

Ohio Soccer Weekly

The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Issue #10, October 26, 2010



Though the season ended this past week for many teams, tournament play continues as it whittles down to the "Sweet Sixteen" by Saturday of this week. This issue focuses on upcoming Regional play along with end of season issues that are important as the soccer season comes to an end.

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.

Geographically "Friendly"?

As mentioned, it is not a 'perfect' science. I encourage coaches to not perceive this to be a situation where we automatically locate a Regional facility in the MIDDLE of the two teams participating. Fans seem to think there might be a competitive advantage when one team travels 65 miles and the other travels 50 miles. Not the case. MANY factors determine location; site availability, seating capacity, manager availability, among them.

Bet You Didn't Know....

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

1. Teams receive a **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.
2. **Participation Reimbursement.** A \$200.00 reimbursement is 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 due to a contract negotiated with Nike that provides help to the member schools.

No Contact Period Begins at Conclusion of Season

Though often referred to as the "Dead Period", the OHSAA's mandated "No Contact" period is defined in General Sports' Regulation 8 – Mandatory No Contact Period – Coaches. Some of the Questions and Answers surrounding the "no contact period" are listed below:

Q: Who is under this regulation?

A: Any coach, paid or volunteer.

Q: What does it Regulate?

A: Any coach is prohibited from athletic or athletic-related contact with squad members.

Q: What is considered Athletic Related Contact?

A: Included are (but not limited to) physical fitness, weight training, open gym, tryouts in or out of school for purposes of non-interscholastic competition (club tryouts, Indoor soccer). it also includes verbal contact which encourages, discusses OR promotes any activity related to soccer.

Q: How long does the No Contact Period last?

A: It begins the first day after the school's last contest and ends 28 days later.

What About Indoor Soccer?

Much has been discussed in soccer circles surrounding the 'new' interpretation of "Indoor Soccer". Not the case; participation in Indoor Soccer has always been permitted. Several years back, it was also permitted to participate in excess of the 50% limitation (OHSAA Sports Regulation 4.5) IF participants were playing under the USSF Indoor Soccer Rules. 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

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*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>

Special Note to Regional Bound Teams

Though you receive hard copy from your District site manager, all forms are available on the web at:

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

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

By the Numbers

184

The number of BOYS' player ejections through the final week of regular season play.

39

The number of GIRLS' player ejections through the final week of regular season play.

27

The number of soccer coaches ejected through the final week of regular season play.