



OHIO SOCCER WEEKLY



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No Contact Period

“No Contact” periods are defined in the OHSAA Sports Regulations (Sports Regulation 10). In a nutshell, any coach; whether paid OR volunteer is *prohibited from athletic or athletic-related contact with squad members in soccer for a period of time beginning with the first day after the last contest and ending 28 days later.*

This “athletic related contact” includes physical fitness, weight training, open field, etc. during this period of time. You might be eager to begin next season....but give ‘em a break. They need it.

Individual Instruction

All soccer coaches will receive a detailed explanation & presentation on how this affects soccer coaches. Look for this at the end of the season.

Official Ratings...Reminder!

Just a friendly reminder (you’re fined if you don’t!) to RATE your officials from this past regular season. Check with your Athletic Director OR use the info from: <http://www.ohsaa.org/myOHSAA/OfficialRatingInstructions.pdf> for complete instructions on “how” to ‘rate’. It is IMPORTANT for tournament assignments!

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Respect THE GAME

Tournament Draws Sunday – Be Prepared!

Attendance/participation in the seed/draw meetings Sunday are **required** for soccer coaches. Non-attendance creates too many issues for the seeding process. I encourage you to be prepared when you go to your draw. A few suggestions:

- Know your Opponents. You will be required to list your won/loss record by division so you will need to know your opponents’ division. Check online or ask your Athletic Director so you are prepared with this information.
- Read the Tournament Regulations! Everything from “how many can be in uniform” to how tournaments are organized is covered in the Official Tournament Regulations. More will be covered on this below!
- Show up! As mentioned, seed meeting attendance is required for coaches as a condition of OHSAA membership. Make sure you attend as coaches are fined for non-attendance.
- Be prepared to discuss your team’s record. You will be provided an opportunity to ‘lobby’ for your drawing position prior to placement on the bracket. Use the opportunity.

Tournament Regulations

Each year, the OHSAA’s elected Board of Directors reviews and approves Official Tournament Regulations. These regulations define everything from ‘how many are permitted in uniform’

Pass Lists, Site Assignments, Open Draw, Etc.

This will be detailed in the next posting, but essentially, each District Athletic Board Across the state (6 total) are permitted to set certain standards and polices for the Sectional/District tournaments in their geographic area (see right). Whether a district conducts an “open draw” or has assigned sites, is a decision provided to each of the “DAB’s” (District Athletic Boards).



The OHSAA is divided into 6 different athletic “Districts” Each District is comprised of 9 members elected by the schools within that Athletic District

Tournament Rosters....Can They Change from Game to Game?

Tournament Regulations permit any 22 players from the Official Eligibility list to dress for any tournament contest. The official Eligibility Form is submitted to the tournament manager from your Athletic Director and contains the names of all athletes eligible to participate in tournament play. Most likely, your Athletic Director included the names of all players 9-12 from this past season. ANY 22 from that Official Eligibility List may dress for any one game. This permits you to change from game to game if you so desire.

When Does a Season “Officially” End?

As teams make the unfortunate bow-out of tournament play, many questions come our way regarding the ‘official’ end of a season and subsequent permission for a player to move to Non-Interscholastic (‘Club’ or ‘Travel’) Soccer. Since many non-interscholastic teams form and play after the high school season, it is important if you are still in tournament to CAUTION your players NOT to practice, tryout or compete in any non-interscholastic play. So, what about a JV player, or a freshman who is not on your tournament roster. First, read the section above on “Tournament Rosters”. When a player ends his/her season, he or she is free to go play non-interscholastically BUT is NOT eligible to return to dress or participate in any tournament contest for the Varsity team. Often, an ‘easier’ way to look at this regulation is to know that a player actually MAY play non-interscholastic soccer anytime they choose....but the moment they choose to do so....they are ineligible from that point forward.

Indoor Soccer Reminders

As Indoor teams form for the off-season, this is a reminder to coaches that board approved coaches, whether paid OR volunteer are NOT permitted to coach Indoor Soccer teams consisting of players from the school they coached at the previous year...EVEN if they do not plan on returning to that school. Additionally, players that played on a school team this past season are exempt from the “50% Limitation” **if and only if** playing Indoor Soccer under the **exact USSF Indoor Soccer Regulations**. The original exemption was put in place years ago with the clear understanding that Indoor Soccer, played under these rules was a ‘different game’ than the outdoor 11 v 11 game. Therefore, there is no intention of granting the exemption to merely ‘bring the outdoor game inside’. This is a greater concern today than a few years ago simply because of newer facilities that are being built that can accommodate larger and larger team play. Please keep in mind that ANY time there is play involving anything beyond the USSF Indoor Soccer Rules, the 50% limitation (5 players from any one school team) is in effect. Graduating seniors do not count in this total.