual listed on the roster satisfies the Varsity Athlete definition of **Rule**



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1.2. s/he must notify the league commissioner(s) of the same. The individual will be considered a non-Varsity Athlete for that sport.

4.1.2. Regular Season (and post-season tournament) Rosters

4.1.2.1. For soccer, flag football, softball, and basketball, players MUST participate in a minimum 1/3 (one third) of the team's regular season games to qualify for post-season rosters. For volleyball, depending on the number of double-headers, that number may be lowered. See specific qualifying chart in volleyball rules.

- A.** If the team's season is cut short by action of the commissioners or sports chair(s) the 1/3 of the games will be applied to the number of games the team completed. See Rule 5.1 for details on reducing number of regular season games.
- B.** If a game is prematurely ended due to weather, darkness, uncontrollable issues (such as intervention of Park Police) or by action of a commissioner or sports chair, two (2) or more of the commissioners and/or sports chair(s) may allow the team to count the game for eligibility purposes to players who attended the game, but did not participate prior to where it ended.
- C.** Games ending in forfeit where the forfeiting team gives more than 2 hours notice, grants playoff qualification to the entire roster (to that date) of the team receiving the forfeit win.
- D.** Games ending in forfeit where the forfeiting team fails to show up at game time or gives notice less than two hours prior to game time, grants playoff qualification to the players present at the field and on their way to the field for the team receiving the forfeit win.
- E.** Games resulting in forfeit after play starts or after the game is complete grants playoff eligibility for that game to the players present at the field during the game for the team receiving the forfeit win. The players present for the team forfeiting the game do not get game credit toward playoff eligibility.
- F.** Commissioners and sports chairs (by majority vote) may identify certain individuals in special circumstance who will not forfeit their game credit for actions related to that forfeited game.
- G.** Both teams are still required to fulfill any reffing obligations that are required of them for the day the forfeit occurs.

4.1.2.2. Coaches must send team regular- and post-season team rosters to the designated commissioner(s) of the league and the chapter president of its alumni association within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s).

4.1.2.3. The alumni association chapter presidents must communicate to the league commissioner whether each individual not previously identified as an Alumni or Varsity Athlete under **Rule 4.1.1.3** satisfies the Alumni and Varsity Athlete definitions of **Rules 1.1** and **1.2** respectively, within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioners and sports chair.

4.1.2.4. If an alumni association chapter president cannot determine if an individual is an Alumnus of its college or university under **Rule 1.1**, s/he must notify the league commissioner(s) of the same. Such individuals will be considered



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non-Alumni unless additional proof of Alumni status is submitted to the league commissioner(s) by the individual or the team coach. Examples of proof include copies of a diploma or transcripts or such other documentation deemed by the college or university to validate one's Alumni status and accepted by the league commissioner(s).

4.1.2.5. If an alumni association chapter president cannot determine whether an individual satisfies the Varsity Athlete definition of **Rule 1.2**, s/he must notify the league commissioner(s) of the same. The individual will be considered a non-Varsity Athlete for that sport.

4.1.3. Non-compliance

4.1.3.1. Pre-season – If an alumni association chapter president does not communicate the information required under **Rule 4.1.1.3** to the league commissioner(s) within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s), the team will not be eligible that season to participate in the sport for which it is applying.

4.1.3.2. Regular Season – If an alumni association chapter president does not communicate the information required under **Rule 4.1.2.2** to the league commissioner within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s), any games played by individuals not previously identified as an Alumni or Varsity Athlete will result in a forfeit for each game played, and the team will receive the applicable number of strikes according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “forfeiture of a regular season game...”.

4.1.3.3. Post-season – If the alumni association chapter president does not communicate the information required under **Rule 4.1.2.2** to the league commissioner(s) within the established and published timeline for that league as prescribed by the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s), the team will not be eligible to participate in the post-season tournament for that sport, and it will receive the applicable number of strikes according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “failure to compete in post-season tournament”.

