



Ohio High School Athletic Association

TO: Soccer Coaches and Directors of Athletics

FROM: Kate Barnett, Sport Administrator

DATE: April 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Boys and Girls Soccer Spring Reminders

OHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

OHSAA Member School Enrollment Process Explanation for Athletic Divisions

The male and female enrollments of our member schools are used to determine OHSAA governance classifications (AAA, AA, A) and the OHSAA tournament divisions for each sport. For more information on the timeline of this process, please check our website [here](#).

2022 SEASON UPDATES AND REMINDERS

Regular Season Start

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. Therefore, teams may begin playing regular season contests as early as August 12, 2022 and compete in a maximum of seventeen (17) contests.

Uniforms

Teams purchasing new uniforms are encouraged to review the current NFHS rules found [here](#). If you have questions as to whether your uniforms are compliant, please reach out to me or [Don Muenz](#) for clarification. **Non-compliant uniforms are a violation of NFHS rules and subject to penalties under Bylaw 11.**

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 and Manual sidebar [here](#).

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](#)).

Forms may be returned to [Kate Barnett](#) for approval.

OHSAA Tournament Soccer Ball

The soccer ball that will be used for the 2022 OHSAA Soccer Tournament is the Wilson VIVIDO. Schools are not required to purchase or use this ball; however, schools must use a NFHS approved ball for all regular season contests. The information flyer regarding the Wilson VIVIDO can be found [here](#).

SPORT REGULATION OVERVIEW

The OHSAA staff is currently in the process of reviewing and making edits to the General Sport Regulations and sport specific regulations. These will be reviewed and approved during the May 2022 Board of Directors meeting. The approved regulations will go into effect beginning August 1, 2022.

There have been a high volume of questions regarding GSR 7.51 and GSR 9. Below is an overview of each regulation for your reference.

GSR 7.5.1 – Team Sports (10-Day Rule)

As of February 2022, the Board of Directors approved the reinstatement of the 10-day rule regarding school coaches coaching their own student-athletes from June 1-July 31.

Specifications:

- The 10-day maximum applies to the entire coaching staff and not towards each individual coach
 - For example, each coach of a team is not entitled to 10 different days of coaching
- The 10-day maximum does not translate to hours
 - For example, 10-days does not permit 240 hours of coaching
- Student-athlete participation may not be made mandatory from June 1 – July 31

If school coaches have six (6) or more players present for team training (teaching plays, practicing, competition, etc.), then this would count toward one of the 10-days permitted between June 1-July 31. If five (5) or less players are present, it will not count.

Scrimmages begin counting toward the maximum permitted (4), beginning August 1. Therefore, teams may scrimmage, compete in tournaments, etc. from June 1-July 31, but that date would count toward one of the 10-days.

GSR 9 – Conditioning, Weight Training and/or Physical Fitness Programs

Conditioning, weight training and/or physical fitness programs are defined as specific training for strengthening the body, developing the cardiovascular system, improving flexibility and agility and do not include specific sports skills training or instruction.

Specifications:

- These programs may be conducted at anytime provided no instruction of sport technique or skills are provided.
- Board approved coaches may provide oversight of these activities.
- Equipment used in playing the sport may not be used during these activities. (i.e. soccer ball)
- These programs may not be conducted for a select group of students (i.e. members of the football team only).
- Students from school teams shall not be required to attend these programs.

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