

2020 REGIONAL

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

www.ohsaa.org



SOCCER TOURNAMENT MANAGER'S MANUAL



A Message from OHSAA Director of Sport Management, Kathleen Coughlin

Thank you for your willingness to serve as a manager for the OHSAA Soccer Tournament, specifically in 2020 when so much continues to change! The resiliency of our Athletic Administrators, Coaches, and Student-Athletes has been outstanding, and we could not be more excited for the fall tournaments to begin. With the COVID-19 pandemic among us, it is imperative that all mandates listed in the Ohio Health Director's Order, as approved by the Governor's Office, must be followed during OHSAA tournament contests. Here is a link to the mandates:

<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/responsible/Youth-Collegiate-Amateur-Club-Pro-Sports.pdf>

This is the traditional 'Managers' Manual' provided to all managers of Sectional, District, and Regional tournaments that reflects the consistent procedures for all tournaments across the state. District Athletic Boards (DAB's) make certain permissible adjustments in their respective districts, but this manual reflects items adopted by the OHSAA's Board of Directors to provide a consistent and fairly administered tournament across the state.



The manual is designed to help you in the operation of the tournament and is divided into basic parts of:

- Introduction Information
- Overall Tournament Organization Information
- General Information
- Sectional and District Specific Information
- Seeding and Drawing Procedures/Information
- Media Information
- Financial Information
- Medical Information
- Required and other Useful Forms

I cannot stress enough the importance of adhering to regulations at the Regional level. Tournament contests are **OHSAA Tournaments** and not simply another home contest for the school. As you might expect, should a regulation not be followed, it only becomes magnified when the team advances to another level and is required to follow a regulation that should have been followed all along.

Schools submit all Tournament Entry Forms ONLINE. Managers can download the necessary information (including contact numbers) through their myOHSAA Tournament login. This is addressed early in this manual.

The myOHSAA system is important for tournament managers AND for reporting scores across the state. As a tournament manager, **please** make certain you utilize the myOHSAA system for all tournament management. This is addressed within this manual.

I can be of any service to you, please do not hesitate to contact me via email (the best way) at kcoughlin@ohsaa.org. Thanks for your efforts and making this year's tournament a reality!

Sincerely,

Kathleen Coughlin

Kathleen Coughlin, CAA
Director of Sport Management

The OHSAA Mission Statement

The Ohio High School Athletic Association's mission is to serve our member schools and enrich interscholastic opportunities for students.



Soccer Tournament Sites and Assignments

Each of the state's District Athletic Boards are empowered by the OHSAA Constitution to organize and conduct the boys' and girls' Soccer tournaments at the Sectional and District levels. They are conducted according to the Tournament Regulations adopted by the Board of Directors in June. Representation to the Regional tournament (the number of Regional 'qualifiers') from District winners is determined by a formula based upon the number of teams participating in the previous year's tournament.

The complete Tournament Regulations that were adopted by the Board of Directors, are located at the end of this manual, and also available on www.ohsaa.org by navigating to the boys or girls Soccer site under the "Sports and Tournaments" tab. Each District Athletic Board formulates its own instructions based on these approved Regulations and will provide these and *cover them* with you at their Tournament Manager Meeting.

With a few exceptions, most schools in the counties listed below are assigned sites from the respective District Athletic Boards. You are encouraged to visit their websites for additional information.

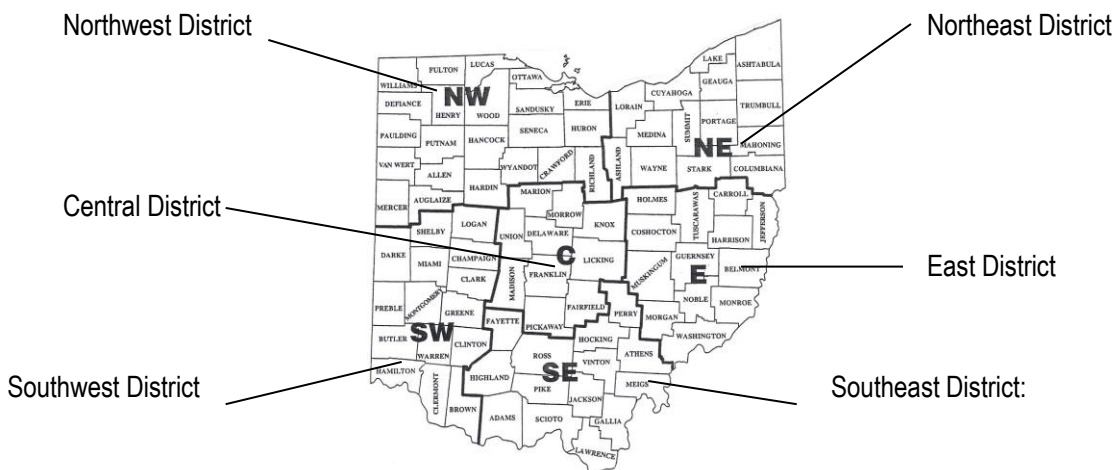
There is no tournament regulation that *requires* 'equal distance' between competing schools in tournament contests. In fact, tournament competition may require more travel than teams encounter during their regular season. Teams enter the Sectional Tournament agreeing to play at sites designated.

Regional semifinal and final contest will be played at the site of the TOP TEAM on the bracket. This is new this year, and the decision was made both for covid-19 adjustments, as well as financial reasons.

Athletic Districts

Representation to the Regional tournament (the number of Regional 'qualifiers') from District winners is determined by a formula based upon the number of teams participating in the previous year's tournament.

Tournament Regulations were adopted by the OHSAA Board of Directors and can also be read in their entirety by logging on to www.ohsaa.org and navigating to the boys' or girls' Soccer site under the "Sports and Tournaments" tab. With a few exceptions, most schools in the counties listed below are assigned sites from the respective District Athletic Boards. You are encouraged to visit their websites for additional information.





Important Dates

October 11
October 19 - 24
October 26 - 31
November 3 – 7
November 10 - 15

Draw/Seed Meeting Date (B2:00 & G3:00)
Sectional Tournaments
District Tournaments
Regional Tournaments
State Tournament

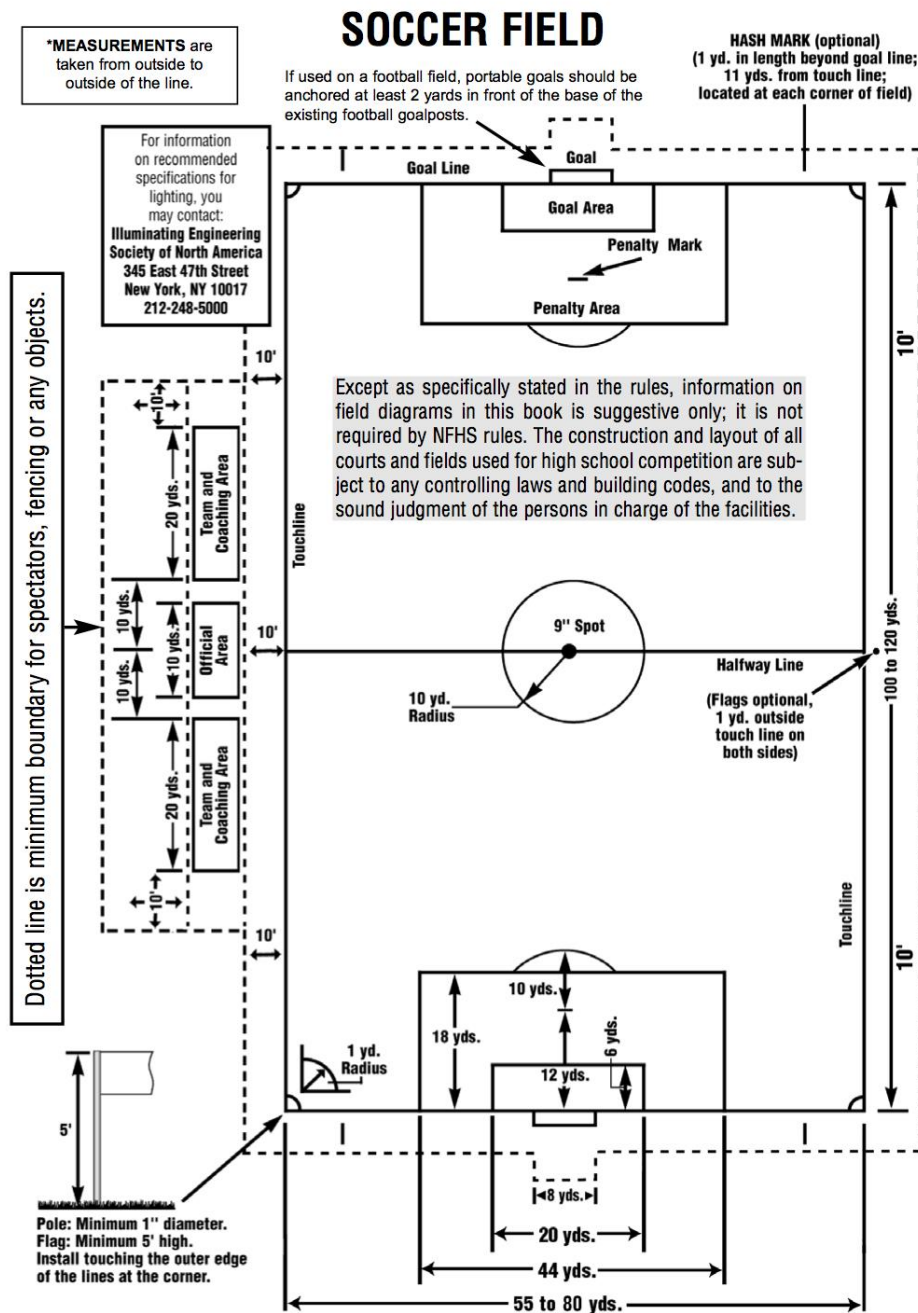
OHSAA Soccer Tournament *General* Information

The following is 'General Information' for **ALL MANAGERS** relative to Sectional and District Tournament play.

