TO: Soccer Coaches and Directors of Athletics

FROM: Kate Barnett, Sport Administrator

DATE: December 8, 2021

SUBJECT: Boys and Girls Soccer Post-Season Update

OHSAA BOARD UPDATE

The Board of Directors will be soliciting feedback from the membership regarding GSR 7.5.1 (10 day rule below). More information will be provided this spring. This regulation was waived for summer of 2021.

7.5) Regulations Permitting Coaches to Coach Their Own Student-Athletes on Non-School Teams Outside of the School Team's Season

Note: Sports Regulation 7.5.1. has been waived for the summer of 2021.

7.5.1) Team Sports (10-Day Rule) – Members of a school team’s coaching staff in the team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball may coach students from their teams for a maximum of 10 days from June 1 through July 31 except that participation cannot be mandatory. In addition:

a.) The 10-day limitation applies to the entire coaching staff. Each individual coach is not entitled to 10 different days for coaching. The days refers to any amount of time utilized during the 10 days (i.e. the regulation does NOT permit 240 total hours of coaching . . . 10 days of 24 hours each).

b.) In the sport of football, only non-contact football is permitted.

c.) See General Sports Regulation 8.2), General Individual Skill Instruction, which is different than this regulation on coaching.

2022 REGULAR SEASON UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Friday Night Futbol

The Board of Directors approved the recommendation to permit teams to begin the soccer season one (1) week early and compete in a maximum of seventeen (17) regular season contests without requiring a service project. This recommendation allows for institutional discretion regarding starting the season early to
highlight soccer matches beginning Friday night, August 12, 2022 (which is a week before most schools will play their first football game).

2022 Dates

- July TBD: Online State Rules Interpretation information is available
- Aug. 1: First Day of Coaching
- Aug. 2: First Day H.S. Preview Permitted
- Aug. 12: First date of competition
- Sept. 5: Non-Interscholastic Date
- Oct. 9: OHSAA Tournament Draw
- Oct. 17-22: Sectional Tournament
- Oct. 24-29: District Tournament
- Nov. 1-5: Regional Tournament
- Nov. 8: Girls Soccer State Semifinals
- Nov. 9: Boys Soccer State Semifinals
- Nov. 11: Girls State Finals
- Nov. 12: Boys State Finals

*No Contact Period: Begins with first day after last interscholastic competition and ends 28 days later.

Promotional Events

Schools may host one (1) special event each season that supports a specific cause. In conjunction with the event, schools may request a waiver for NFHS Rule 4-1-1 which would permit teams to wear an alternate-colored jersey and/or socks in support of the specific cause. The Special Event Request waiver form can be found under the Regulations, Policies & Manual sidebar here.

Uniforms

As you begin to consider ordering new uniforms for the upcoming season, please familiarize yourself with the current rules found here. If you have questions as to whether your uniforms are compliant, please reach out to me or Don Muenz for clarification.

Out of state travel

Per Bylaw 9-2-1 below, a form is required for a team to travel out of state to any location that does not border Ohio.

**Bylaw 9-2-1:** Schools may travel out of state to compete in contests in states or provinces in Canada that border Ohio regardless of distance to travel. The states are Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The province is Ontario. Additionally, schools may travel out of state one time per sport per interscholastic season to compete in contests in any location that does not border Ohio subject to approval from the Executive Director’s Office. (Obtain the required form to
request this travel permission [here](#).

**SOCCER SPORT REGULATION REMINDERS**

GSR 7.3 - Regulations Permitting Students to Participate on Non-School Teams Outside of the School Team’s Season

7.3.1) Team Sports (Other Than Football) – A member of a school program or team in the team sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball may participate with a non-school program or team in contests, tryouts, training and/or practices prior to and after the school team’s season under the following condition:

a) The number of team members on the non-school team who are enrolled at the same school and participated in that sport at that same school in the preceding season, or team members on the non-school team who participated in that sport at another school in the preceding season and transferred to the same school prior June 1, is limited to a maximum of 50 percent of the members of a team as defined in the playing rules of the sport. Rotating players from the same team is not permitted in the 50 percent player limitation. **The 50 percent limitation for soccer is 5.**

Note: Graduating seniors do not count toward the maximum number of members from the same school team.

GSR 8.3 - Individual Skill/Coaching Instruction – Team Sports of Baseball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Football, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Softball and Volleyball

8.3.1) From August 1 through May 31 From School Coaches – In the sports of basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer and volleyball, individual skill/coaching instruction may be received by a member of a school team or individuals at any time prior to and after the school season and outside the defined no-contact periods (see General Sports Regulation 11) from school coaches provided that no more than four members of a school team or individuals are present at one time in all facilities where the individual skill/coaching instruction is taking place.

**Soccer Sport Regulation 5.4) Indoor Soccer**

5.4) Indoor Soccer shall be defined as a game played by two teams, each consisting of no more than 6 players, one of whom must be the goalkeeper, and played indoors between the end of the school’s soccer season and the day before the first day of coaching for the interscholastic season. There is no limit of players from the same school on an indoor soccer team.

**Interpretation:** OHSAA sport regulations do not define specific parameters for indoor soccer. The regulations provide a definition of indoor soccer, but there are no preclusions to number of players from the same school that may participate on the team or any preclusions to high school coaches coaching his or her own players on an indoor soccer team. Similarly to other sports that provide indoor or other similar participation
opportunities, the OHSAA does not have regulations regarding these activities (i.e. indoor softball, indoor soccer, etc.).

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KATE BARNETT
Sport Administrator
kbarnett@ohsaa.org
Office: 614-549-6965