



Edmonton Minor Soccer Association

EMSA Policy

Number:
G-0908

Adopted by Board on:
September 25 2008

<u>Policy Type</u>				
Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Objectives <input type="checkbox"/>	Registration <input type="checkbox"/>	Game Regulations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Discipline <input type="checkbox"/>

Title: When Players Become “Available”

Policy Statement: EMSA is committed to the principles of fair play, mobility of players between teams, and the protection of players or teams from poaching. Therefore, EMSA forbids any form of “poaching” of players while they or their team are still involved in their season’s regular schedule or post-season competitions. EMSA recognizes that players are deemed “free agents” (i.e., may be freely courted by other coaches) between the end of their team’s season and a pre-set date (July 31st for Indoor season, and Feb 28th for Outdoor season).

Definitions:

- “Poaching” is defined as any effort that is intended to lure a player from one team to another, while that player is legitimately engaged in a team.
- “Post-season” play involves any competition or tournament that legitimately follows a season of play, including inter-cities, Provincials, or Nationals.

Guiding principles:

- ✓ Players are deemed to be “on a team” when:
 - they are registered on that team’s ASA form, and
 - their team is still engaged in its season’s game schedule, or post-season play
- ✓ EMSA Coaches must be made aware by their Zone of this policy and discouraged from real or perceived “poaching” activities
- ✓ Complaints about “poaching” must be submitted by the coach of the affected team/player, to the Zone, and then where appropriate forwarded to EMSA for discipline

Purpose: The aim of this policy is to clarify the timeframe when players may be courted by coaches from a team other than the one they were most-recently on.