1. Eligible schools have entered the tournament by indicating their participation in myOHSAA. **There are no printed Entry Forms or Eligibility Certificates.**
2. All sites and assignments to respective Sectional Tournaments are available online at www.ohsaa.org and selecting Soccer (boys or girls) from the "Tournament" drop down menu.
3. Managing the finances of all OHSAA tournaments will be handled through the school district treasurer. Final plans and guidance for Tournament Managers will be provided at the District Manager's Meetings conducted by the respective District Athletic Boards. "DAB" Treasurers will be explaining this in detail at those meetings.
4. There will be no special passes to enter a tournament game, at any level or sport of the OHAA fall tournaments. Every person must have an electronic ticket that is purchased through the official OHSAA ticket partner, HomeTown Ticketing. Again, no "Senior Citizen Passes", "Golden Buckeye Cards" and various "League Passes" will be permitted. Please notify your pass gate attendant of this policy.
5. Officials have been assigned by District Athletic Boards through procedures adopted by the Board of Directors. Please notify your officials in advance of the contest to remind them of their assignment time and location. Please give them the names of the other officials they will be working with that day/night. If possible, please also provide them reserved parking and directions to your site. Officials **are permitted ONE guest**; however, they are to remain away from their dressing facilities.
NOTE: The assignment of officials is confidential information and shall not be disclosed to others (including participating teams) until game time.
6. Provide adequate number of law enforcement officers and/or security personnel when necessary to ensure protection of officials, players and spectators.
7. Arrange for a Certified Athletic Trainer to be present at your site. Maintain an adequate Crisis Management Plan and keep EMS contact information handy.
8. Provide efficient and competent scorers, timers and Public Address announcers. A public address system shall be available. Public address announcers are to remain neutral and professional in their duties as an announcer.
9. Along with providing adequate law enforcement (when necessary) and security personnel, please ensure the **field is kept clear during and at the conclusion of a game**. Security guidelines are provided in this manual to assist you.
10. The Lightning and Inclement Weather policy is also included in this manual along with guidelines and suggestions for Emergency/Crisis Management Plans. Please familiarize yourself with the policies and ensure the plans are followed in the event of inclement weather and/or emergencies. An updated **Crisis Management Plan** should include plans for vacating your site in the event of inclement weather.
11. Information is contained within this manual for Overtime procedures. An announcement is also provided for the Public Address announcer. Since tie-breaking procedures are not used during the regular season, PLEASE familiarize yourself with these procedures and have them handy as a reference for officials as well.

Fields & Field Markings

Make certain your field is properly lined. All NFHS markings MUST be on the field, just as they would be required for any other sport. For artificial surfaces, if a line needs to be added to be compliant with NFHS field markings, it would be suggested to use paint specifically made to be washed off. The official NFHS field markings are shown below and are also found in the NFHS Soccer Rules Book.



An engineered natural turf soccer field should have a minimum of one-and-one-half percent (1.5%) slope for fields which are surface drained. For natural turf fields with a sub-surface drain system the slope should be no less than one (1.0%) percent. For synthetic turf fields with a sub-surface drain system the slope should be no less than one half of one (0.5%) percent. Slope is measured from center to side. For consulting services, contact SportsPLAN Studio, 816-842-5200.



Field Markings/Team Area Information

Another recent “Point of Emphasis” highlights the designation of specific areas for each team’s bench separated by an official area for entering substitutes. **However in 2020, Benches are recommended to be on opposite sides of the field to allow greater social distancing when possible.** By rule, the team bench shall be at least 10 feet from the touchlines and coaches, bench personnel and team members are restricted to the team area. Markings for these areas are required by rule.

Exceptions to this Rule (as permitted in NFHS Rule 1-5 Article 3):

When teams are placed on the opposite sides of the field, each team areas shall be located as specified above and shall be placed diagonally across from each other

Please make every effort to check for proper markings on your fields prior to the games. Since this is addressed as a safety issue, your completion of the Site Inspection Form assumes this has been done

Spectator Seating

NFHS Rule 1-6 requires that ANY spectators that are behind a goal **MUST BE IN BLEACHERS**. If you do not have bleachers behind the goal, spectators are not permitted to stand behind the area of the goal. You are strongly recommended to **NOT** permit seating behind the goals.

Goal Differential

Any time the score differential reaches 6 goals or more **AFTER** the first half of the contest, a running clock shall be used. After the 6-goal differential has been met but the score drops below 6 goals, the clock reverts to regular timing. The clock shall be stopped only for an injured player on the field or when there is any unusual delay deemed necessary by the officials.

Game Balls & Ball Persons

The Wilson Forte FYbrid II ball shall be used during regional and state tournaments. Each team is to provide 3 games balls for each Regional and State contests. These game balls were shipped to each participating school. Each team should provide 2 Ball Persons, who will be listed on the team roster. No more than 4 ball holders; each ball holder to cover 1/4 of the field. Ball Holders are under the direct supervision of the officials and will review duties and responsibilities with them prior to the game. Ball Holders should be able to keep up with the flow of play and therefore need to be of age to do so.

Security Issues

Please pay special attention to all security issues. Hire adequate security/oversight as each District Athletic Board will advise. Most situations occur before and after games. Take the time to review and communicate any and all potential issues with coaches and school administrators prior to the contest. Try hard to eliminate all problems before they occur. Refer to the sample “Crisis Management Plan” later in this manual.

Drones

Drones, or “Unmanned Aerial Vehicles” are prohibited for any purpose by any persons at OHSAA tournament contests. Tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a drone and/or confiscate the drone until the event has been completed.

Note: An exception to this policy may be made in specific cases for OHSAA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of drones for broadcast purposes under the control of the OHSAA. Should this exception be granted to any broadcast partner, direct communication will occur between the OHSAA and the site manager.

Soccer Tournament Contact Information

Kathleen Coughlin
Beau Rugg
Don Muenz

Director of Sport Management
Senior Director of Officiating
State Rules Interpreter

Overall Tournament Coordinator
Oversees Officials
Addresses Field Rules Inquiries

kcoughlin@ohsaa.org
brugg@ohsaa.org
butsir@columbus.rr.com

OHSAA Tournament Management

District Athletic Boards will create sectional and district level tournaments in myOHSAA while the sports management staff at the OHSAA office will create regional and state level tournaments. Once a tournament has been created and a "Tournament Manager" assigned, that manager will see the purple "Trophy" icon and be able to access the tournament portion of myOHSAA.

Managers will use the "View Tournaments" link to access their specific tournament(s). This link will allow them to manage schools, teams, and scores. Links within the tournament management area will provide the access to the emergency contact information for each participating school, the tournament participation lists, the tournament representation reports and access to the officials' directory.

CONTRACTING TOURNAMENT OFFICIALS:

The contracting of tournament officials for all tournament contests will be done through ArbiterSports. Sectional and district tournament officials for will be contracted by the District Athletic Board through their ArbiterSports Accounts. **Regional and state tournament officials for all tournament contests will be contracted by the OHSAA through their ArbiterSports Account.**

OHSAA TOURNAMENT BRACKETS AND RESULTS

Sectional Managers - Entering Games/Teams: COMPLETE ASAP FOLLOWING THE DRAW

Enter all teams on the appropriate line of the brackets for each game as it appears on your brackets. Teams receiving a bye in Round 1 and not playing until Round 2 must be entered in Round 1. Simply enter the bye team on the top line of the preceding game and check the "Is Bye" box for that game in round 1. This will advance the "bye" team to the next round.

SECTIONAL/DISTRICT/REGIONAL MANAGERS - ENTERING SCORES:

Immediately following a contest, please enter the score. Once the start time of the game has passed, you will see a link to "Report Score" on the bracket. By NFHS rule for games that are determined by penalty kicks/shootout, one goal is added to the overtime score of the winner of the shootout stage of overtime. Ex: Game is tied 1-1 after the second overtime. Team A wins the shootout 4-3. The final score of the game is Team A - 2 and Team B - 1. Check the box for shootout when reporting the score.

2020 Ticketing Procedures

Managers conducting tournaments at all levels (Sectional, District and Regional) must follow appropriate ticket management procedures.

- a. All OHSAA Soccer Tournament tickets will be conducted online. There will be no tickets sold at the gate.
- b. Every person who pays admission shall receive an online ticket.
- c. Adherence to the above procedures will insure better control of gate proceeds and attendance.

All information regarding tickets will come directly from Hometown Ticketing, with assistance from OHSAA staff liaison, Jacki Windon.

Blake Lantz

E: blake.lantz@hometownticketing.com

B: 1-866-488-4849 x 7306

C: 614-964-2807

Jacki Windon

E: jwindon@ohsaa.org

B: 614-267-2502 x 109

SECTIONAL, DISTRICT & REGIONAL TICKET PRICES

The Sectional and District Soccer Tournament ticket price will be sold online for \$8.00.

The Regional Soccer Tournament ticket price will be sold online for \$10.00.

ONLINE/DIGITAL TICKETING INFORMATION

HomeTown Ticketing will be sending customized codes to all school Athletic Administrators for each event the school is participating in and as they advance in the tournament(s).

- The Athletic Administrator will share these codes with their parents/guardians of those participants and for coaches' families.
 - Do not share the codes on social media.
- Those that are provided a code will go to www.ohsaa.org/tickets - find their event, input the code and purchase tickets for the event.
- The allotment of tickets will be determined on the back end by HTT and the OHSAA given capacity restrictions and the number of participants/teams for events

HTT will provide customer support to those purchasing tickets.

- There will be a chat feature available on www.ohsaa.org/tickets
- By phone: 1-866-488-4949
- By email: fansupport@hometownticketing.com

COMP TICKETS FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

We do permit 8 tickets for each school's administration. These will be "comp tickets" and are considered essential personnel but will also be online. The school Athletic Administrator will receive a customized code to share with the school administrators/staff they would like to provide them to. These 8 tickets will not be counted towards the threshold of capacity restrictions because of the individual's role with the school (essential personnel).

SCOUTS

As a usual part of a postseason tournament, coaches would prefer to attend tournament events to scout their opponents. Scouting tickets will be available and done digitally as well. Scouts may request up to 2 complimentary tickets through the following procedure:

1. Email Jacki Windon (jwindon@ohsaa.org) no later than 48-hours prior to the event;
2. Use the subject line "Soccer Scout Request"
3. Indicate game they would like to attend
 - a. Include team names, division, district and host site

OHSAA Soccer Tournament Ticket Prices

Sectional/District:	\$8.00
Regional:	\$10.00
State:	\$12.00

Suspended Game Procedures

Tournament games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of interruption. Any ejected player or coach cannot participate in the resumed game. Teams playing short will continue to play short. Rule 7-1-3 (page 36 of the NFHS Soccer Rules Book) allowing the head referee to declare an 'official game' when a game cannot be continued does NOT apply during tournament games.

