



Ohio High School Athletic Association

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Soccer Coach Memo August 13, 2020

Our mission: To serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students.

We live this mission every single day and will continue to do so. As thrilled as we are to get a **potential** 'green light' to move forward with INTER-squad competition for the upcoming season on Tuesday, we feel equally heartbroken for those on the sidelines unable to partake in this opportunity. Please know that each school district and county health department is trying to make the best decisions with the information they have available. There is NO ONE who wants to take opportunities away from students. We all have the power to continue to fight this virus. We must continue to work together across the state to mitigate spread. We want to see every student-athlete get their opportunity to participate in a safe manner throughout the entire year. Just like in a game, when something great happens, it is SO important to not let our guard down. We want to have a full season and a full year of sports, but the ONLY way to do that is to continue to decrease numbers. Let's do this together!

ON TUESDAY: OHSAA Covid-19 Update Page: PLEASE work with your Athletic Administrator to go through all of the NEW 'Mandates and Recommended best practices' (general and SPORT SPECIFIC) for the return to INTER-Squad competition. Our organization has created a page where all 'Administrator Update' communications can be found. Additionally, there are resources and links that may be helpful. <https://www.ohsaa.org/Home/OHSAA-COVID-19-Correspondance>

Friday Night Fútbol - LET'S GO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Let's make this **Friday Night Fútbol** the biggest and best in OHSAA history. **IF we get the green light on Tuesday**, let's make it count. See the link below regarding what information to send my way so that we can track, and hopefully get the school's participating something fun (usually this is Columbus Crew tickets, but right now that is not available).

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Soccer/Friday-Night-Futbol>

INTRA-Squad Scrimmages

Your boys and girls teams may participate in practices and even INTRA-squad scrimmages together. Every student-athlete must be a player for the same High School, or if this pertains to the middle school, all participants must be on the middle school teams. I **STRONGLY recommend finding a day to 'rehearse' prior to the first game day** regarding field set-up (recommended benches on opposite sides of the field), spacing on the sidelines, pre-game, and post-game. *Think of an innovative way to show sportsmanship when 'shaking hands' isn't an option. My son's baseball team lined up on the 1st or 3rd baseline and tipped their caps to their opponents. What should soccer do across the state?

ID Camps

The much-anticipated ID Camp waiver can be found at the link below. Please send these my way, and I will review and get that back to you ASAP. <https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Soccer/2020/IDCampExceptionForm.pdf>

Required Rules Meeting - GET IT DONE

The rules meeting is a **requirement for all head coaches** and will be available through your "myOHSAA" account. IF you are a new head coach and are unfamiliar on how to access the meeting OR what your "myOHSAA" account is – please consult with your Athletic Administrator as soon as possible. After viewing the entire meeting, please reach out to your AD and have them check to make sure you received credit.

OHSAA Coach Manual

The OHSAA Soccer Coach Manual is available on the soccer page (<https://www.ohsaa.org/sports/soccer>). This will be a helpful document to refer to in terms of any rule changes, as well as NFHS Soccer Considerations in 2020 related to Covid-19 (these will likely have updates on Tuesday).

Mental Health:

Please remember that this is a very difficult and uncertain time for all.

- ODH Mental Health & Addiction Services: website: <https://mha.ohio.gov/>, phone: 1-800-985-5990, Text: 66746