

SOCCER ANNOUNCEMENTS

July 26, 2023



JAMBOREES APPROVED FOR HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

High schools may begin hosting Soccer Jamborees in 2023-24. The purpose for these controlled playing opportunities is to provide a meaningful, learning and training experience for players, coaches, and officials. Jamborees must take place prior to regular season competitions and include 3 or 4 KSHSAA member schools. Participating schools determine admission procedures (fee, donations, charities, etc.), and KSHSAA registered officials are required. It is strongly encouraged to use jamborees as training opportunities for officials. Also, time should be scheduled during a jamboree for officials to review rules changes, points of emphasis, and sportsmanship expectations with players and coaches. It is recommended this time be scheduled either prior to the start of jamboree play, during a break/intermission, or at the conclusion of play. To review all the requirements for a Soccer Jamboree, click [HERE](#).



OFFICIAL BALL FOR KSHSAA SOCCER

The KSHSAA is proud to partner with SELECT for the next six years and have the SELECT Royale as the official ball for KSHSAA soccer. For special school rates and discounts for SELECT items and a list of SELECT dealers in Kansas, click [HERE](#).

2023-24 RULES MEETING & EXAM

COACHES – Annually, all KSHSAA head soccer coaches (high school and middle school) are required to attend a rules meeting and complete a rules exam prior to the season. The rules meeting and the exam will be accessible online July 27 – August 24. For girls only high school coaches and middle school spring coaches, there will also be online accessibility November 29 – March 13. Coaches may attend one of the in-person rules meetings listed below. Important information including the KSHSAA Soccer Manual and online passwords were mailed in July to school athletic directors.

OFFICIALS – Registered soccer officials may complete the required rules meeting online or attend an IN-PERSON rules meeting this year. Both the rules meeting and the rules exam will be accessible online July 27 – August 24 and for girls only officials November 29 – March 13. Information packets are mailed to officials once they register.

IN-PERSON RULES MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS

Monday, July 31 @ Topeka-Maner Conference Centre (4:30 p.m.)

Saturday, August 5 @ Shawnee Mission South HS (9:00 a.m.)

Kansas City Area Officials Clinic*

Tuesday, August 8 @ Independence HS (7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 9 @ Goddard-Eisenhower HS (7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, August 10 @ Topeka-KSHSAA Office (7:00 p.m.)

Saturday, August 12 @ Wichita-East HS (10:30 a.m.)

Wichita Area Officials Clinic*

Tuesday, August 15 @ Dodge City HS-Fine Arts Practice Room (7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 16 @ Maize South HS (7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, August 17 @ Shawnee-Mill Valley HS (7:00 p.m.)



FIRST FIVE DAYS OF FALL SOCCER PRACTICE

Are you practicing just once per day for no more than three hours? Be sure you know KSHSAA Rule 30-1-8: [HEAT ACCLIMATIZATION RULES and Q&A for FALL ACTIVITIES](#). Also, make certain you and your student-athletes have received the required [CPR/AED, CONCUSSION, and HEAT ILLNESS PRESEASON EDUCATION](#).

FALL SOCCER PLAYERS REQUIRED TO HAVE NINE (9) DAYS OF PRACTICE

KSHSAA Rule 38 states a fall season soccer player must participate in nine days of practice with the team prior to participating in a contest. The primary reason is heat acclimatization and hydration awareness. Each sport has different conditioning and practice needs unique to that sport. Coaches are responsible for documenting these practices. **(Rule 38-1-2)**

NEW: Only 5 practices will be required for participation in fall soccer contests occurring on or after the Monday of SCW #13 (September 25, 2023) due to cooler temperatures and less need for heat acclimatization measures. This change to KSHSAA Rule 38-1-2 benefits injured players starting their fall season late or middle school seasons that begin in late fall. **Athletes playing contests prior to the Monday of SCW #13 are still required to have 9 practices.**

KSHSAA RULE 22 – OUTSIDE COMPETITION

Rule 22, Outside Competition, Section 1, Article 1 states: A student who is a member of a school athletic, scholars bowl or debate squad effective Monday SCW #7 through Friday preceding Memorial Day may not participate as a member of an outside team or as an independent competitor in the same sport, scholars bowl or debate activity. (Exception: See Rule 4, United States Olympic Committee-Sponsored National Trials and Competitions.)

Therefore, once a student begins practice with a school team (fall practices begin August 14), the student may not play on an outside/club team.

ARE ALL YOUR STUDENT-ATHLETES ELIGIBLE?

Double-check and verify with your athletic director that all your student-athletes are eligible to compete (Physical Examination Parental Consent Rule #7 and Individual Eligibility Rules #12-26 in the KSHSAA Handbook). Click [HERE](#) to access the KSHSAA Handbook.

UNIFORMS

The home team wears dark colored jerseys and socks (clear contrast to white), and the visiting team wears solid white jerseys (no colored piping, stripes, etc.) and solid white socks. Read carefully **Rule 4-1** in the 2023-24 NFHS Soccer Rules Book regarding uniforms including undergarments. You may also reference the [NFHS UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT](#).

Socks (4-1-1b) – Both socks shall be the same color, with the visiting team wearing solid white socks and the home team wearing socks of a single dominant color, but not necessarily the color of the jersey. If tape or a similar material (stays/straps) is applied externally to the socks, it must be of similar color as that part of the sock to which it is applied. **Cut-off socks are allowed and must also be of similar color to the main sock.**

Schools do not need to contact KSHSAA regarding special jersey nights such as “Pink Out” Nights where the home team wears a different color jersey and/or socks as long as the jersey and/or socks are a clear contrast to white being worn by the visiting team. Common courtesy would be to notify both the officials and the visiting team of these special nights prior to the contest.