4.2. League Administration

4.2.1. Pre-tournament – Prior to the tournament the league commissioner(s) and CAN sports chair(s) may randomly select rosters of no more than four (4) teams and conduct a “spot-check” of their post-season roster in an effort to confirm the Alumni and Varsity status of the individuals on those teams’ post-season rosters.

4.2.2. Post-tournament – Upon conclusion of the post-season tournament, the league commissioner(s) and CAN sports chair(s) may conduct a “spot check” of the post season rosters of the teams that competed in the semifinals and finals of the tournament in an effort to confirm the Alumni and Varsity status of the individuals on those teams’ post-season rosters. Forfeits and strikes will be enforced according to Rule 2 if issues are found.

4.2.3. Refunds - If a chapter has to back out of a sport that it successfully applied to and was accepted, the coach can apply for refunds of application deposits per the following:

4.2.3.1. Application Deposits – Chapters have 1 week from the date the teams were notified of acceptance into the league to request a refund of that



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deposit if that team decides to drop out of the league.

4.2.3.2. League Fees – The league fee is non-refundable. These are collected after the schedule is made and after field permits, referees, and other expenses are incurred. Once a chapter has paid the balance of the season fee, it is committed to that season.

4.3. Violations

- 4.3.1.** If the “spot check” conducted under **Rule 4.2** reveals that an individual certified by the alumni association chapter president as satisfying the Alumni and/or Varsity Athlete definitions of **Rule 1.1** and **Rule 1.2** respectively, does not, in fact, satisfy the Alumni and/or Varsity Athlete definitions of those rules, each game in which the individual participated (including tournament games) will be considered a forfeit, and the sponsoring college or university will accumulate the applicable number of strikes according to **Rule 2, Table 1** for “forfeiture of regular season games” and “forfeiture of post-season tournament games”.
- 4.3.2.** If the “spot check” conducted under **Rule 4.2** reveals that an individual who satisfied the Alumni definition of Rule 1.1 through submission of documentation under **Rules 4.1.1.4** or **Rule 4.1.2.3**, respectively, does not, in fact, satisfy the definition of Rule 1.1, that individual will be prohibited from further participation in any of the Capital Alumni Network’s sports leagues for a period of one calendar year.

PLAYOFF SEEDING WILL BE DEFINED IN THE RULES FOR EACH SPORT

5. Post-Season Tournament Seeding Procedures

- 5.1.** All teams that meet the following requirements will qualify for the post-season tournament
- 5.1.1. Qualifying games played** - Any games played over the league maximum shall be counted as a scrimmage. For a game to be official, it must be official for both teams. If either team is playing the games as a scrimmage, it must count as a scrimmage for both teams. Each sport will have a specific number of regular season games, weather and field/gym space permitting:
- 5.1.1.1.** The number of qualifying games for each sport will be determined prior to the beginning of the season based on field/gym space constraints.
- 5.1.2. Unable to complete qualifying games** - If, for any reason (e.g., bad weather conditions), a team fails to complete any of these scheduling obligations, it may take one forfeit in any area to fulfill that obligation with penalty of strike. If a team takes more than one forfeit in any area, the team jeopardizes its qualifying for the tournament and its participation in future seasons.
- 5.1.2.1. Rule 4.1.2.1** does not apply if the team chooses to end the season early by forfeit.
- 5.1.3.** If a rainout or other weather condition occurs at a time in which a make-up cannot be scheduled (e.g. just before the tournament), a game may be dropped at the commissioner(s) and sports chair(s) approval.

6. Appeals process

- 6.1.** The CAN Sports Chairs shall appoint a minimum of three (3) +1 senior representatives from each sport to serve on a panel to review appeals to strikes and suspensions for their respective sport.