If a game must be suspended, site managers should coordinate with coaches, school administrators, District Athletic Board individuals and officials to identify and schedule the first available time to resume and complete the game. District Athletic Board secretaries will inform you of policy regarding the replacement of officials.

If a game must be suspended, remind the Head Referee to complete a report to the OHSAA indicating the following:

- Time Remaining
- Restart, location and which team performs
- Score
- Cards Issued
- Who Kicked off
- Which goal each team defended

Failure To Appear

If a team fails to appear or 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. A "no contest" will be declared, and the opposing team will advance into the next round of competition. See **No Contest** under Section 31 of the General Sports Regulations. All decisions relative to this regulation shall be made by a representative of the respective district athletic board or the OHSAA Executive Director's office.

Noisemakers/Pep Bands

"Normal" noisemakers are permitted at soccer tournaments. While we may deem them annoying, Vuvuzelas" made popular in the World Cup are permitted at soccer tournament games. **Compressed Air Horns** are **NOT PERMITTED** nor are noisemakers that have power sources behind them. This is addressed in the OHSAA Soccer Tournament Regulations as:

Noisemakers

1. Noisemakers are permitted provided they do not interfere with the game as determined by the site manager or officials. This includes but is not limited to school bands, drums and vuvuzelas.
 2. Air Horns/noisemaker prohibited
- Air horns and noisemakers that require electric or alternate sources of power are not permitted in the facility.



Lightning & Inclement Weather Procedures



(OHSAA Sports Regulation)

Though all officials received these procedures in pre-season communication, it would be wise to review with them prior to the game. The Lightning and Inclement Weather Policy is relative to ALL OHSAA Sports.

LIGHTNING AND INCLEMENT WEATHER

These guidelines provide a default policy to those responsible or sharing duties for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of practices and contests based on the presence of lightning or thunder. The preferred sources from which to request such a policy for your facility would include the nearest office of the National Weather Service.

Proactive Planning

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during practices and contests.
 2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby safer areas, and determine the amount of time needed to get everyone to the designated safer area:
 - a.) A designated safer place is a substantial building with plumbing and wiring where people live or work, such as a school, gymnasium or library. An alternate safer place from the threat of lightning is a fully enclosed (not convertible or soft top) metal car or school bus.
 3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
 - a.) When thunder is heard or lightning is seen*, the leading edge of the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play for at least 30 minutes and vacate the outdoor activity to the previously designated safer location immediately.
 - b.) 30-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or lightning is witnessed* prior to resuming play. SPORTS REGULATIONS 102 2019-2020 GENERAL SPORTS REGULATIONS
 - c.) Any subsequent thunder or lightning* after the beginning of the 30-minute count will reset the clock and another 30-minute count should begin.
 - d.) When lightning-detection devices or mobile phone apps are available, this technology could be used to assist in making a decision to suspend play if a lightning strike is noted to be within 10 miles of the event location. However, you should never depend on the reliability of these devices and, thus, hearing thunder or seeing lightning* should always take precedence over information from a mobile app or lightning-detection device.
- *At night, under certain atmospheric conditions, lightning flashes may be seen from distant storms. In these cases, it may be safe to continue an event. If no thunder can be heard and the flashes are low on the horizon, the storm may not pose a threat. Independently verified lightning detection information would help eliminate any uncertainty.
4. Review the lightning safety policy annually with all administrators, coaches and game personnel and train all personnel.
 5. Inform student-athletes and their parents of the lightning policy at the start of the season.



Media Information: Requirements & Broadcast Rates

It is IMPORTANT that all Tournament Managers (or assigned person) report final scores of each tournament game as quickly as possible following a contest in the "myOHSAA" management system. Should any bracket change occur as a result of forfeiture, postponement or location change please email the OHSAA immediately at kcoughlin@ohsaa.org

As you know, there is an increase in the number of Soccer tournaments covered by area media. Media should receive admission and a copy of rosters/programs upon showing their media credentials at the entrance.

Some stations pay rights' fees through a delayed process directly to the OHSAA Comptroller. You may want to read information regarding this when stations request this at <http://www.ohsaa.org/news-media>

Also included is the Recommended Broadcast Announcement to be provided each broadcast media outlet.

Complete Media Regulations, Broadcast Rights' Fees, etc., are also available on the web at <http://www.ohsaa.org/news-media>
Please direct media requesting credentials to the above link for important information. This site will often answer any media related questions you or the media may have.

Expectations of All Tournament Sites

1. Be available via telephone and email to correspond with media regarding credential requests, their specific needs, parking information, your specific policies, etc.
2. Establish a "press row" for media members, as well as an overflow area if press row is full.
3. Assign seats if needed, giving priority to larger regional or statewide media outlets and those media that have followed a team for the majority of their season.
4. Be sure that electrical outlets are available for the media and set out power strips, if needed.
5. Explain to media what, if any, wireless internet access signals are available. If possible, a complimentary phone line should be available near the field for media use, as well.
6. If possible, provide media with rosters, programs, statistics, etc., and any other information you have been able to assemble prior to the game.
7. Explain to photographers where they may shoot from.
8. Explain postgame interview procedures to coaches and media before the game.

Post-Game Responsibilities of All Tournament Sites

1. Report the final score per the instructions listed above.
2. Ensure that interviews take place per the procedures you explained prior to the game.
3. Allow media members a minimum of 60 minutes after the game to work at press row.
4. If inclement weather is an issue and you have an indoor space available for media to work, explain where it is located and any important details associated with that space.



OHSAA Soccer Delayed Television & Video Webcast Rates

	<u>Sectional/District</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State Semifinal</u>	<u>State Final</u>
Commercial Stations: Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, And State/Regional Cable-over 750,001	No Charge	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$500.00
All Other Stations	No Charge	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$250.00

Rights fees for tape-delayed coverage by educational access (non-commercial) stations: \$50 per contest or tournament.

- *Rights fees are waived for student webcasts on the school owned/supported platform*

Please check the OHSAA website for the fee to provide live video streaming of tournament contests that are not carried by Spectrum News Once or the NFHS Network.

Additional Information/Fees:

Tape-delayed contests may not begin prior to 10:00 p.m. the day of the contest. Approval for delayed telecasts/video webcasts permit companies the right to show the contest an unlimited number of times for two weeks following the date of the contest. Additional airing of contests following the two-week period shall result in additional rights fees assessed at rates to be negotiated/determined by the OHSAA Commissioner's office.

(#) The OHSAA may grant to a company/companies exclusive rights for live or tape-delayed coverage of the state tournament and/or finals and the first right of refusal for live or tape-delayed coverage of all other OHSAA tournament events. Should exclusivity be granted, approval for other companies to broadcast a tournament contest must be granted by procedures approved by the OHSAA Commissioner's office. In sports not granted exclusivity, approval to broadcast a tournament contest must be granted by the tournament managers or OHSAA (state level).

If approved by the OHSAA, rights fees for live telecasts of tournament contests when exclusivity has not been granted are to be negotiated/determined by the OHSAA Commissioner's office.

Rights fees for stations to resell video tapes/DVDs: \$50 donation to the OHSAA Respect The Game Sportsmanship Program per sports season.

OHSAA Soccer RADIO/AUDIO Webcast Rates

	<u>Sectional/District</u>	<u>Regional</u>	<u>State</u>
ALL Stations	No Charge	\$60.00	\$80.00

Rights fees for audio-only coverage by educational access (non-commercial) stations: \$25.00 per contest or tournament

- *Rights fees are waived for student webcasts on the school owned/supported platform*



Emergency/Crisis Management Guidelines

Event & Site Security

The following is provided to help managers with a systematic approach to establish proper security for the specific nature of each event. With the appropriate security, the event will be conducted in a friendly environment that minimizes risk. The staff and management will be prepared to prevent, anticipate and handle problems. A basic checklist below should be adjusted accordingly for the nature of each event.

1. **Review Changes** – during pre-planning, review any changes to be made from the previous events.
2. **Head of Security** – prepare to meet with the head of security for the event and host management. Written materials outlining needs, location hours to work and responsibilities should be prepared.
3. **Usher Assignments** – during meetings with site reps and security, review the number of security officers and their locations. Review usher assignments and any supervisory responsibilities. Provide, in writing, specific policies you have which would prohibit specific actions. Be certain to plan carefully for entrance and exit to the playing area. Prepare contact information for specific problems and emergencies. Access to immediate communication via cell phones and/or remote devices is invaluable. Discuss crowd management and foot traffic flow.
4. **Written Emergency Plan** – review the facility plan for emergency situations and adjust as needed for your event. Steps should be outlined in advance as to the procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency (i.e. weather, structure, catastrophic injury, etc.) Public address announcements, security personnel assistance, etc. need to be discussed in advance.
5. **Who Needs to Know** – host administration should work with any sponsoring organization to determine a core group of individuals that would need to be involved if a major decision regarding the event needs to be made. Representatives of the officiating crew, host administration, security, etc. may need to be involved. A few key reminders:
 - Obtain the Cell Phone numbers of all coaches competing at your tournament
 - Obtain the Cell Phone numbers of all Athletic Administrators of teams competing in your tournament
 - Obtain the Cell Phone numbers of the District Athletic Board Secretary at the Sectional/District level
 - Obtain the Cell Phone number of the District Board member(s) overseeing your tournament at the sectional/district level; OHSAA Assistant Commissioner if a Regional or State Tournament
 - Obtain contact information for major media outlets for helping convey messages of cancellations
6. **Public Relations** – In case of emergency or potential evacuation, PA announcements should be prepared to address fans. Following any such occurrence, the media should be provided with a statement regarding the situation and its handling from the tournament manager, District Athletic Board member or OHSAA Assistant Commissioner.
7. **Contingency Plan** – Have all plans in place in the event a contest cannot be played. Back-up sites, alternate dates, additional equipment are all factors to take into consideration.
8. **Entry/Exit Plan** – Crisis management plans for sites should include a clear understanding by any administrators and/or tournament management of all entries and exits. The public address announcer should be familiar with these as well.
9. **Parking & Traffic Flow** – many issues arise from parking and traffic flow problems. Eliminate many of these problems by addressing parking and traffic flow issues prior to the contest. Take into consideration the potential size of crowd, whether charges for parking exist, etc. If parking charges are enforced, provide proper receipts, have experienced people making change and directing traffic. This may require involvement from your local law enforcement agency.
10. **Crowd Expectations** – carefully study match-ups, communicate with competing administrators to anticipate size of crowds. Secure the proper security, ushers, ticket sellers/takers to eliminate security issues that may develop as a result. It is important to relay this information to the various individuals employed at your tournament site.
11. **Wrap-Up and Debriefing** – At the conclusion of your tournament, solicit feedback and compile from the various individuals that worked at your tournament. This will go a long way toward improving problem areas for future tournaments.