OFFICIAL SCOREBOOK & BALL HOLDERS REQUIRED AT ALL CONTESTS (NFHS RULE 6)

It is REQUIRED that all schools provide a scorer’s table, official soccer scorebook and at least two ball holders at all interscholastic soccer contests. This requirement includes all varsity and non-varsity contests.

OFFICIAL & TEAM AREAS (NFHS RULE 1-5)

There shall be marked areas for each team's bench, separated by an official area for entering substitutes, scorer's table and timers. These marked areas shall be at least 10 feet from the touchline. The state association shall be notified if team areas are not marked. The official area shall extend 5 yards on each side of the halfway line. The team areas shall extend from 10 yards on each side of the halfway line for a distance of 20 yards, and each area shall be marked by a solid line. Coaches, bench personnel and team members shall be restricted to the team area.

SPECTATORS' AREA (NFHS RULE 1-6)

Spectators shall be confined to areas at least 10 feet from the touch line, team/official area and goal line. No one shall be permitted directly behind either goal unless in bleachers.



IMPORTANT SOCCER DATES 2023-24

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
Beginning Practice Date	Aug. 14	Feb. 26
Earliest Possible Competition	Aug. 25	Mar. 14
Early Season Tournaments	Sept. 4-9	Mar. 25-30
Mid-Season Tournaments	Oct. 9-14	Apr. 29 – May 4
Regional Tournaments	Oct. 23-28	May 13-18
State Quarterfinals	Oct. 31	May 21
State Semifinals & Finals	Nov. 3-4	May 24-25

BOYS SOCCER POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Schools will be notified of regional tournament assignments in early October after reclassification announcements. All regular season contest scores must be entered by participating schools on the KSHSAA site by Friday, October 20. The top sixteen schools in the West and in the East will be seeded and tournament brackets will be released on Saturday, October 21. **There will be no play-in games.** Regional and state quarterfinal contests will be hosted and played at the higher seed.

BOYS SOCCER POSTSEASON TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Monday & Tuesday (October 23-24)	Regional First Round
Thursday (October 26)	Regional Finals
Tuesday (October 31)	State Quarterfinals
Friday (November 3)	State Semifinals (4:00 & 6:30 p.m.)
Saturday (November 4)	State Consolation (12:00 p.m.) & Championship Finals (3:00 p.m.)

Please note the new start times for semifinal contests on Friday and the championship finals on Saturday.

The official rules for soccer competition in Kansas will be the National Federation 2023-24 Soccer Rules Book. All high school competitions, including the postseason, will be conducted under the NFHS Rules. Schools will be permitted to suit up a maximum of 22 players in postseason competition. First-place teams in the regional tournaments will receive plaques. First-, second-, and third-place teams in the state tournament will receive trophies, and all final four teams will receive individual medals.

SITES & HOSTS FOR STATE SEMIFINALS & FINALS

- 6A @ Topeka-Hummer Sports Park: Host = Topeka USD 501
- 5A @ Spring Hill High School: Host = Spring Hill USD 230
- 4-1A @ Wichita-Stryker Sports Complex: Host = Visit Wichita

2023-24 NFHS RULES & POINTS OF EMPHASIS

To access and review NFHS soccer rules changes and points of emphasis with rationale and explanation, please go to [NFHS.ORG – SOCCER](https://www.nfhs.org/soccer) or [KSHSAA.ORG – SOCCER](https://www.kshsaa.org/soccer). This year's points of emphasis are as follows:

1. Wearable Technology
2. Coaching and Team Area Decorum
3. Denying an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity (DOGSO)
4. Substitutions

OTHER HELPFUL LINKS

[NFHS SOCCER FIELD DIAGRAM](#)

[NFHS SOCCER OFFICIAL SIGNALS](#)

NFHSLEARN.COM (Be sure to check out all the offerings at www.nfhslearn.com.)

So many helpful courses and videos are available for coaches, officials, students, parents, administrators . . .

Two FREE courses are *Implicit Bias* and *The Collapsed Athlete*.

Officials – take advantage of FREE officiating courses, *Pregame Conference*, *Fouls & Misconduct*, & *Offside Rule*

Coaches – *The Parent Seat*, *Beyond the Scoreboard*, & *A Lasting Relationship* are FREE, brief (around 5 minutes) videos you can download and show at parent meetings or share electronically. Click [HERE](#) to access.

OFFICIALS' UNIFORM/GEAR (NFHS RULE 5-1-3)

The officials shall be dressed alike in the uniforms primarily consisting of:

- a. a shirt approved by the state association; in the event of a color conflict between the officials and the field players of either team, the officials shall change to a jersey of a color distinct from the field players of both teams. *(The KSHSAA does not specify shirt color for officials. For new officials, the predominant shirt colors worn by KSHSAA soccer officials are yellow, green, red, blue, and black.)*
- b. black shorts or long trousers.
- c. predominantly black shoes and black knee socks with white horizontal stripes.
- d. two whistles, yellow card, red card, stopwatch/wristwatch, flipping coin, pencil, and paper/scorecard.
- e. a solid black cap, if worn.
- f. unless otherwise prohibited by the state association, electronic communication devices may be used by officials to communicate. *(The KSHSAA does not prohibit officials from using electronic communication devices.)*