

Regional Bound Teams have IMPORTANT Info at:

Girls:
<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/girls/tournamentinfo.htm#Regional>
Boys:
<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/boys/tournamentinfo.htm#Regional>



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TBA in Regional Play?

Don't panic!! If you are one of the schools playing this week to advance to Regional play and your Regional site is listed as a "TBA".....don't panic!

With great cooperation from Athletic Directors and/or Tournament Managers across the state, several Regionals that involved a great deal of travel are listed as "TBA's". Though not a perfect science, it allows us to be a bit more geographically sensitive to teams participating. Given that all Regional Finals are played on a school night, we would like to maximize the number of students/fans that can attend.

Bet You Didn't Know....

Teams participating in Regional Soccer play receive payment back in 2 methods:

- Travel allowance of \$4.00 per mile one way for each trip made at the Regional level. With current mileage rates in the \$3.50/mile range, this adequately covers the cost of traveling to Regional (and State) sites.

-Participation Reimbursements of \$200.00 are paid to each team participating in the Regional tournament.

The OHSAA remains one of only a handful of states that provides financial help to its member schools for participation in tournaments while at the same time, NOT charging an entry fee for participation in any of its sports OR its tournaments. Often taken for granted, but when you compare to other states, it truly is a help to schools.

In addition to the above, schools participating in the Regional Soccer Tournament receive 3 Nike T-90 Catalyst soccer balls valued at close to \$300.00 for each game they participate. This is a result of contracts negotiated by Ass't. Commissioner, Steve Neil between the OHSAA and Nike.

More on "Indoor Soccer"

I continue to be bombarded with questions surrounding "Indoor Soccer". Please keep in mind these regulations are not NEW...they have been there since the inception. Several years back, it was permitted to participate in excess of the 50% limitation (OHSAA Sports Regulation 4.5) IF participants were playing under the USSF Indoor Soccer Rules. "Futsal" does not fall under "Indoor Soccer" and there are no player restrictions on the game of "Futsal". To completely understand, let's look at the Regulations that address this:

General Sports Regulation 4.5:

A member of a school soccer team may participate in non-interscholastic contests, tryouts, Training or practices prior to and after the school's season under the following conditions:

1. *The number of players from the same school on the non-interscholastic team is limited to 50% of the members of a team defined in the playing rules. That number is **FIVE** in soccer. (it is not in effect from June 1 – July 31).*
2. *Graduating seniors are exempt from this limitation.*
3. *Soccer Sports Regulation 4.7 – Participation in Indoor Soccer*

Soccer Sports Regulation 4.7 – Participation in Indoor Soccer

Participation in Indoor Soccer exactly as written under the rules of the USSF Indoor Soccer Rules, is not a violation of OHSAA non-interscholastic team Sports Regulation 4.5 (see above).

Soccer Sports Regulation 4.8 – Coaching Indoor Soccer

Interscholastic soccer coaches are prohibited from coaching members of their own interscholastic squad in Indoor Soccer except for 10 days between June 1 – July 31

USSF Indoor Soccer Rules

Complete rules at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/USSFIndoorSoccerRules.pdf>

Ordering Uniforms for Next Season?

As the season ends, most coaches will start looking at budget items to turn in to their Athletic Directors. IF you are on a uniform rotation and will be ordering new uniforms, please keep in mind the uniform regulations that go into effect for **2013**. Beginning that year, WHITE uniforms and socks will be **required** so you should consider this if you will not be ordering again prior to 2013.

So....What's Actually Unfair?

As each level of tournament play occurs, the stakes get higher. And so do the complaints, especially about 'fairness'. I did not write the book on 'fairness' but I'll address a few things as they relate to tournament play and adopted Regulations:

Paper or Plastic (Natural or Artificial)?

There is no regulation that requires a game to be on natural or artificial surface. Does the ball bounce differently? Probably; but it does for BOTH teams. Does one team have it for their regular season and another doesn't? Maybe. Our tournament regulations do not deem these as being significant enough factors to create a competitive advantage for one team over another. Play on.

They're Closer than We Are!

One team drives 50 miles and another drives 75 miles? Does it REALLY matter? Another factor the tournament regulations do not deem as any significant advantage for one team over another. Incidentally, we reimburse the school for mileage regardless of how far they travel & provide enough for a meal should they so wish to use it (see column to left).

Why Can't We Play 'Here' or 'There'?

Schools volunteer to host tournament games for a nominal fee. Sites actually do not profit from hosting a game except for concessions. Many schools simply CANNOT host games; winter sports are starting, fall sports' banquets are taking place, etc. Most sites need PLENTY of notice, meaning we must secure them in the summer and they are contracted. And...we actually didn't know who would BE in the Regional when securing sites. Thank a manager when you are there....they have gone OUT of their way to accommodate you and your school during what COULD be a tough weather night. All to benefit your team, your school and your community. One thing for sure...they manager's school is not playing there; regulations do not permit playing on a home field for a Regional game.

By the Numbers

6

Number of wins a team must attain to reach the Final 4 (not so unreachable is it?).

0

Amount of entry fee required for the OHSAA's Soccer Tournament.

22

Number of players permitted in uniform at any level of tournament game.

201

Number of BOYS' player and coach ejections for 2011.

44

Number of GIRLS' player and coach ejections for 2011.