

2026 CENTRAL DISTRICT SOCCER TOURNAMENT INFORMATION – ALL DIVISIONS

2026 Central District Soccer Coaches Informational Video - To be posted mid-September

All coaches are required to view the Tournament Information Video prior to October 9, 2026.

Contact Kyle Hamrick (hamrick.cdsoccer@gmail.com) with questions regarding the video.

Tournament Play Dates, Divisions, Number of Regional Qualifiers

BOYS

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3	DIVISION 4	DIVISION 5
Sectional Round	-	10/19	10/24	10/24	10/24
District Semifinal	10/21	10/21	10/28	10/28	10/28
District Final	10/28	10/28	10/31	10/31	10/31
# of District Champs	6	5	2	2	2

GIRLS

	DIVISION 1	DIVISION 2	DIVISION 3	DIVISION 4	DIVISION 5
Sectional Round	10/20	-	10/22	10/22	10/24
District Semifinal	10/22	10/22	10/27	10/27	10/27
District Final	10/29	10/29	10/31	10/31	10/31
# of District Champs	6	4	2	2	1

TOURNAMENT SEEDING: All seeding will be conducted on-line using the Central District web site (OHSAA.org/CDAB) complete instructions will be sent to the Athletic Director for distribution to the head coach the last week of September. *Click to view the CDAB Tournament Seeding Procedures*

IMPORTANT SEEDING DATES

Please adhere to the seeding and meeting deadlines below as there are penalties for each missed deadline.

- **Friday, October 9, 2026**
 - 12:00 noon - Team Information Due for Seeding
 - 3:00 p.m. - Seed Voting Begins
- **Saturday, October 10, 2026 - 12:00 noon** - Seed Voting Ends
- **Sunday, October 11, 2026 - VIRTUAL MANDATORY MEETING OF COACHES FROM ALL SCHOOLS** (using Microsoft Teams) to place teams on the tournament brackets.
 - BOYS MEETING – 2:00 PM
 - GIRLS MEETING – 3:00 PM

COACHES DRAW MEETING

A mandatory VIRTUAL meeting of soccer coaches will be held on Sunday, October 11, 2026 using Microsoft Teams. Complete instructions to access the virtual meeting using Microsoft Teams will be available during the seeding process. Coaches do not need a Microsoft Teams account to participate. Bob Britton (britton@ohsaa.org) will email each coach the links to their specific required draw meeting prior to the meeting. Coaches are encouraged to print any materials provided in those emails to expedite the selection process.

Boys Draw Meeting – 2:00 PM, Sunday, October 11th

Girls Draw Meeting – 3:00 PM, Sunday, October 11th

Teams Late/Absent from Drawing Meeting/Failure to Seed

If a school fails to have a representative present at the drawing and seeding meeting the Manager/Site Manager, shall use the following procedure:

- For teams in the top half of the seeded teams (one more than half if an odd number of teams) - the school absent will be placed on the bracket after the #1 seed is given the opportunity to place themselves. If #1 selects a line, the absent school will be placed on the furthest line, excluding a bye line, in the other half of the bracket from the #1 seed. If the #1 seed passes, the absent school will be placed on the first, non-bye line.
- If more than one team is absent in the top half of the seeded teams, schools will be placed, in order of seed, as far apart as possible after #1 has their choice.
- For teams in the bottom half of the seeded teams – the school absent will be placed on the bracket after

- all other teams have selected their bracket placement.
- d. If more than one team is absent in the bottom half of the seeded teams, the schools will be placed, in order of seed, after all other schools have selected their bracket placement.

Schools that fail to fulfill the pre-tournament responsibilities are subject to a fine for each violation as per OHSAA Sports Regulation 6. In addition, a school that fails to be represented at the draw meeting forfeits their opportunity to host their first tournament contest. Refer to OHSAA General Sport Regulations 6

Transfer/Delay of Tournament Games

Ideally, all conflicts for hosting tournament events will be communicated to the Tournament Manager prior to the draw meeting. (Graduation; field/court not available because of other school use.) After the tournament drawing is made, the Tournament Manager is granted authority by the CDAB to make changes in starting times, playing dates, and site assignments for good and just cause.

Whenever it becomes necessary to delay the start of a contest, change a playing date, and/or change a site assignment, the procedure to be followed shall be:

1. Contact the Tournament Manager to make the request. The Tournament Manager will consider the circumstances, have communication with all schools involved and will issue a decision.
2. If the Tournament Manager is unavailable, the CDAB sport liaison or CDAB President shall make the decision.
3. The Tournament Manager will notify the Central District Webmaster of all changes in starting times, playing dates, and site assignments as soon as possible. The Webmaster will post such changes on the CDAB Web Page.

Warm-up Time After Late Arrival

The Site Manager or head contest official, when appropriate, will determine the amount of time that will be allowed for a team warm-up when a team arrives late and there is not enough time prior to the scheduled start of the game for the team to get in the normal warm-up. If the team does not appear within thirty minutes after the scheduled starting time of the contest, OHSAA regulations will apply.

OHSAA Handbook – Regulation 16.4 Failure to Appear: If a team fails to appear and is not ready to play within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time of a tournament game, the space on the bracket may be declared vacant. The opposing team will then be awarded a bye into the next round of competition.

Failure to Appear for a Tournament Contest

If a team fails to appear or is not ready to play within 30 minutes of the scheduled starting time of the tournament game the space on the bracket may be declared vacant. A forfeit shall be declared, and the opposing team shall advance to the next round of competition.

Practice at a Tournament Site

No school shall practice on a tournament site after site assignments have been made. No host school shall permit a school to practice or scrimmage on the tournament site by teams assigned to that site.

For sports where sectional games are played on the home **site**, the above policy does not apply to the home team that hosts a sectional tournament game. The host school will not permit a team to practice on its playing field or floor if that team is in the same division.

Parking Fees by host site

Parking fees are defined in the Site Agreement. When High Schools are serving as host sites, the site must request permission from the CDAB to charge for parking. Maximum fee to be \$5.00.

For non-high school venues, parking fees may be set by the host venue as CDAB may not be authorized to control pricing.

All expenses related to the collection of parking fees are the responsibility of the host venue unless fees are being shared with the CDAB.

Tournament Admission Pass Policy

OHSAA tournament pass policy as of September 2023

High School Coach Scouting Comps:

1. Head Coaches in each sport will receive one digital pass good for two admissions. This pass can be used for scouting purposes or to attend games.
2. Additional scouting passes must be purchased.

College Coach Scouting Comps: College coaches will need to purchase a ticket to enter any tournament event.

Outside of a team roster/travel party list there should be no pass list, and no one admitted without a digital ticket/scan.

Food and Refreshments

It is the policy of the CDAB not to provide food and/or refreshments to coaches, officials, or team during, before, or after a Central District tournament game, match, meet, or drawing. The regulation does not prohibit site managers from providing drinks to the game officials at halftime or after the game, match, or meet.

In cases where food and or refreshments are provided to coaches, officials, or teams from other organizations (boosters), the cost of such shall not be charged to the District Board, nor shall the cost be taken from the receipts of the tournament.