Emergency Action Plan

Location of Closest Working Telephone: _____ IF locked, keys to Telephone are located: _____

Is 911 Service Available? YES NO Alternate Emergency Response Number: _____

Exact Address of Tournament Site: _____

Entry location for Emergency Vehicle: _____

Normal Response Time for Emergency Vehicle is: _____

Designated Health Care Provider for this tournament is: _____ Contact Number: _____

Closest Health Care Facility: _____ Travel Time: _____

Closest Trauma Facility: _____ Travel Time: _____

Name of Designated Person	Role
	Attends to injured athlete(s) or spectator(s) and controls immediate scene.
	Telephones 911 or other pre-determined emergency number, maintains procedures for calling 911.
	Supervises team and/or other athletes
	Meets medical personnel at gate and guides them to injured person(s), maintains all necessary keys to critical entry points
	Calls Parents/Guardians/School Personnel if necessary
	Accompanies injured person(s) to hospital
	Telephones security





Overtime Game Procedures

The following overtime procedure has been approved by the OHSAA to be used at all Sectional, District, Regional and State tournament games. Please review these procedures, KEEP THEM HANDY AT YOUR SITE, and review with officials the correct procedures prior to the start of the game. It is essential the correct overtime procedures be followed, knowing schools have not utilized overtime procedures at any time during the regular season.

Also, please tear out and remove the Special Announcement and give to your Public Address Announcer to be read prior to the beginning of the overtime period.

A. Tournament Tie Procedures

When the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the referee will instruct both teams to return to their respective team benches. There will be five minutes during which both teams may confer with their coaches and the head referee will instruct both teams as to proper procedures.

- i. Teams will play one 15-minute sudden victory overtime period. If neither team scores during the first overtime period, teams will play a second 15-minute sudden victory overtime period.
 - ii. Prior to the first overtime period, a coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2 (d)(3).
 - iii. If neither team scores during the first 15-minute overtime period, teams shall alternate the kickoff and change ends for the second overtime period.
 - iv. There shall be a two-minute interval between periods.
1. If neither team scores during the second overtime period, all coaches, officials and team captains following a two-minute interval shall assemble at the halfway line to review the procedures for a penalty kick shootout as outlined below:

D. Game Management Procedures

1. The head referee shall choose the goal at which all of the penalty kicks shall be taken based upon field and weather conditions.
2. Per Rule 1-6-1, spectators shall be confined to areas at least 10 feet from the touch line, team/official area and goal line. No one shall be permitted directly behind either goal unless seated in bleachers,
3. The coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2 (d)(3) and the team winning the coin toss will have the choice of kicking first or second.
4. Prior to commencement of each set of penalty kicks, each coach will submit a list of five kickers by name, number, and sequence (i.e. first through the fifth) to the head referee. Substitution for a kicker is only permitted for injury or as provided for in IX (F), "Misconduct Procedures," and must be coordinated through the head referee.
5. Teams will alternate kickers.
6. The ball may not be played by anyone except the goalkeeper after it has been kicked. There is no follow-up.
7. During all tie-breaker penalty kicks, the ball remains alive until its momentum is spent, it goes out of bounds or it is retouched by the kicker.
8. The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each kick.
9. The tie-breaker procedure initially requires a maximum of five kicks per team. The team scoring the greater number of goals from their kicks shall be declared the winner. Where a team has taken fewer than five kicks and has already scored a greater number of goals than their opponent can score if that opponent is permitted to take all five of its kicks, the tie-breaker procedure is terminated and the winner is declared to be the team which has already scored the greater number of goals.
10. **Sudden victory** begins with the second set of kicks, wherein if one team scores and the other team does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken.
11. Both teams are permitted on the field, along the halfway line, during taking of kicks from the penalty mark. Kickers of each team must remain within the center circle, until called for their kick. Coaches and nonkicking, rostered players shall remain along the halfway line. The home team shall occupy the halfway line closer to the touchline on the bench side, while the visiting team shall occupy the halfway line closer to the opposite touchline.

E. Selection of Kickers

1. **Eligible Players** – Players eligible to participate in the penalty kick shootout include the goalkeeper and any players on or off the field, except those who may have been disqualified or ejected.

2. Each coach will select five players per set of kicks based upon the following guidelines:

Step	Set of Kicks	Available Players	Status
1	1 st set of 5	All eligible players	All 10 players kick (5 per team)
2	2 nd set of 5	All eligible players except those who participated in the 1st set	SUDDEN VICTORY
3	3 rd set of 5	All eligible players	SUDDEN VICTORY
4	4 th set of 5	All eligible players except those who participated in the immediately preceding set	SUDDEN VICTORY

If a tie still remains, repeat steps 3 and 4 until a winner is determined.

3. If, after any odd-numbered set of five kickers, one team has fewer than five eligible players for the next, even-numbered set of five kickers, due to injury disqualification or ejection, etc., that next, even-numbered set shall consist, for both teams, of the same number of eligible players also eligible under Section IX(E)(2), above.

Example: After completion of the first set of five kickers, with each team having scored four goals, Team A has only three players eligible for the second set of five kickers, i.e., who are on the roster and who did not kick in the immediately preceding set of five kickers. The second set of kickers will consist of the three remaining Team A players who did not kick in the immediately preceding set of five kickers and any three of Team B's eligible players who did not kick in the immediately preceding set of five kickers.

F. Player Misconduct Procedures

1. Cautioned Players

- One of the five players listed to take a kick is cautioned after he/she takes the kick. That player is not eligible to kick again until two complete set of five kicks have completed beyond the set of kicks in which the caution was issued.
 - Player "X" is one of the first five kickers, and is cautioned after taking his/her kick. Player "X" is not eligible to kick again until the set beginning with the 16th kick.
 - Player "Y" is one of the second set of five kickers and is cautioned after taking his/her kick. Player "Y" is not eligible to kick again until the set beginning with the 16th kick.
- One of the five players listed to take a kick is cautioned before he/she takes the kick. That player is not eligible to kick until the next set of five kicks. Another eligible player not listed in that set of kicks must take the cautioned player's original turn.
- When a goalkeeper is issued a caution during any set of five kicks, he/she cannot re-enter until the next opponent completes his/her kick. A substitution is permitted for the cautioned goalkeeper.

2. Disqualified Players

- Any player, including the goalkeeper, who is disqualified, may not participate any further. If his/her kick is not already completed, a substitute is permitted.





Financial Reporting Information

The flat fee established for the 2020 Regional Tournament is \$550/game. The \$550 is to be used at the discretion of the tournament manager—we do not have set rates to pay the tournament staff. Please make sure to include a Tournament Manager's rate as well.

To fill out the Financial Report, please visit <https://www.ohsaa.org/financial/reports> and reference the reports under Fall Sports. Regional managers will utilize the reports with a flat fee. If you have any revenue collected on site, such as streaming fees or radio broadcast fees, you will use the "Flat Fee – With Revenue" report. If you only have the flat fees, you will use the "Flat Fee – No Revenue" report.

If you have streaming revenue, there are 3 situations that you may encounter. If the radio station gave you a check made payable to your site, you will deposit the check and fill the amount of the check in under the "FEE PAID TO SITE" column. If the radio station gave you a check made payable to OHSAA, you will send the check to OHSAA (Attn: Accounting Department) and put the amount of the check under the "FEE PAID TO OHSAA" column. If the radio station broadcasted your game but did not give you a check, you will put the amount they owe under the "FEE OWED TO OHSAA" column.

Please send completed reports to accounting@ohsaa.org.



Important Sports Medicine Information

The safety of our student-athletes is of utmost concern at all times. Information regarding the following important topics can be found at the OHSA's "Sports Medicine" webpage at <https://www.ohsaa.org/medicine>. Additional information relative to various equipment and rules relative to medical issues can be found throughout this manual as well.

- Suggested Guidelines for Management of Head Trauma in Sports
- Communicable Disease Procedures

Concussion Management

The OHSA has made a concerted effort to provide educational resources to member schools on this vital topic of concussion management. The following are resources that are currently available:

1. **Suggested Guidelines for Concussion Management in Sport**
<https://www.ohsaa.org/concussionresources>
2. **Concussion in Sports – What you Need to Know** - A 20-minute course will be available by June 1 at no cost to the user and will be available on www.nfhslearn.com. The course was designed for coaches, parents, officials and students to assist in recognizing the signs and symptoms of concussion and to take the appropriate steps to manage them. The OHSA strongly suggests that schools include this course in the preseason meetings with coaches, parents and students.
3. **Centers for Disease Control – Resources to Prevent and Recognize Concussions** - <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/Concussion>
4. **Fact Sheets for Parents, Coaches and Athletes** - <http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/ParentsFactsheet.pdf>
<http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/CoachGuide%20on%20Concussion.pdf>; <http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/AthleteFactsheet.pdf>
6. Video from the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association – Recognizing Sports Concussions
http://www.ohsaa.org/medicine/Concussion%20Stuff/DVD_1_0000.wmv

The OHSA has adopted the following sports regulation:

This OHSA regulation, as amended to incorporate this recent legislation, now reads: Any student, while practicing for or competing in an interscholastic contest, who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with having sustained a concussion or head injury (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest by either of the following:

- 1) The individual who is serving as the student's coach during that practice or competition.
- 2) An individual who is serving as a contest official or referee during that practice or competition. RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOL If a student is removed from practice or competition due to a suspected concussion or head injury, the coach or referee who removes the student shall not permit the student, ON THE SAME DAY THE STUDENT IS REMOVED, to return to that practice or competition or to participate in any other practice or competition for which the coach or contest official is responsible.

Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared with written authorization by an appropriate health care professional.

UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL THE INDIVIDUAL BE PERMITTED TO RETURN ON THE SAME DAY AS HAVING BEEN REMOVED

In Ohio, an "appropriate health care professional" shall be a **physician**, as authorized under ORC Chapter 4731 and includes both doctors of medicine (M.D.) and doctors of osteopathy (D.O.) and an **athletic trainer, licensed** under ORC Chapter 4755.

Communicable Disease Procedures

Though most schools have a Certified Athletic Trainer present at Varsity contests **and** all coaches are required to maintain a valid Pupil Activity Certificate through the Ohio Department of Education that includes a Sports' First Aid component, it is important to keep up to date on the remote risk that blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted during basketball practice and contests. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as other bodily fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential transmission of these infectious diseases should include, but should not be limited to the following:

1. The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform, it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
2. Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood and other body fluids is anticipated.
3. Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
4. Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
5. Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
6. Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags, or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
7. Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition resolves.
8. Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
9. Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling dressings, mouthguards and other articles containing body fluids.

You are encouraged to log on to the OHSAA's website at www.ohsaa.org and refer to the Sports' Medicine dropdown menu for additional information.

Public Health Issues

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Ohio Governor, Ohio General Assembly, Ohio Department of Health and/or the local health district will offer guidance as to whether or not to close a school or university due to a public health issue. Local decisions can also be made by the local health authority or each board of education/governing board. Closures are not recommended except in extreme circumstances.

Help Links

These resources are provided to guide operations during this Covid-19 pandemic.

- Ohio Department of Health – Coronavirus (COVID-19):
 - <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/home>
- Centers for Disease Control – Coronavirus (COVID-19):
 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- National Athletic Trainers Association – Coronavirus (COVID-19):
 - <https://www.nata.org/practice-patient-care/health-issues/covid-19-coronavirus>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Preparedness and Response:
 - <http://emergency.cdc.gov/planning/>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Preparedness for All Hazards:
 - https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/documents/ahpg_fi-nal_march_2013.pdf
- Ohio Department of Health Guidelines and Publications:
 - <https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/home/>



Overtime Procedure Announcement

Please Pull Out and provide to Public Address Announcer

Ladies and Gentlemen, the following overtime procedure is approved by the OHSAA to be used at all tournament contests:

1. After a **5-minute** interval at the end of regulation, there will be a **15-minute SUDDEN VICTORY** overtime period.
2. IF **neither team scores during** the first **SUDDEN VICTORY** overtime period, there will be a **2-minute** break after which the teams will play a second **15-minute SUDDEN VICTORY** overtime period.
3. If **neither team scores during the** second overtime period, there will be kicks from the Penalty Mark to determine a winner.
4. If one team scores more goals in the first set of 5 kickers for each team, they will be the winner and advance to the next tournament game.
5. If the teams REMAIN tied after 5 kickers, they will proceed to a second set of 5 **different** kickers. This round is **sudden victory, wherein if one team's kicker scores and the other does not, the scoring team wins and advances to the next tournament game with no more kicks being taken.**
6. If the teams REMAIN tied at the end of the second set of 5 kickers, sudden victory kicks will continue until a winner is determined.



Opening Remarks & Introduction of Teams

Ladies and gentlemen, we live in a great country with freedoms like no other. To honor America and in respect for ALL whom have served this great country to defend these freedoms, you are invited to stand and sing our National Anthem, The Star-spangled Banner.

Playing of the National Anthem

The Executive Director of the Ohio High School Athletic Association, the Board of Directors of the Ohio High School Athletic Association extends to each of you a cordial welcome to this Division _____ Soccer Tournament game between _____ High School and _____ High School.

The officials assigned to this game have met all requirements set forth by the Ohio High School Athletic Association and have been selected for their important role through a system approved by the Board of Directors and includes the involvement of coaches and Athletic Administrators at participating schools.

The officials for this game are: _____, _____, and _____.
The student-athletes, coaches AND officials are guests of the Ohio High School Athletic Association and you are requested to treat them with respect in keeping with the ideals of good sportsmanship.

Introduce Teams (ALL players) and Coaches



Pre-Game Public Address Announcement
Spectators Taking Photos and Videos



Please Pull Out and provide to Public Address Announcer

(Please Read prior to tipoff and various points where time allows)

Attention Ladies & Gentlemen

Spectators taking photographs or videos may not interfere with the view of this contest by other spectators, nor may they take additional space in seats that have been purchased.

In addition, all photographs and videos taken by spectators at this event are for personal use **ONLY**. The use of photographs or videos for commercial, scouting or coaching purposes is strictly prohibited.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association reserves the right to remove offenders from this contest, invoke additional penalties and to see maximum legal recourse against violators of these regulations.

Thank you for your understanding and adherence to this policy.

Regional Championship Awards Announcement

Please Pull Out and provide to Public Address Announcer

Ohio High School Athletic Association 2020 Regional and State Final Post-Game Public Address Script



Trophy Distribution

Ladies and gentlemen, the Ohio High School Athletic Association thanks you for attending (today's / tonight's) (regional / state) championship game.

At this time, let's recognize Head Coach _____ and the (regional / state) runner-up team from _____ High School!

(short pause)

And now let's recognize Head Coach _____ and the (regional / state) championship team from _____ High School.

Closing Thank You

Thank you again, ladies and gentlemen, for your attendance at (today's / tonight's) contest. The student-athletes, their schools and the Ohio High School Athletic Association appreciate your support.

Please exit the (stadium / facility) at this time. You are not permitted to congregate with your team inside or outside the (stadium / facility) and are encouraged to meet participants at home. Thank you for your cooperation, and please drive safely!

Covid-19 Public Address Announcements

As a service to the member schools, the OHSAA is sharing the following public address announcements that you are welcome to utilize during contests as it relates to staying safe and following all protocols:

“Ladies and Gentlemen . . . this year, our tournament depends on the cooperation and support from everyone to follow the safety guidelines set by the Ohio Department of Health, the Governor’s Office and the Ohio High School Athletic Association. As we have seen, the opportunity to play sports can be taken away by the spread of COVID-19. We ask that everyone in attendance wear a facial covering, use proper hygiene and keep yourself and your family or group six feet apart from other families or groups. Thank you for your cooperation.”

“Good afternoon/evening everyone and thank you for attending today’s/tonight’s contest. Fans from both schools, please remember that all spectators are required to follow state requirements for your own health and safety as well as the safety of others. Please be sure you are wearing a face covering at all times. Make sure you and your family maintain social distancing of at least six feet from others. Do not gather before, during or after the contest. And, be sure to follow all safety markings for entering and leaving this venue. We hope you enjoy today’s/tonight’s event, and thank you for your continued support of interscholastic athletics.”

“Attention fans . . . during these unusual times, we’d like to thank the many individuals and volunteers who have made today’s/tonight’s event possible. We want to continue making these activities open to spectators, so please be sure to adhere to all established rules, follow any directions given by event staff and be respectful while interacting with those who are working today’s/tonight’s event. By working together, we can continue bringing (School Name and Sport) to our fans to enjoy.”

“Fans, please remember that spectators are required to follow state requirements for their own health and safety as well as the safety of others. Please be sure you are wearing a face covering at all times. Thank you again for your commitment so that the student-athletes can continue with their season!”

OHIO HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

4080 Roselea Place, Columbus, Ohio 43214

Phone: 614-267-2502 Fax: 614-267-1677

www.ohsaa.org



Recommended Radio/Television Broadcast Announcement

This game between _____ High School
and _____ High School is being broadcast through the cooperation of the Ohio High
School Athletic Association.

The Ohio High School Athletic Association is a voluntary, non-profit, educational organization through which member schools work cooperatively to adopt the standards and regulations that guide their interscholastic activities. The upholding of these standards and the adherence to the regulations helps to provide more wholesome and educationally worthwhile activities for high school youth.

The schools participating in this contest consider interscholastic athletics an integral part of the educational program and primarily for the purpose of making better men and women out of their students. Unless it accomplishes this, it cannot be justified in the high school program.

Tonight's tournament is one of many being played throughout the State leading to the State Championship. Thank you for your support of high school soccer!

2020 GENERAL SOCCER TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

NOTE: The following regulations apply to all levels of tournament competition unless otherwise specified. They were adopted by the Ohio High School Athletic Association Board of Directors on September 8, 2020. The Executive Director is authorized to modify these regulations when deemed necessary, subject to ratification by the Board of Directors. Changes from 2019 to 2020 Tournament Regulations are shaded in gray.
Due to Covid-19, these regulations are subject to change.

II. ORGANIZATION OF TOURNAMENTS

- A. Each District Athletic Board (DAB) organizes and conducts Sectional and District Tournaments in their respective districts, subject to the rules and regulations adopted by the Board of Directors. Sectional / District site managers will receive supplemental information from respective District Athletic Boards. Site selection and play dates of Sectional/District tournaments are at the discretion of each District Athletic Board.
- B. The Regional and State Tournaments are under the direct control of the Executive Director's office. There will be three boys divisions (I, II, and III) and three girls divisions (I, II, and III). Site selection for Regional Tournaments is at the discretion of the Executive Director's office and may be changed at any time.
- C. There is no restriction/requirement at any level of play regarding artificial or natural surfaces. Sites must meet minimum requirements of the NFHS.
- D. The OHSAA maintains the authority to change the site, date, or time of any Regional or State tournament assignment.
- E. Completion of the OHSAA Tournament Entry Form is the school's agreement to play at the site, day and time assigned by the Executive Director's office.

III. ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS AND COACHES

- A. All participants must be eligible under the Bylaws and Sports Regulations of the Ohio High School Athletic Association. Only one school team sponsored by a member school is eligible to participate.
- B. A student who uses anabolic steroids or other performance enhancing drugs is ineligible for interscholastic competition until such time as medical evidence can be presented that the student's system is free of anabolic steroids or other performance enhancing drugs.
- C. Only Board of Education approved coaches with valid Pupil Activity Coaching Permits issued by the Ohio Department of Education are permitted to be in the bench area or locker room prior to, during, and after any tournament contest.

