

OCTOBER 2012						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

OHIO SOCCER WEEKLY



The Ohio High School Athletic Association

Volume 3

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August 27, 2012

On the Calendar

Non-Interscholastic Date

September 24, 2012

Sectional Tournament Draw

October 7, 2012

From the Officials Side

Shinguards:

If you have coached a few years, you recall when 'Equipment Checks' were made by the officials. A few short years ago, this responsibility was placed upon the COACH. Prior to the contest, the head referee is required to ask the coach "Are your players properly and legally equipped". High school sports are way more than merely 'winning and losing'. As a coach, you are placed in an important role to teach ethics, integrity, honesty, and many more life lessons. So when asked the question, "Are your players properly and legally equipped", we all hope (and expect) you will fulfill your role as "coach" with all the expectations that go with the title. No different than you expect from your players. Shinguards are required by Rule 4 and are to be no more than 2 inches above the ankle and are not to be altered or have sharp edges. Section 3 of Rule 4 outlines the penalty for illegally equipped players. So in your next game, when asked the question by the head referee.....enough said, 'coach'.

Respect
THE
GAME



As the Season Moves Forward

As most coaches settle into an 'in-season' schedule, it is a good time to step back and focus on a few things that sometimes get put on the back burner. Calendar items, a little shorter practice each day might give you a little time to catch up on some important reminders listed here.

Rating & Voting For Officials. Why the Bother?

We ALL want good officials. Officials work to be the best they can. Few realize the amount of continuing education required of officials in Ohio and Ohio officiating is recognized among the best in the nation. So everyone is interested in the best officials working tournament contests. Several years ago, the OHSAA process for selecting tournament officials changed drastically to provide more input. A critical piece of this selection process lies with the head coach of each school **rating officials**. Not only is it critical, it is **required**. Completed through the 'myOHSAA' data management system, coaches are required to **rate** officials and provide input on each varsity contest. In fact, if you *do not* complete this, the school is fined for non-compliance. I will provide more detail on this in an upcoming issue, but a few reminders to head coaches early in the season:

1. Make certain your games are in the myOHSAA system. Ask your Athletic Director.
2. Have your Athletic Director provide you login credentials. This will permit you access to rate your officials as a 'head coach' designation. It does not permit you to alter any of the school's athletic information (rest assured of that Athletic Directors!).
3. Make certain your OFFICIALS are listed for each game, home and away.
4. Ask your officials their name if you do not know them.
5. After your contest is completed, log in and rate the officials from your game.

The specific instructions for providing you login credentials can be found directly at the following link on the OHSAA website: <http://www.ohsaa.org/myOHSAA/OfficialRatingInstructions.pdf>

The above link also provides you specific instructions on HOW to rate your officials. Officials cannot view ratings or have any way of knowing how you rated them. Be fair, be honest and just because you have an 'issue' with an official, do not make that the overriding reasoning for a low rating. Take all things into consideration. Rating your officials is an important part of the tournament selection process and everyone benefits from this.

College Tryouts/Workouts

I addressed collegiate tryouts/workouts in this year's Rules Interp. meetings. Last season, an abundance of collegiate tryouts/workouts were begun for high school seniors. They are **not permitted** and violate the 'non-interscholastic' regulation for players. 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, including collegiate tryouts. Thus the 'non-interscholastic' rule that has stood the test of time. Please remind your players.

Non-Interscholastic Play and the "Non-Interscholastic Date"

As stated above, players are not permitted to play non-interscholastic soccer anytime during the school soccer season. The significance of the "non-interscholastic date" provides a greater penalty if any player DOES participate on or after this date (9/24/12). In addition to in-season suspension the player also becomes ineligible for the OHSAA Tournament.

"Kick For the Cure" Games

Many of you are involved in "Kick for the Cure" games or local initiatives for breast cancer awareness. Though no special permission is required for participation, many inquiries come my way regarding 'uniform restrictions/exceptions', which do require "Special Permits" from the OHSAA if you plan on utilizing any variation from NFHS uniform regulations. Basically, we will grant permission for a sponsor or receiving benefactor to be on the jersey. No permission is required to grant a 'pink' jersey since it is permissible anyhow. The 'number requirements' (6" on back and 4" on front of jersey or short) cannot be waived so if having special jerseys made, please keep that in mind. Congrats to coaches dedicating proceeds to an important cause.



The OHSAA By the Numbers

1,277

Number of registered soccer officials in Ohio

98

Number of NEW soccer officials in Ohio this year

14,614

Total Number of ALL officials registered in Ohio

1,363

Number of officials yet to renew their license that were licensed in 2011-12