

**Required Rules
Interpretation Meeting
Now Closed**



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

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Headgear Reminders

We receive many inquiries about players wearing protective headgear. Protective headgear IS permitted by rule; however is limited. The "Full-90" is permitted by rule as are a few others that are similar in style (just a different manufacturer). The requests for 'helmet' type of protectors are denied. As one might expect, many wonder why something to protect the head with the seriousness and focus on concussions is denied. The "Full-90" has been designed to protect the head while keeping the integrity of the game intact. Should a player require MORE protection that it affords (such as a hard helmet-type headgear), the general feeling is that it is too serious to be playing in a soccer contest.



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Reminder on Ejections

Yes, unfortunately there have been a few ejections already. The good news, through Week 1, they are significantly lower than last year at this point. A reminder that a player that receives 2 "Yellow Cards" is not considered "Ejected" by the definition we use at the OHSAA. The player IS 'disqualified' from the contest the team DOES NOT play short-handed the remainder of the contest, and there are no further consequences for the player.



Feather Hair Extensions

Yes, I thought I was on top of the trends but this one got by me. "Feather Hair Extensions"...the current fashion statement for girls. If you are not certain what they are, go to: <http://www.conditionculture.com/> or "Google" it. Anyhow, they are deemed as "Adornments" that are prohibited by NFHS playing rules. Save a lot of hassle now, simply require girls to remove them.

College Practice/Tryouts; Chapter 2

I addressed collegiate tryouts/workouts in "OSW-2". The NAIA graciously sent a memo to all member schools advising them it is against OHIO rules for high school soccer athletes to participate in workouts/tryouts at the collegiate level during the season. No sooner than that occurs and I have heard in the Eastern part of Ohio that a few colleges are trying to work around that rule by offering 'team camps' during the season to try to observe the talents of prospective athletes. Those are **not permitted** either. I hope coaches take a look at the goal of High School athletics. As you know, most will not go on to participate after high school, and *great* for those that do. College athletic departments DO have budgets, they can come to your games anytime they wish, most schools probably admit them free. The member schools have **clearly** stated in the regulations they want high school athletes with their high school teams and coaches during the season and not the distractions of other programs. Thus the 'non-interscholastic' rule that has stood the test of time. Remind your players.

Oops!

Sure enough, when I do my own typing, I have one to blame in the 'error department'. I recently sent an email to all Athletic Directors addressing some 'early season' reminders and put a note in about 're-upping' contracts for the 2012 season. There has been a few questions arise about the start dates for next season (August 25 for the first game date). We have this scheduled to discuss at a staff meeting this week. I will send notice to Athletic Directors to 'hold on' until the issue is resolved.

Rating Officials

It is time to make certain you are RATING your officials at the end of every contest (Varsity level). To do this, you (the coach) must have a Password supplied by your Athletic Director. I often hear that Athletic Directors do not want to provide access to alter schedules, etc., Passwords provided for rating officials does NOT give any access to other Athletic areas in the 'myOHSAA' system. It DOES allow you to enter the contest and the officials names (if your Athletic Administrator or opponent did NOT do it) **AFTER** the contest has been played. The Rating system is extremely important to officials AND is your 'voice' in tournament assignments. Directions for your Athletic Administrator to provide you a password can be found at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/myOHSAA/OfficialRatingInstructions.pdf>

Altering Game Lengths

'Numbers' remain a concerning issue for teams, especially at the JV level. Coaches are reminded of the 3-half/day limitation. Though a game may end by 'mutual agreement' at any time, I urge you to consider the ethics involved. Should you agree to end a game at the half, it opens the door for the unethical aspect of moving many varsity players 'down' to the JV team and dominating. A better option may be to play shorthanded. Games are permitted as 'low' as 7 vs 7. Just consider the options while trying to save the JV team.

"Early" Tournament Information

The addition of a 3rd Division in Girls' Soccer has been a lengthy process to locate sites by the Various District Athletic Boards for Sectional/District sites. Ditto for Regional sites. These must be secured well in advance of winners being determined and as mentioned previously, may lead to a greater amount of travel. Each District Athletic Board (DAB) assigns teams in their respective Districts to Sectional and/or District sites. Tournaments are conducted utilizing Regulations adopted by the OHSAA's Board of Directors to create consistency for all tournaments. Much more will be provided on tournaments in a later "OSW", but you can go to the respective DAB websites to locate tournament assignments. They are:

Northwest: www.nwdab.org

Northeast: www.nedab.org

Central: www.cdab.org

Southwest: www.swdab.org

East: www.eastohsaa.com

Southeast: www.seodab.org

**Respect
THE
GAME**