IV. TOURNAMENT ENTRY AND PAPERWORK REQUIREMENTS

- A. Tournament Entry/Withdrawal
Member schools wanting to participate in the 2020 OHSAA Soccer Tournaments must indicate their intent to participate on their 2020-21 OHSAA Sports Participation Card in myOHSAA. Tournament entry confirmation begins August 1, 2020 and ends October 5, 2020. Schools that change their tournament participation after October 5, 2020 will be subject to a \$50 penalty per sport.
- B. Tournament Paperwork Requirements
Participating schools must provide all program material, pass lists and any other materials as requested to the respective tournament managers

V. TOURNAMENT DRAW AND SEEDING PROCEDURE

NOTE: The established date for all seeding and drawing meetings in Ohio is Sunday, October 11, 2020. Boys' Tournament Draws at 2:00 p.m. and Girls' Tournament Draws at 3:00 p.m.

- A. In the Sectional Tournaments that precede District Tournaments, seeding is mandatory in the Sectional. In District Tournaments not preceded by Sectional Tournaments, seeding is mandatory. (NOTE: This means that at least one seeding is to take place in either the Sectional or District Tournament.) The following seeding method shall prevail for all OHSAA sponsored Tournaments.
- B. Soccer Tournaments

1. **All teams shall be seeded.** For purposes of seeding, the last matches to be counted will be those played on the date established by the District Athletic Board.

C. Soccer Tournament Seeding Procedure

1. Tournament managers will post the records of all teams in their tournament. It is the responsibility of each school to have its records compiled as shown below and given to the tournament manager prior to the start of seed voting. The records will include the number of wins and losses in the divisions of the teams played, e.g., 18 team schedule – Division I school:

12 wins – 2 losses – Division I
3 wins – 1 loss – Division II

All matches played shall be recorded.

D. Voting on Seeded Teams

1. All head coaches shall vote **via ballot which shall be made public**, selecting their choice for the #1 seeded team. The team with greatest number of votes shall be seeded #1, second highest #2, etc, until all teams are seeded. In case of a tie only the tied teams will be re-voted upon. If a tie should occur the second time, a flip of the coin shall determine the seeded team. NOTE: If electronic balloting is utilized in a District, the results shall be sent to the manager and made public by the manager at the drawing meeting.
2. Each District Athletic Board (DAB) is permitted to determine voting protocol – whether teams may be permitted to vote for themselves and/or whether high and low voted seeds are dropped.

E. Placement of Teams on Brackets

1. Each District Athletic Board shall determine placement of teams on brackets. If a school fails to have a representative present at the seeding and drawing meeting, the manager shall place the school (s) on the bracket in accordance with the respective District Athletic Board's Policy.
2. Sample brackets will be distributed to each manager. Samples of brackets are included in the manager's materials and can be found on the OHSAA web site. The tournament manager will distribute brackets to representatives of participating teams. All brackets shall designate date and time of match. Since many districts permit higher seeded teams to host on their home field, designation of the HOME team is determined by each District Athletic Board.

VI. **TOURNAMENT DATES**

- A. **Sectional Tournaments** - shall be scheduled to be completed by **October 24, 2020**.
- B. **District Tournaments** – shall be scheduled to be completed by **October 31, 2020**.
- C. **Regional Tournaments** – shall be **November 3, 4, and 7 2020**.
- D. **State Tournaments** – shall be **November 10, 11, 13 and 14, 2020**.

Note: Regional tournament dates will not be moved due to schedule changes at the District level. Room should be built into tournaments at the District level

VII. **PARTICIPATING SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

A school administrator or a person designated by the school shall assist the tournament site manager with crowd supervision when asked **and will assist in all covid-19 related issues**. The school administrator or designee should report to the tournament site manager upon arrival to the site. Knowing in some cases this person may be the coach, the coach should be informed of this responsibility prior to the contest and reviewed at the seed meeting.

- A. No team will be permitted to compete in a tournament contest unless accompanied by the coach or a person authorized by the Board of Education. This school representative shall be present throughout the tournament contest. Teams unaccompanied by such school representative will be disqualified.

VIII. **OFFICIALS**

- A. **Sectional and District** – Officials shall be assigned by the District Athletic Boards from pools provided by the OHSAA.
- B. **Regional and State** – Officials will be assigned by the Executive Director's office according to the procedure adopted by the Board of Directors. Only OHSAA Soccer Class I officials shall be used.
- C. **Touchline Officials (Fourth Officials)**

1. During regional finals and state tournament play, the OHSAA office will assign one touchline official where both teams are on the same side of the field and two where the teams are on opposite sides of the field. Regardless of chosen set-up, please ensure that both teams are treated equitably. *Covid-19 recommendations state that when possible, teams be on opposite sides of the field.
2. Each touchline official shall dress in the OHSAA-approved official's uniform and shall bring the short-sleeved and long-sleeved: gold jersey with black stripes and each of the OHSAA-approved alternate official's jerseys
3. Each touchline official shall arrive a minimum of sixty (40) minutes prior to the scheduled kickoff and shall fully participate in all of the officials' pre-match duties and their pre-match conferences.
4. During the match, the touchline official's normal position is in the official area, standing near the scorer's table.
5. The touchline official(s) shall be responsible for signaling substitutions and each shall be provided with an air horn and an adequate supply of propellant.
6. The touchline official(s) shall not use a whistle to signal for substitutions.
7. The touchline official shall keep records of goals scored and misconduct cards issued and shall inform the referee of any irregularity in starting and stopping of clock.
8. The touchline official performs any equipment, uniform, blood-on-the-person or blood-on-the-uniform check as determined by the referee in the pre-match conference. The inspection shall be accomplished prior to a substitute's entry of the match or the reentry of a player.
9. The touchline official(s) shall notify the referee as quickly as possible if a player, coach or bench personnel has been cautioned or disqualified based on an incorrect identification; if a player, coach or bench personnel has not been disqualified despite having received a second caution or if violent conduct has been committed by anyone outside of the view of the referee and assistant referees.
10. The touchline official(s) shall: keep each team area and each official area under observation, manage bench decorum and be prepared to bring to the attention of the referee any instances of misconduct in or outside of either area, or of players, coaches or bench personnel entering the field of play without permission of the referee.
11. The touchline official is to employ less-intrusive solutions when a situation may be resolved without creating greater conflict, tension or confusion.
12. The touchline official is to involve the coach(es) and/or team officials in identifying and preventing unacceptable behavior within the team areas and is to solicit their assistance when necessary to prevent or correct problem situations. The touchline official is to invoke the referee's authority as a last resort in these situations.
13. The touchline official(s) shall have such additional duties as are assigned by the head referee.
14. In the event that one of the OHSAA-assigned officials cannot officiate, the officials shall determine among themselves who will be head referee and who will be the assistant referees. Where able, the official who cannot officiate shall fill the open touchline official's position.

VIII. **FAILURE TO APPEAR**

If national playing rules do not address failure to appear, the following regulations will apply.

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. See Failure to Appear under Section 16.4 of the General Sports Regulations.

IX. **GAME REGULATIONS**

B. **Coin Toss** – a coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2 (d)(3)

C. **Rules** – National Federation 2020-2021 Soccer Rules shall be used in all games.

D. **Tournament Tie Procedures**

When the score is tied at the end of regulation time, the referee will instruct both teams to return to their respective team benches. There will be five minutes during which both teams may confer with their coaches and the head referee will instruct both teams as to proper procedures.

- i. Teams will play one 15-minute sudden victory overtime period. If neither team scores during the first overtime period, teams will play a second 15-minute sudden victory overtime period.

- ii. Prior to the first overtime period, a coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2 (d)(3).
- iii. If neither team scores during the first 15-minute overtime period, teams shall alternate the kickoff and change ends for the second overtime period.
- iv. There shall be a two-minute interval between periods.
- 1. If neither team scores during the second overtime period, all coaches, officials and team captains following a two-minute interval shall assemble at the halfway line to review the procedures for a penalty kick shootout as outlined below:

D. Game Management Procedures

- 1. The head referee shall choose the goal at which all of the penalty kicks shall be taken based upon field and weather conditions.
- 2. Per Rule 1-6-1, spectators shall be confined to areas at least 10 feet from the touch line, team/official area and goal line. No one shall be permitted directly behind either goal unless seated in bleachers,
- 3. The coin toss shall be held as in Rule 5-2-2 (d)(3) and the team winning the coin toss will have the choice of kicking first or second.
- 4. Prior to commencement of each set of penalty kicks, each coach will submit a list of five kickers by name, number, and sequence (i.e. first through the fifth) to the head referee. Substitution for a kicker is only permitted for injury or as provided for in IX (F), "Misconduct Procedures," and must be coordinated through the head referee.
- 5. Teams will alternate kickers.
- 6. The ball may not be played by anyone except the goalkeeper after it has been kicked. There is no follow-up.
- 7. During all tie-breaker penalty kicks, the ball remains alive until its momentum is spent, it goes out of bounds or it is retouched by the kicker.
- 8. The defending team may change the goalkeeper prior to each kick.
- 9. The tie-breaker procedure initially requires a maximum of five kicks per team. The team scoring the greater number of goals from their kicks shall be declared the winner. Where a team has taken fewer than five kicks and has already scored a greater number of goals than their opponent can score if that opponent is permitted to take all five of its kicks, the tie-breaker procedure is terminated and the winner is declared to be the team which has already scored the greater number of goals.
- 10. **Sudden victory** begins with the second set of kicks, wherein if one team scores and the other team does not score, the game is ended without more kicks being taken.
- 11. Both teams are permitted on the field, along the halfway line, during taking of kicks from the penalty mark. Kickers of each team must remain within the center circle, until called for their kick. Coaches and nonkicking, rostered players shall remain along the halfway line. The home team shall occupy the halfway line closer to the touchline on the bench side, while the visiting team shall occupy the halfway line closer to the opposite touchline.

