



PARTICIPATING SCHOOL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION 2008 MHSAA BOYS SOCCER

1. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The MHSAA LP Boys Soccer tournament is conducted in four Divisions, with 20% of schools sponsoring boys soccer placed in Division 4 and the remaining schools placed equally in Divisions 1, 2 and 3. Each school is assigned to one of 16 District tournaments in each Division as determined by MHSAA staff based on geography and travel considerations. The District assignment will be in the fall "Tournament Notification Form" sent to all member schools and also posted on the MHSAA Web site.

Each District winner advances to one of four Regional tournaments in Each Division. District and Regional host schools are determined by MHSAA staff based on hosting requests, rotation, facility specifications and hosting ability. Regional champions advance to Semifinal games at two locations in each Division. Championship games are played at two sites TBA.

Dates

Districts – October 13-18
Regionals – October 21-25
Semifinals – October 29
Finals – November 1

2. TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES

Individuals or teams shall be accompanied to the event by the coach, administrator or appointee of the school in order to participate in a MHSAA event.

PRACTICE AT TOURNAMENT SITE - During the week of Districts and Regionals, schools (except host) may not practice on the field to be used for the District or Regional Final. During the week of the Championship Final Games, schools may not practice on the field that is to be used for the Championship Final Game unless the field is an artificial turf field and a school has not previously played on an artificial turf field that season and has made arrangements with the Final Game site host to do so. Otherwise, only the host school for the Championship Final Games is permitted to practice on the field that is to be used for the Championship Games.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATOR - A school administrator or faculty designee (not the coach) **MUST** be present at all MHSAA tournament series games. Pre-district games are considered a part of the MHSAA tournament series. The start of the game **will not be delayed**; however, schools not complying will face MHSAA administrative disciplinary action.

3. OPT OUT POLICIES, ELIGIBILITY LISTS, ROSTERS

Schools must see that tournament managers receive an accurate Master Eligibility List and Team Roster by the Opt-Out Due Date. These forms are available at mhsaa.com. Failure to fulfill the above obligations by the specified Opt-Out Due Date will result in MHSAA penalties as stipulated in the MHSAA Handbook. For Boys Soccer, the Opt-Out Due Date is September 24, 2008. Schools must notify the tournament managers by the Opt-Out Due Date if they DO NOT intend to participate in a previously assigned MHSAA tournament.

Additions or updates to the Master Eligibility list (except transfer students who enroll after the dates in Regulation I, Section 9 [F]) may be accepted by the Tournament Manager if submitted and received prior to the start of competition for ANY team in the first level of that tournament to which the school is

assigned.

Use of ineligible - Individuals or teams which are defeated by an ineligible opponent or teams which allowed one or more ineligible students to participate do not advance in MHSAA tournaments. If placements in MHSAA tournaments are vacated as a result of an individual being ineligible or a team allowing one or more ineligible students to participate, other individuals or teams neither advance to those placements nor receive awards for those places.

4. DRAW PROCEDURES

Each District Tournament Manager will conduct a draw meeting between September 26 and October 3. Contact your district host to find the time and place of the draw meeting. If five or more teams are entered, the draw will be placed in an eight team bracket. If four or fewer teams are entered, the draw will be in a four team bracket.

5. TIME SCHEDULE

All District, Regional, and Semifinal game times shall be determined by the Tournament Manager with consideration given to team travel and the opportunity for spectators to be present. It is to be understood that game time must be within the time limits at the host school facility.

Teams are encouraged to arrive one hour before game time. Failure to be ready for play by twenty-five minutes after scheduled starting time will result in forfeiture. (In emergency situations and when a delay has been reported the manager may delay the start time more than 25 minutes)

Start times for Finals games will be at 12:00 noon and 2:30 p.m. at each Finals site.

6. AWARDS

The winning school in each division at each District and Regional Tournament will receive a trophy. The runner-up team and championship team in each division at the Final Tournament will receive a trophy.

Twenty-five medals will be awarded to members of winning teams at District, Regional, and Final Tournaments. The same number of medals will be awarded runner-up teams at the Final Tournament. If additional medals are desired by winning schools, they may be ordered through the MHSAA at school expense. BY REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL ACTION, ONLY MHSAA APPROVED AWARDS MAY BE PRESENTED.

7. LIMITS OF COMPETITION

Teams and individuals may have a maximum of 18 games during the regular season. An athlete may not compete on more than one level a day. MHSAA tournament dates do not count against season maximums. An athlete may not participate at more than one level on the same day.

