

To: All OHSAA Head Soccer Coaches
From: Jerry Snodgrass, Assistant Commissioner
Emily Gates, Program Coordinator
Re: 2016 Coaches Memo #4
Date: August 15, 2016

.Please remember to complete your Rules Interpretation Meeting that can be found on our website (www.OHSAA.org), on the Girls and Boys Soccer pages.

Scrimmage Reminders

Just a reminder that each of your teams is permitted 4 total scrimmages, but no player may play in more than 4. If you have a JV player that you would like to 'look at' in a varsity scrimmage – all good – but keep in mind it counts as one of the 4 that player is permitted to participate in.

Non-Interscholastic Warning #1 & College Workouts

Ok, here we go – the first of many. Now that most players have participated in a scrimmage for your team, they are considered by our regulations to be part of your team. And...no player can participate in any tryout, workout, or contest for a club/travel team while they are members of your team. PLEASE caution your players. College ID camps, College Workouts, etc. are considered non-interscholastic and not permitted. Colleges simply need to find a better way to recruit players OR do it at a different time.

Individual Instruction During the Season

This may be Question #1 in the early weeks – “Are players permitted to receive individual instruction during the season”? OHSAA regulations DO permit this in ‘individual or group instruction’ provided the school or coach does not have a policy against it (most do not). A word of caution, however; the instruction must be INDIVIDUAL SKILL instruction (nothing more than 1 on 1) and cannot be used as a ‘disguise’ for a club/travel coach to conduct workouts for their club/travel team during the high school season. I urge caution with it so it does not violate the non-interscholastic rule.

Great FREE Offerings for Players to Help COACHES!

We have promoted this on our social media account but as you get into the early weeks of the season and schedule an off day for your team, consider having them view/take a course or 2 offered free by the NFHS. The 2 courses of interest deal with concussions and social media – but they are targeted toward the player; professionally done and completely in tuned to THEIR thinking. The 2 courses, at www.nfhslearn.com are:

Concussion for Students: You can view this at: <http://nfhslearn.com/courses/61059/concussion-for-students>

Social Media for Students: You can view this at: <http://nfhslearn.com/courses/61062/social-media-for-students>

Ultimately these are a tremendous help to YOU.

Friday Night Futbol

It's right around the corner! Friday night, August 19. We have promoted this via social media and several other releases. At the time of this memo, I am *still* waiting confirmation from Columbus Crew SC on providing 2 tickets to one of the Crew SC games for host sites to raffle off. I inquired again this morning and as soon as I hear back, information will come out. I apologize for this lengthy delay.

Headbands

Originally, a headband surfaced in women's college basketball that tied in the back and the 'ties' hung down approximately 6 inches. They have made their way into soccer. The tie in the back presents the problem and is actually a safety issue and is not permitted to be worn in soccer. Play Rulings in Rule 4, Section 2 state that*“any knotted device may be dangerous”*.

“Kick for the Cure”Have a “Special Event” Game?

These and other 'special event contests' are a tribute to the efforts school coaches put forth to call attention to a significant and important cause. The OHSAA will waive the usual uniform requirements upon request for MOST requests. The 'number requirements' on a jersey/short must remain, however, use of "Pink" for jerseys, socks, etc .will be waived upon request. Your request will be reviewed and response provided your Athletic Director. Download the request at:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/SOspecialeventuniformrequest.pdf>

Junior High Soccer Players – High School Soccer Players

One of the fundamental principles in Ohio has always been to NOT permit 7/8th graders to participate with 9-12 graders. Please remember that this is NOT permissible by OHSAA regulations and does result in suspension and fine for the coach. This is covered in pre-season Rules Meetings and in Coaches' Guides. I STRONGLY suggest you review this with your JV coach/assistant coaches – if you have them.