E. Selection of Kickers

- 1. **Eligible Players** – Players eligible to participate in the penalty kick shootout include the goalkeeper and any players on or off the field, except those who may have been disqualified or ejected.
- 2. Each coach will select five players per set of kicks based upon the following guidelines:

Step	Set of Kicks	Available Players	Status
1	1 st set of 5	All eligible players	All 10 players kick (5 per team)
2	2 nd set of 5	All eligible players except those who participated in the 1st set	SUDDEN VICTORY
3	3 rd set of 5	All eligible players	SUDDEN VICTORY
4	4 th set of 5	All eligible players except those who participated in the immediately preceding set	SUDDEN VICTORY

If a tie still remains, repeat steps 3 and 4 until a winner is determined.

- 3. If, after any odd-numbered set of five kickers, one team has fewer than five eligible players for the next, even-numbered set of five kickers, due to injury disqualification or ejection, etc., that next, even-numbered set shall consist, for both teams, of the same number of eligible players also eligible under Section IX(E)(2), above.

Example: After completion of the first set of five kickers, with each team having scored four goals, Team A has only three players eligible for the second set of five kickers, i.e., who are on the roster and who did not kick in the immediately preceding set of five kickers. The second set of kickers will consist of the three remaining Team A players who did not kick in the immediately preceding set of five kickers and any three of Team B's eligible players who did not kick in the immediately preceding set of five kickers.

F. Player Misconduct Procedures

3. Cautioned Players

- a. One of the five players listed to take a kick is cautioned after taking the kick. That player is not eligible to kick again until he/she has been held out of one set of kicks for which he/she would otherwise would have been eligible.
 - i. Player "X" is one of the first five kickers, and is cautioned after taking his/her kick. Player "X" is not eligible to kick again until the set beginning with the 16th kick.
 - ii. Player "Y" is one of the second set of five kickers and is cautioned after taking his/her kick. Player "Y" is not eligible to kick again until the set beginning with the 16th kick.
- b. One of the five players listed to take a kick is cautioned before he/she takes the kick. That player is not eligible to kick until the next set of five kicks. Another eligible player not listed in that set of kicks must take the cautioned player's original turn.
- c. When a goalkeeper is issued a caution during any set of five kicks, he/she cannot re-enter until the next opponent completes his/her kick. A substitution is permitted for the cautioned goalkeeper.

4. Disqualified Players

- a. Any player, including the goalkeeper, who is disqualified, may not participate any further. If his/her kick is not already completed, a substitute is permitted.

G. Interrupted Tournament Games

1. Tournament games interrupted because of events beyond the control of the responsible administrative authority shall be continued from the point of interruption.
2. Any ejected player or coach cannot participate in the resumed game.
3. Teams, playing short, will continue to play short.
4. Rule 7-1-3 is not in effect for tournament games.

H. Warm-Up Time and Timing of the Pre-Match Sportsmanship Conference

1. Both teams are guaranteed a minimum of 30 minutes of uninterrupted warm-up time.
 - The 30 minute clock will begin 40 minutes prior to kickoff, guaranteeing the minimum 30 minute warm-up.
2. Both teams may be permitted access to the field one (1) hour prior to kickoff (presuming there is not another match immediately prior).
3. The remaining 10 minutes prior to kickoff will be utilized for the sportsmanship conference, coin toss, pre-game introductions, and the national anthem.
4. A sample pre-game schedule is as follows for a 7:00 pm kickoff:

Time	Item
6:00 pm	Teams permitted to take the field (if available)
6:20 pm	30 minute clock starts
6:20 pm	Guaranteed 30 minutes of uninterrupted warm-up time begins
6:50 pm	Uninterrupted warm-up time is concluded
6:50 pm	Pre-Match Conference using Covid-19 recommendations & mandates Coin Toss Pre-Game Introductions National Anthem
7:00 pm	Kickoff

I. Goal Differential

During any tournament contest, any time the score differential reaches 6 goals or more AFTER the first half of the contest, a running clock shall be used. After the 6-goal differential has been met but the score drops below 6 goals, the clock reverts to

regular timing. The clock shall be stopped only for an injured player on the field or when there is any unusual delay deemed necessary by the officials.

X. TEAM REGULATIONS

A. Game Ball

1. Sectional/District- Each participating team will provide three balls for use in each contest during sectional and district tournaments. Any NFHS Authenticated Ball is permitted to be used in sectional/district play.

2. Regional/State- The Wilson Forte FYbrid II ball shall be used during regional and state tournaments. Per our agreement with Wilson, the OHSAA adopted ball for regional and state play, three game balls will be provided to each regional qualifying team. These three balls will travel with each team and be used for all tournament games moving forward.

Ball Persons – Each team will provide two ball persons during all tournament contests, including regional and state tournament play.

B. **Size of Squads** –It is the responsibility of the coaches **and** tournament manager to insure that the number of players does not exceed 22 in uniform each game. If either team is over the limit, it must be corrected at once. Failure to comply with the regulation at any time after the request of the head officials shall result in the forfeiture of the game.

C. **Co-Ed Teams** - Any team that includes males and females must compete in the boys' tournament.

D. **Bench Area** – 29 individuals are permitted to be in the bench area and/or on the field during team warm-up for any contest. Players serving a suspension for a red card ejection may be one of the 29 but may not be on the field at any time during warm-up. It is the responsibility of the coaches **and** tournament manager to insure that the number of individuals does not exceed 29.

F. Uniforms

1. The home team shall wear dark **jerseys** and socks, and the visiting team shall wear **solid** white **jerseys** and socks.

2. All aspects of the uniform must conform to NFHS Rule 4-1-1.

G. Unsporting Conduct Requirements and Penalties

Participation in athletic contests is a privilege. Each individual is expected to conduct him /herself in an exemplary manner while participating.

1. During participation in OHSAA Tournaments, any student or coach will fall into one of the categories below as it relates to penalty and repercussion:

	Day of penalty	Games missed AFTER day of event
Yellow	Can still play	0
Double Yellow	Ineligible for remainder	1
Red	Ineligible for remainder	2
Red-Violent Conduct	Ineligible for remainder	4

2. All participants are required to respectfully participate in Awards Presentations at the conclusion of District, Regional and State Final contests. This includes attention to opposing team presentations of individual and team trophy awards.

Coaches and school administrators are expected to enforce this requirement.

XI. SCHOOL REGULATIONS

A. Cheerleaders & Mascots

a. Eight (8) cheerleaders in uniform, one student mascot and one sponsor will be admitted free provided a certified list is filed at the pass gate by the high school principal.

b. Only cheerleaders in uniform are permitted to lead cheers at field level.

c. Mascots will not be permitted on the playing field or near the team benches.

B. Property Damage

a. There is no insurance covering property damage.

b. If property is damaged at a tournament site by competing school teams, student body or spectators, the school from which the students and/or spectators come shall be liable and pay the cost of repair or replacement.

c. Other damages to facilities not attributed to a competing school could be a legitimate tournament expense and will need verified with the District Athletic Board or OHSAA Sport Administrator.

d. Student crowd control at state sponsored tournaments is the responsibility of the Principals of the competing schools.

C. **Videotaping by Schools**

- a. Filming or videotaping of tournament games by one or both of the schools playing the game is permitted provide the permission of the tournament manager is secured and it is done at the expense of the school involved and a maximum of one individual per school is permitted (must be identified on pass list).

XII **SITE REGULATIONS**

A. **Admission and Admission Policies**

Tournament tickets will be available using an online platform.

1. Sectional and District prices - \$8.00 per person
2. Regional admission - \$10.00 per person
3. State admission - \$12.00 per person
4. All spectators, regardless of age, will be charged admission

B. **Team Admission**

1. Regionals - Twenty-two (22) players, two (2) coaches, one (1) manager, one (1) trainer, and two (2) others (to include the bus driver) will be admitted at the pass gate by the approved OHSAA Pass List. Four (4) administrators, plus one (1) guest for each, may be added to the pass list. Separate passes for administrators will not be issued since they will be included and listed on the pass list.
2. State - Twenty-two (22) players, two (2) coaches, one (1) manager, one (1) trainer, and two (3) others will be admitted at the pass gate via Commemorative "Bag Tags" provided at the Finalists Meeting. There will be no Pass List Used at the State Semi-final or Final games. (2) passes for all State Tournament sessions will be provided to the superintendent, principal, athletic administrator, and bus driver of each participating school.

C. **Banners and Signs**

1. Team Banners and signs will be permitted provided they are not sponsor related, negative, unsportsmanlike or vulgar.
2. All signs must be coordinated with site managers according to facility policies. If signs are permitted by the site manager, the visiting school representatives who hung the signs are responsible for removing them, and all evidence of them, following the contest.

D. **Noisemakers**

1. Noisemakers are permitted provided they do not interfere with the game as determined by the site manager or officials. This includes but is not limited to school bands, drums and Vuvuzelas
2. Air Horns/noisemaker prohibited
Air horns and noisemakers that required electric or alternate sources of power are not permitted in the facility.

E. **Videotaping by Spectators**

1. Any and all videotaping by spectators shall be for personal use.
2. Any and all videotaping shall not interfere with the view of the athletic contest by other spectators.
3. The tournament site shall not permit the use of more than the seating space for which the spectator has paid when seating is needed for paying fans.
4. The tournament site accepts no liability for damage or theft of spectator equipment or injury as a result of privately owned equipment.
6. The tournament site shall not be expected to provide power sources for video equipment.
7. Violation of this regulation may result in the removal of the offender from the premises.

F. **Re-Entry** – No re-entry will be provided at any game site unless following Covid-19 parameters regarding severe weather or emergency situations.

G. **Prohibited Advertising** – There shall be no advertising through printed media, billboards, radio or television that includes beer, wine, liquor, tobacco, political parties or candidates or any other advertising contrary to the philosophy of interscholastic athletics.

H. **Prohibited Sales** – The sale of, the distribution of, or the consumption of alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs is not permitted at the site of any contest involving OHSAA member schools.

I. **Raffles Prohibited** – There shall be no raffles or any type of games of chance permitted at the site of tournament contests.

J. **Drones (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles)**

The use of drones is prohibited for any purpose by any persons at OHSAA tournament contests. Tournament management shall remove anyone attempting to use a drone and/or confiscate the drone until the event has been completed.

Note: An exception to this policy may be made in specific cases for OHSAA broadcast partners, provided the management of the tournament facility permits the presence of drones for broadcast purposes under the control of the OHSAA.

