

# SOCCER ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 13, 2024



## 2024-25 KSHSAA SOCCER MANUAL CHANGES

The KSHSAA Soccer Manual was mailed to school athletic directors and is accessible on the KSHSAA website. After reviewing survey data from member schools who participate in soccer, the KSHSAA Executive Board approved the following two changes to the KSHSAA Soccer Manual:

1. **Reduced the 10-goal differential to 8 throughout regular season and postseason play.**  
Rationale: Primary reason is risk/injury mitigation. This remains applicable only after one complete half of play. Number of goals scored is not a postseason seeding criteria.
2. **Removed the two 5-minute sudden victory overtime periods in postseason play.** Postseason contests ending regulation with a tie score will play two 10-minute sudden victory periods, and then proceed to penalty kicks when needed.  
Rationale: Primary reason is risk/injury mitigation. Align more closely with regular season overtime procedure which is two 10-minute sudden victory periods.

## 2024-25 RULES MEETING & EXAM

**COACHES** – 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. NEW THIS YEAR: All assistant coaches are required to complete a rules meeting. The rules meeting and the exam are accessible online August 1-29. For girls only high school coaches and middle school spring coaches, there will also be online accessibility February 6 – March 19. Coaches may attend one of the in-person rules meetings listed below.

**OFFICIALS** – Registered soccer officials may complete the required rules meeting online or attend an in-person rules meeting. Both the rules meeting and the rules exam will be accessible online August 1 – September 25 and for girls only officials November 29 – April 15. Information packets are mailed to officials once they register.

### **IN-PERSON RULES MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS**

Saturday, August 10 @ Shawnee-Mill Valley HS (9:00 a.m.)  
Kansas City Area Officials Clinic\*

Tuesday, August 13 @ Independence HS (7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 14 @ Maize South HS (7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, August 15 @ Topeka-KSHSAA Office (7:00 p.m.)

Saturday, August 17 @ Wichita-East HS (10:30 a.m.)

Wichita Area Officials Clinic\*

Tuesday, August 20 @ Dodge City HS-Fine Arts Practice Room (7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, August 21 @ Salina-Smoky Hills Service Center (7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, August 22 @ Lansing 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 30-1-9: [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. Coaches are responsible for documenting these practices.

Only 5 practices are required for participation in fall soccer contests occurring on or after the Monday of SCW #13 (September 30, 2024) 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.**

## **JAMBOREES FOR HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER**

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 athletes must have at least 5 prior practices. KSHSAA registered officials are required. It is strongly encouraged to use jamborees as training opportunities for officials. Time should be scheduled during a jamboree for officials to review rules changes and sportsmanship expectations with players and coaches. To review all the requirements for a Soccer Jamboree, click [HERE](#).

## **KSHSAA RULES REVIEW – Click [HERE](#) to access the KSHSAA Handbook.**

**KSHSAA RULE 22** – Once a student begins practice with a school team, the student may not play on an outside/club/rec team in the same sport/activity during the school season.

**KSHSAA RULE 26-1-4** – A student shall not participate in group training sessions or tryouts held by outside agencies **other than colleges** in a sport while he or she is a member of a school athletic team in that identical sport.

*NEW THIS YEAR: Schools may allow athletes to attend college tryouts/ID camps.*

**KSHSAA RULE 30-1-6a** – Schools may not hold interschool scrimmages (practices) in athletics. Interschool is defined as middle/junior school with another middle/junior school and senior high school with another senior high school. **This does not eliminate scrimmages between alumni and the school team.** During a scrimmage there can be no score kept and no clock. Use of officials is permitted. Should one or more game elements (score or time) be involved, it would no longer be a scrimmage, but must count toward the number of contests allowed during the season. Intrasquad scrimmages, games among teammates, even with score, time and/or officials used would not be considered a game.

## **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 NFHS Soccer Rules Book. You may also reference the [NFHS UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS DOCUMENT](#).

*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.

## **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.

## 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.



## IMPORTANT SOCCER DATES 2024-25

	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>
Beginning Practice Date	Aug. 19	Mar. 3
Earliest Possible Competition	Aug. 30	Mar. 20
Early Season Tournaments	Sept. 9-14	Mar. 31 – Apr. 5
Mid-Season Tournaments	Oct. 14-19	May 5-10
Regional Tournaments	Oct. 28 – Nov. 2	May 19-24
State Quarterfinals	Nov. 4	May 26
State Semifinals	Nov. 6	May 28
State Consol & Champ Finals	Nov. 9	May 31

## 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 25. The top sixteen schools in the West and in the East will be seeded and tournament brackets will be released on Saturday, October 26. There will be no play-in games. Regional, state quarterfinal and state semifinal contests will be hosted and played at the higher seed. **State consolation and championship finals for ALL CLASSES will be hosted this year by Visit Wichita at the SCHEELS Stryker Sports Complex.**



## OFFICIAL BALL FOR KSHSAA POSTSEASON SOCCER

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

## 2024-25 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](#) or [KSHSAA.ORG – SOCCER](#). This year's points of emphasis are as follows:

1. Official's Toolbox for Game Management
2. Stopping a Promising Attack (SPA)
3. After a Goal

### 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](http://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.