



Ohio High School Athletic Association

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Soccer Coach Memo September 15, 2020

Sportsmanship Reports: We are seeing SO many amazing acts of Leadership, Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity around the state. Please share any these acts by clicking the link below and downloading the form:
[OHSAA Sportsmanship Report](#)

2020 School Divisional Assignments- Reminder

<https://www.ohsaa.org/Sports-Tournaments/Soccer/Soccer-2020>

Divisional Breakdowns - 2020-21 School Year- Reminder

<https://ohsaa.org/School-Resources/Divisional-Breakdowns-2020-21-School-Year#74537-boys-soccer>

Regional Draw:

This is extremely different from years past, as THIS YEAR we will be moving to 'home sites' (top team on the brackets). We are moving to this model for the 2020 Soccer Tournament for many reasons including covid-19 related and financial issues.

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Soccer/2020/2020RegionalStateTournamentDraw.pdf>

Tournament Regulations- Board Approved 9/14/2020

<https://ohsaaweb.blob.core.windows.net/files/Sports/Soccer/SoccerTournamentRegs.pdf>

COVID-19 Observers Program:

The governor has instructed our office to expand the "Observer Program" to cover all fall sports. Your Athletic Administrator has the full checklist, and he/she will be notified if a home contest will be evaluated. Please remember that this is educational in nature and meant to help ensure that all best-practices and mandates are being followed. We truly want to be able to have a safe and full season and tournament—thank you for all the work you have done thus far!

Less than 11 Players:

Soccer is one of the few sports that allows you to begin a game with less than a normal starting lineup. You may begin a game with as few as seven (7) players, but any time a team drops below that number the game is over. Should you choose to play a game with less than 11 players, it would still count as one of your regular season contests.

Final 5 Minute Reminder:

In the final five minutes of the second half of a match (which is not under the 'Mercy Rule'), the clock will stop for each substitution by the leading team, even where the trailing team also subs.

Transfer Students:

We are getting to the point in the season where students who transferred to your school without meeting an exception will now be ineligible. Your student-athlete will become INELIGIBLE at varsity game #9 and will not be able to participate for the remainder of the season, as well as the tournament. These students are obviously encouraged to continue participating in practices and traveling with the team.

Individual Instruction During the Season

"Are players permitted to receive individual instruction during the season"? OHSAA regulations DO permit this in 'individual or group instruction' provided the school or coach does not have a policy against it (most do not). A word of caution, however; the instruction must be INDIVIDUAL SKILL instruction (nothing more than 1 on 1) and cannot be used as a 'disguise' for a club/travel coach to conduct workouts for their club/travel team during the high school season.