

Online Rules Meetings
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OHIO SOCCER WEEKLY



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

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All COACH Rules Meetings
Required ONLINE for 2014

Get Your Pupil Activity **Certificate Updated!**

Schools that permit coaches to coach (Paid or volunteer) without a valid Pupil Activity Certificate issued by the ODE will be fined \$250.00 per coach. You can access simple instructions for obtaining your permit at:

<http://www.ohsaa.org/members/coaches/OHSAACoachCertificationExplained.pdf>

Scrimmage Note

Each team in your program is permitted to schedule 4 scrimmages PLUS 1 Preview. You may use these scrimmages at any time during the season and many teams do hold 1 to use during the tournament season.

Player Limitations - **Scrimmages**

Keep in mind that PLAYERS are limited to participation in 4 different scrimmages and 1 Preview. This prevents a player from participation in 4 JV scrimmages and 4 different Varsity scrimmages (or a JV and Varsity Preview)

Important Note on **Previews**

Teams are permitted to schedule 1 "Preview" if they wish to do so. Previews are clearly defined and MUST be one HALF in length (40 min. Varsity) Admission may be charged and can be held anytime after the first day of practice but before your first scheduled game.

Alumni Scrimmages?

Many teams elect to hold an "Alumni Scrimmage. This is permissible since Ohio remains one of the few states that permits its schools to play teams that are not members of the state association. Please note, however, any Alumni Scrimmage is just that...1 of the 4 permitted scrimmages. Of course if you do this as 1 of the 10 permissible Instructional Days in June/July, the 'event' would not be considered an OHSAA event.

HereWe Go!

We're *almost* there with the start of the season right around the corner. As coaches know, *coaching* is only a small part of what goes into that important title of "Head Coach". This (and future) postings are designed to help you with the 'non-coaching' items that often are overlooked or sometimes not even *known* by newer head coaches. Many items are dictated by OHSAA regulations and a little help is always beneficial.

Have You Scheduled Your Pre-Season Meeting?

First, Pre-Season Parent/Athlete meetings are **mandated** by the OHSAA. As a Head Coach you KNOW the importance of good communication. There could not be a better opportunity to review the expectations with parents AND players. Make the message clear, make certain you provide them written copies of your 'team rules'. Address 'playing time' and players that 'move up and down'. Being 'up front' now with YOUR expectations will go a long way down the road when issues develop. And in a long season, they always do! We even provide sample agenda's, video resources, etc. for these meetings. You can even log on and show the NFHS' "Concussion Course" or "Positive Sport Parenting" during these pre-season meetings. How much better would it be if ALL parents viewed these?

Need Help? The NFHS "Learning Center" is Waiting to Help You!

We all know the issues that arise during the year; "my son or daughter is not seeing enough playing time", the out of control parent that doesn't really know his/her role, etc. How about a little help? The NFHS has devoted considerable time and expense to developing helpful tools for coaches at its "Learning Center" Take a look; everything from Concussion Management for coaches to "how to be a "positive sport parent" is covered in The Learning Center.

And the great part – MANY are FREE!! Bookmark this at www.nfhslearn.com.



HEAT WARNING....Be Prepared!

PLEASE...BE PREPARED....Do all you can. Take a few moments out of your schedule along with your assistant coaches and view the FREE NFHS Course: **Heat Illness Prevention**. You can view this through the NFHSlearn website or directly at: <http://www.nfhslearn.com/courses/34000> You may save a life!

Keep Your Emergency Medical Forms

Just a short reminder as team rosters are developed, make certain you keep copies of your "Emergency Medical" forms with you. These can prove invaluable in the event of an injury on the road. With so many non-school individuals coaching at the sub-varsity level, I encourage you to remind the coaches of your sub-varsity teams.

"Common Sense 101" – "Physical Forms"

It should go without saying but ALL athletes are required to complete a "Pre-Participation Examination". The word "Pre-Participation" means just that...BEFORE participating. Common sense. The player that comes and says "I'll bring it tomorrow" or the player that is the 3 year letterwinner and just hasn't brought it in yet; THOSE are the perfect examples we all face. Use it as the PERFECT discipline that you want to instill in your team. Again, you may wonder why I mention it but I do hear more and more that players 'slip through the cracks'. Do your part and you may be thankful.

Volunteers Need Certification Also!

Though it is a major part of the Rules Interpretation Meetings, **any individual that works with student-athletes** is required to possess a "Pupil Activity Permit" issued by the Ohio Department of Education. This requirement and the steps to obtain it is explained in detail in the Soccer Pre-Season Manual. This requirement includes all PAID and VOLUNTEER coaches for a school.

"Coaches Guide" for ALL Soccer Coaches....Going Green!

A great deal of effort has gone into making the Pre-Season Guide for Coaches a **resource** for coaches to use throughout the year. Everything from off-season regulations to Rule Changes are addressed to better help all coaches. Have a question? Most likely it is addressed in "the Guide". Guides are posted online (no longer mailed to coaches) at: <http://www.ohsaa.org/sports/so/SOCcoachesmanual.pdf> Please share!