8. FINANCES

Admission for spectators is \$5 at the Districts and Regional Tournaments, \$6 at the Semifinal games and \$7 at the Finals.

Teams assume all costs of participation at the District and Regional level. At the Semifinal and Final Tournament, competing teams who travel more than 75 miles to the tournament sites will be reimbursed for meals, mileage, and a per diem based on the MHSAA formula for soccer.

9. OFFICIALS SELECTION/ASSIGNMENTS

Managers will hire officials at the District level from the MHSAA approved list. At the Regional, Semifinal and Final games, officials will be assigned by the MHSAA.

10. PLAYING RULES/ADAPTATIONS

All National Federation soccer playing rules will be used with the following MHSAA adaptations and points of emphasis:

POINT DIFFERENTIAL RULE - A game shall end when a team is behind 8 goals or more and at least one complete half has been played. This rule is in effect for all games at all levels of MHSAA tournament competition.

CLOCK - When available, the home school's scoreboard (stadium) clock is to indicate OFFICIAL TIME. If necessary the referee shall immediately direct the adjustment of time, on the visual clock if there is a discrepancy. If the home school's scoreboard (stadium) clock is not available, the official time shall be kept by the referee.

Rule 4-2-1(f) – Note 1: The goalkeeper may wear a head protector made of closed-cell, slow-recovery rubber.

Rule 4-2-1(f) Note 2: The goalkeeper may wear a soft-billed baseball type hat or soft-billed visor.

Rule 4-2-1(f) - Note 3: Players may wear soft and yielding caps during inclement weather.

The following criteria for Note 3 must be met: (a) the cap can only be a ski cap type, (b) any design, pom pon or other ornamentation is prohibited, (c) any number of players on a team can wear caps, (d) it cannot be secured by tying it under the chin.

Note: None of the above is intended to prohibit or discourage the choice of all players to wear tooth/mouth guards or head protection that is safe and not potentially injurious to other players.

11. MEDIA

Media credential requests for Regional meets are processed by local managers. Credential requests for the Finals meet will be handled by the MHSAA.

Videotaping- Competing schools may videotape games in which that school competes. The tape is not to be used to second-guess decisions made by game/meet officials. Schools wishing to videotape games at other sites may do so without securing advanced permission, but must tape from the stands unless press box space is available. Spectators may tape games from their normal seating area but are not to interfere with the view of other spectators or news media personnel covering the activity. A manager is not required to provide electrical hook-ups or tripod space and may arrange spectator videotaping from a designated location(s). The tape may not be distributed, sold, rented, or loaned for commercial purposes.

Souvenir Program Policies

Teams winning Regional titles in selected sports must fill out and e-mail program information and a team photograph to the MHSAA office to be used in the souvenir program for the Semifinals and the Finals in the event the team qualifies for Final round play. Program information kits are available on the respective sports pages of the MHSAA Web Site. Those sports are as follows: Baseball, boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, football, ice hockey, boys and girls soccer, softball, girls volleyball, team dual wrestling. Complete directions for filling out and submitting information and photographs is included with each kit. All program information and photographs must be submitted by e-mail.

Information For District/Regional/Semifinal Tournaments - Teams competing in MHSAA District, Regional and Quarterfinal tournaments shall provide, upon request, team rosters, photographs and other information as necessary, to local tournament managers so that a souvenir program may be assembled for the event.

Merchandising/Promotion Policies

Use of MHSAA Logo – The MHSAA logo and acronym are registered trademarks. MHSAA tournament trophy designs are also copyrighted. Use of these legally protected marks requires written permission of the MHSAA. Contact the MHSAA Communications Director for additional information.

Multimedia Policies

Audio/Video/Still Photography Rights – The MHSAA owns the rights to all multimedia (audio-video-still images-Internet) at all levels of its tournaments. Still and video photography is allowed by individual

spectators from the seating area of the venue unless the host school district or facility has a previously-existing policy which is more restrictive. The MHSAA has exclusive multimedia arrangements for its Final events.

MHSAA Handbook Regulation II, Section 14(A) reads as follows: "No school may sell or rent videos (DVD, tape or film) or sell still images of contests which are part of an MHSAA tournament without the permission of the MHSAA."

If a school wishes to authorize an individual(s) to create multimedia content, the principal or athletic administrator must contact the tournament manager for passes and access. Refer to the publication, MHSAA Multimedia Regulations, for more information.