XIII. **MEDIA**

- A. **Radio, Press and Photographers** – All requests for space shall be directed to the tournament manager for Sectional/District and Regional games. Credential requests for State Tournament games shall be Directed to Tim Stried, OHSAA Director of Communications. Proper credentials must be presented for admission at the pass gate.
- B. **Television** – Tape-delayed requests shall be directed to the appropriate tournament manager. Live request shall be directed to the Executive Director's office.

XIV. **AWARDS**

- A. Only awards furnished by the OHSAA may be presented at the OHSAA tournament site.
- B. **Sectionals** – Sectional trophies will not be awarded.
- C. **District** – Trophies will be presented to the winner and runner-up teams. Awards will be presented to the individual team members and coaches of the teams. Both teams will remain present for the Awards Ceremony.
- D. **Regionals** – A trophy will be presented to the Regional winner and runner-up.
- E. **State** – Team trophies will be presented to the State Champion and Runner-Up. Individual team members and coaches of both teams will be presented with gold or silver awards. State Tournament Participation Certificates are provided to all players permitted in uniform (22) and coaches (3).

XV. **SPONSORSHIP AND RIGHTS**

- A. The OHSAA is the sponsoring association for the Sectional, District, Regional and State Boy's and Girl's Soccer Tournaments.
- B. The OHSAA reserves all rights in regard to the management of these tournaments and the sale of any items and/or any audio-visual reproductions.
- C. Any sale of food, clothing, souvenirs, or any other items is strictly prohibited without permission of the respective District Athletic Boards for Sectional and District tournaments and the OHSAA Executive Director for the Regional and State Tournaments.

XVI. **WEATHER (OHSAA Lightning and Inclement Weather Regulation)**

A. **Recognition:**

Coaches, athletic trainers, athletes, administrators and contest officials should be educated regarding the signs indicating thunderstorm development. Since the average distance between successive lightening flashes is approximately two to three miles ANYTIME that lightning can be seen or heard, the risk is already present. Weather can be monitored using the following methods:

- B. **Monitor Weather Patterns** – Be aware of potential thunderstorms by monitoring local weather forecasts the day before and morning of the competition, and by scanning the sky for signs of potential thunderstorm activity.
- C. **National Weather Service** – Weather can also be monitored using small, portable weather radios from the NWS. The NWS uses a system of severe storm watches and warnings watch indicates conditions are favorable for severe weather to develop in an area; a warning indicates severe weather has been reported in an area, and everyone should take proper precautions. Any thunderstorm poses a risk of injury or death even if it does not meet the criteria for severe weather. Therefore, anytime thunderstorms are in the forecast (even if it is only a 20 percent chance), event organizers shall be at a heightened level of awareness to the potential danger of lightning.
- D. **Management:**
 - 1. **Evacuation-** If lightening is imminent or a thunderstorm is approaching, all personnel, athletes and spectators shall evacuate to available safe structures or shelters. A list of the closest safe structures should be announced and displayed on placards at all athletic venues.
 - 2. **Thirty-minute rule-** Competition or practice shall be suspended once lightning has been recognized or thunder is heard. It is mandatory to wait at least 30 minutes after the last flash of lightning is witnessed or

thunder is heard prior to resuming practice or competition. Given the average rates of thunderstorm travel, the storm should move 10-12 miles away from the area. This significantly reduces the risk of local lightning flashes. Any subsequent lightning or thunder after the beginning of the 30-minute count shall reset the clock, and Another count shall begin.

XVII. REGIONAL TOURNAMENT HOSTING

- A. The top line on each bracket shall be deemed the 'home team'. The home team shall be responsible for hosting each contest and for all game arrangements, along with the tournament manager. *If the home team cannot host due to insufficient NFHS field standards, or is not willing to host, the opportunity to host will then go to the visiting team.

XVIII. STATE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION ONLY

A. STATE TOURNAMENT SUMMARY

1. **Dates** - the State Tournaments will be held **November 10, 11, 13 and 14, 2020.**
2. **Semifinal Sites** – TBD
3. **Finals Site** - TBD

B. COACHES MEETING

1. State Finalist Coach Meeting will take place in an online format TBD

C. MEDIA CREDENTIALS

1. **Semifinals** - Requests for State Semifinal games need to be forwarded to the site managers.
2. **Finals** - Requests for the State Final games should be forwarded to Tim Stried at tstried@ohsaa.org



2020-21 Soccer Requirements and Rule Recommendations

In support of the Guidance for Opening Up High School Athletics and Activities, the NFHS Soccer Rules Committee offers this document for state associations to consider whether any possible rules could be altered for the 2020-21 season. The considerations outlined in this document are meant to decrease potential exposure to respiratory droplets by encouraging social distancing, limiting participation in administrative tasks to essential personnel and allowing for appropriate protective equipment.

Note: This is not an exhaustive list and there might be additional steps in each school, city, and state to help prevent the spread of virus. Even when taking all precautions, there will still be risk of transmitting illnesses. Everyone should stay vigilant about the health of members of their teams. Lastly, the situation with COVID-19 is rapidly changing. These considerations may quickly become outdated. Please keep up with the latest from the CDC and other health officials in your area.

Visit the COVID-19 General Guidance Document for further requirements and recommendations that apply to all sports, including soccer. Please know that some of the requirements and recommendations in this sport-specific document duplicate state guidance.

*A **requirement** must be adhered to and followed. A **recommendation** is a consideration to the sport and allows for optional guidelines. Recommendations are not required but are permitted.*

REQUIREMENTS

Requirements for Coaches:

- Coaches must wear face masks at all times, including arriving and departing the facility and during active play.
- Limit day-of roster to 22 dressed players.

Requirements for Facility Hosts

- Inform the local health district when events are scheduled and establish a plan to handle those persons who fail a symptom assessment or temperature check or exhibit signs and symptoms of COVID-19.
- Predetermine areas for all participants, coaches, contest officials and game-day personnel to shelter in the event there is lightning and/or thunder.
- Limit sideline personnel to participants, coaches, medical staff and game-day staff.
- If possible, provide designated space (locker room, classroom, etc.) for officials' pregame, halftime and post-game activities. If the designated space cannot accommodate six-foot social distancing of all officials, then a separate space should be provided where officials can observe six-foot social distancing and be removed from spectator/team interaction.
- Clearly review prior to the contest mandates, best practices and school/host facility policies with visiting team administrators and/or coaches and officials as they relate to, but are not limited to, parking; entrances and exits; medical care; spectators; ticketing; locker rooms/showers; athletic training rooms and restrooms; water; towels; equipment, and shelters in the event there is inclement weather.

2020 NFHS RULE RECOMMENDATIONS

Pregame Conference (NFHS Rule 5-2-2d)

- Limit attendees to head referee or center referee, the head coach from each team, and a single captain from each team.
- Move the location of the pregame conference to center of the field. All individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet.
- Suspend the pregame world cup introduction line and send players to their field positions with bench personnel lined up on the touch line (6 feet apart) for introductions.
- Suspend handshakes prior to and following the Pregame Conference.

Ball Holders (NFHS Rule 6-1)

- Encourage social distancing of 6 feet
- No more than 4 ball holders; each ball holder to cover 1/4 of the field

Team Benches (NFHS Rule 1-5-1)

- Encourage bench personnel to observe social distancing of 6 feet.
- Benches on opposite sides of the field to allow greater social distancing
- Players on the bench and coaches should be masked

Substitution Procedures (NFHS Rule 3-4)

- Maintain social distancing of 6 feet between the substitute, officials and/or teammate(s) by encouraging substitutions to occur closer to the center line.

Officials Table (NFHS Rule 6-2; 6-3)

- Limit to essential personnel which includes home team scorer and timer with a recommend distance of 6 feet between individuals. Visiting team personnel (scorer, statisticians, etc.) are not deemed essential personnel and will need to find an alternative location.

Soccer Rules Interpretations

- **Rule 4-1 EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES**
 - Cloth face coverings are permissible.
 - Gloves are permissible.
- **Rule 4-2 LEGAL UNIFORM**
 - Long sleeves are permissible. (4-1-1)
 - Long pants are permissible. (4-1-1)
 - Under garments are permissible but must be of a similar length for the individual and a solid like color for team. (4-1-1d)
- **Rule 5-3 OFFICIALS UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT**
 - By state association adoption, long-sleeved shirt/jackets are permissible. (5-1-3)
 - Electronic whistles are permissible (supplies are limited).
 - Choose a whistle whose tone will carry outside.
 - Fox 40 Mini -
 - Fox 40 Unisex Electronic - 3 tone
 - Ergo-Guard - (3 tone) - orange
 - Windsor - (3 tone) grey
 - Check the market for other choices
 - Cloth face coverings are permissible.
 - Gloves are permissible.

RECOMMENDATIONS

General Recommendations

- Participants and coaches from visiting teams and officials should arrive at the contest facility dressed in partial or full uniforms or coaching/officiating gear and should plan to leave the contest facility in partial or full uniforms or coaching/officiating gear (e.g. not dress or change in visiting locker rooms).
- Consideration should be considered to limiting contests against only teams in your local area or, if out-of-state, against teams located in counties that are contiguous to Ohio.
- Coaches should not share clipboards, whiteboards, dry erase boards, or any other equipment used for coaching purposes.
- Contest officials should not share whistles or any other equipment used for officiating purposes.
- When conducting temperature checks, take into account the potential for environmental factors causing an elevated temperature. Should the temperature be elevated, it is appropriate to isolate the individual and recheck the temperature after 5-to-10 minutes of sitting in a cool environment.

Recommendations for Facility Hosts

- If applicable, stagger the entry of all participants, coaches, officials, student game-day auxiliary groups and spectators to adhere to six-foot social distancing.
- Consider multiple points of entry to help ensure there is six-foot social distancing.
- Use contact-less payments where possible.
- Bench water may be provided by the facility host, but the visiting team/participants should supply their own coolers unless agreed upon by the facility host. If used, water coolers shall be sanitized prior to use and frequently during the contest and disposable one-time-use cups shall be utilized.
- Limit press box space to essential personnel only and demonstrate social distancing as much as possible.
- Appoint an individual(s) who is responsible for assisting the host facility manager(s) in logging all incidents and action plans when mandates have not been followed and/or incidents occur; logging recommendations for improving the host facilities' game-day strategies, and creating reports on said items that were logged.