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- 6.1.1. The minimum requirements for appointment are:
 - A. Individual must have played in that sport for at least three (3) seasons.
 - B. Individual must have experience administering the rules of that sport on a leadership level (all former commissioners and sports chairs).
 - 6.1.1.1.B.1. All current and former coaches are eligible
 - 6.1.2. Formal appeals shall be sent to the CAN President within one (1) week of the official notice of the strike or suspension. If so desired, a statement may accompany the notice of appeal to state the case for the appeal.
 - 6.1.3. A Commissioner of the sport in which the strike was issued may provide a written statement stating the facts and factors that lead to the decision within 4 days of appeal notification.
 - 6.1.4. A Sports Chair may provide written statement stating any prior history or past precedent that was considered in the decision within 4 days of appeal notification.
 - 6.1.5. The panel may seek additional information from all parties for up to one week (7 days) after notification of appeal. None of the parties involved are permitted to contact the panel outside of contact initiated by panel members requesting additional information.
 - 6.1.6. The panel will render a decision within two weeks (14 days) of notification of appeal.
 - 6.1.6.1. A 2/3 vote of the panel is required to modify the original decision of the sports committee.
 - A. Panel may increase the penalty to the maximum allowed by the rules.
 - B. Panel may reduce the penalty
 - C. Panel may waive the penalty
 - 6.1.6.2. A regular member of the panel shall be replaced by the alternate if any of the following conditions are present:
 - A. Member is an alum of the chapter appealing
 - B. Member is a player for any CAN team of the appealing chapter,
 - C. Member is an alum or player for any chapter involved in the appeal (i.e. opponent)
 - 6.1.7. The panel decision is final.
 - 6.1.8. The appealing party may continue to participate in CAN Sports until a ruling is rendered.
 - 6.1.9. Each appointee may serve on a panel for no more than two seasons for that sport. Appointees may step down at any time.
- 6.2. Any commissioner, sports chair, who is an alum or active sport participant from the appealing school must recuse him/herself from the appeal process.

7. Strike Payments process

- 7.1. Schools have the option of paying a fine instead of having the strike apply towards the chapter "3 strike limit". All money received from strikes will go towards the CAN scholarship fund or towards a CAN designated charity.
 - 7.1.1. The committee made up of the commissioners from the sport in question and the sports chairs will determine if each strike is eligible for strike payment.
- 7.2. If the school chooses to pay the strike fine, they are no longer eligible to appeal the strike.
- 7.3. Strikes that are appealed are not eligible for the payment option.
- 7.4. Strikes will still be tracked even if the strike fine is paid.



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- 7.5. The strike fine is set at \$200 per strike, and only 1 strike can be paid off per 365 days. If two ½ strikes are accrued during the same sports season, then the option to pay off the full strike exists.
 - 7.6. To encourage good sportsmanship within our sports leagues, if a school self-reports the violation, the fine amount will be reduced by half, but the strike amount issued will still be counted towards the sport-specific limits and fine escalation rules stated in Rule 7.6 above.
 - 7.6.1. “Self-report” is defined as being reported by a representative of the school before the violation is found by a commissioner/sports chair.
 - 7.7. All fines must be paid within 2 weeks of a strike being issued. If money is not received by the CAN sports chair or CAN treasurer within the 2 week timeframe, the strike will count and the strike is no longer eligible for appeal.
 - 7.8. All strikes will still adhere to the sport-specific penalties even if the fine is paid (i.e. accruing 2 strikes in the same sport season still removes that team from the season-ending tournament in that sport and accruing 3 strikes in the same sport season still makes that team ineligible for the sport those strikes were accrued)
 - 7.9. Schools still are subject to the traditional acceptance rules for all sports where strikes are taken into consideration during the application period of that sport (whether paid off via fine or not). Paying of a strike fine does not guarantee acceptance into any future sport season. **[NOTE: strikes that are successfully appealed and removed will not be considered in the acceptance process, though]**
8. **Adjustments to CAN Rules** – A committee made up of the sport’s commissioner(s), CAN Sports Chair(s), Assistant Sports Chair(s), CAN AC Director overseeing Sports, and CAN board member(s) assigned to the sport may create additional rules (CAN or sport-specific), adjust current rules (CAN or sport-specific), or waive rules (CAN or sport-specific) as needed to maintain the integrity of the league.
 9. **Updates to CAN Rules** – Suggestions for updates to the general CAN rules will be collected over the course of the sports year. The CAN rules will be updated on or about 1 Sept each year.