Post-Game Interviews -- Coaches should also be readily available to meet with the media shortly after the conclusion of a contest. It is recommended that approximately five minutes after the game, managers provide a location other than the team locker rooms for post game interviews with coaches and/or players the coach may wish to designate for interviews. Locker room access should never be allowed to media. Inasmuch as many media outlets are often on deadline following contests, interviews should be granted before any lengthy team meetings occur.

12. SPORTSMANSHIP

When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for the remainder of that day of competition and for at least the next day of competition for that team.

When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching for the remainder of that day of competition and from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach's team.

Failure of the school for any reason to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular-season contest.

Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next season in any sport for seniors. If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply.

Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season, any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season, and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament.

If a team is removed from competition in protest, the contest is forfeited to the opponent and the coach and principal of the removed team must appear before the Executive Committee to indicate why additional action should not be taken. The Executive Committee may also require the appearance of personnel from other schools and game officials.

If the coach is ejected from the contest and an assistant coach, or an assigned school representative is not available to continue as the coach the event is terminated and forfeited to the opponent.

When a contest is interrupted or it ends prematurely because of breakdown of proper sportsmanship and whether or not the on-site officials forfeit the contest to one team, one or both schools may be subjected to any or all, but not limited to, the following: censure, probation with competition, probation without competition, forfeiture, loss of privilege of revenue sharing, expulsion. In addition, it may be required of

one or both schools that their coaches and administrators appear before the Executive Committee to indicate why additional action should not be taken.

13. WEATHER POLICIES, SUSPENSIONS, POSTPONEMENTS

MHSAA Regulations regarding suspension of competition for thunder and lightning will apply as follows: When lightning is observed or thunder is heard and the contest is suspended, contestants shall not return to the playing field until lightning has been absent from the local sky and thunder has not been heard for 30 minutes.

In addition the following suspension regulations apply:

The game is not official until the first half is completed. Any game stopped and not able to be resumed before the first half is completed is treated as a suspended game. Whenever the game is resumed, it is done so from the exact point of suspension. When the first half has been completed and there is no score or the score is tied and if the game has been stopped and is not able to be resumed, it is a suspended game. Whenever the game is resumed, it is done so from the exact point of suspension.

When the first half has been completed and one team is ahead in score and if the game has been stopped and is not able to be resumed, the game is over and the team ahead in score is the winner.

Suspended games where a winner cannot be determined will be resumed from point of suspension on the next available day (not Sunday).

14. INJUNCTION, RESTRAINING ORDER, PROTESTS

If an injunction or restraining order is served or presented at an MHSAA tournament site and such purports to require the eligibility of or participation by a student or team which a school and/or the MHSAA has ruled to be ineligible under MHSAA regulations, the on-site tournament manager is to suspend the entire competition (team competition) or events in which that student is intending to participate (individual competition). If the meet has begun, it shall be completed.

Protests will not be reviewed by the MHSAA. All disputes must be decided at the site before the game proceeds. The umpires will make the final decision regarding game events. The Tournament Manager will resolve all next game concerns.

15. TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL POLICY

For coaches and officials at all MHSAA tournaments, use of tobacco products of any kind within sight of players and spectators and use of alcohol during a contest or at any time before it on the day of the contest is prohibited.

Tobacco: It is not intended that a violation of the tobacco policy should lead to immediate ejection of a coach. He or she should be reminded of the policy and reported to his or her school administration after the contest. Only if the coach is unwilling to comply promptly shall he or she be disqualified from coaching at the event. Officials should be reminded of the tobacco policy and reported in writing by the tournament manager to the MHSAA.

Alcohol: Historically, officials promptly disqualified coaches, and tournament managers immediately replaced officials who were under the influence of alcohol; and no change in such procedures is intended by these policies.

16. SPECTATOR POLICIES

The following general policies apply to spectators at MHSAA Soccer Tournament events. Tournament managers may also have additional school, facility or institutional restrictions and/or policies.

- Banners are allowed with Meet Manager approval.
- Noisemakers must be approved by the Meet Manager. Air horns and whistles are not allowed.
- Body paint is not allowed.
- Smoking is not allowed at the tournament site.

- Tournament management may request that spectator sections not stand during play if standing will block the view of other spectators. If possible, policies which prohibit spectator sections from standing during play should be communicated to participating teams in advance of their arrival at the tournament site.
- Spectator Videotaping – Spectators may tape games from their normal seating area but are not to interfere with the view of other spectators or news media personnel covering the activity. A manager is not required to provide electrical hook-ups; or tripod space and may arrange spectator videotaping from a designated location(s).

