

2018-2019
GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
SOCCER



SOCCER OFFICIALS AND COACHES'
HANDBOOK

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2018-2019 GHSA Soccer Coaches' Handbook

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2018-2019 GHSA Soccer

Dates and Deadlines

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Monday, January 14, 2019..... | Date of First Official Day for Soccer Practice |
| Monday, January 14, 2019..... | Online Rules Clinic for ALL COACHES Opens |
| Monday, February 4, 2019..... | Deadline for completion of Online Soccer Rules Clinic |
| Monday, February 4, 2019..... | Earliest Date for Soccer Game |
| Thursday, April 18, 2019 | Last Play Date |
| Thursday, April 18, 2019 | Area/Region Qualifiers Determined |
| Tuesday, April 23, 2019..... | State Soccer Tournament - First Round Girls - A, 3A, 5A, & 7A |
| Wednesday, April 24, 2019 | State Soccer Tournament - First Round Boys - A, 3A, 5A, & 7A |
| Thursday, April 25, 2019 | State Soccer Tournament - First Round Girls - 2A, 4A, & 6A |
| Friday, April, 26, 2019..... | State Soccer Tournament - First Round Boys - 2A, 4A, & 6A |
| Wednesday, May 1, 2019..... | State Soccer Tournament - Second Round Girls |
| Thursday, May 2, 2019 | State Soccer Tournament - Second Round Boys |
| Tuesday, May 7, 2019 AND | |
| Wednesday, May 8, 2019..... | State Soccer Tournament - Semifinals - Class A |
| | State Soccer Tournament - Quarterfinal Round |
| Tuesday, May 14, 2019..... | State Soccer Tournament - Semifinals - Class 2A-7A |
| Thursday, May 16, 2019 | State Soccer Tournament - FINALS- Class A |
| Friday, May 17, 2019 AND | |
| Saturday, May 18, 2019 | State Soccer Tournament - FINALS - Class 2A-7A |

State Final Sites are Mercer University in Macon, GA and McEachern High School in Powder Springs, Ga. Classifications will be assigned a Finals location at a later date.



2018-2019 GHSA Soccer Protocol and Procedures

- A. Soccer is a state championship event for boys and girls played in the Spring season. Schools in classes 2A through 7A are aligned in Regions, while Class A schools are aligned in *Public and Private Areas*.
- B. All soccer matches will be played according to the rules published by the National Federation, and all National Federation recommendations for “State Adoption” have been adopted by the GHSA. Sub-varsity matches are limited to 35-minute halves.
- C. Notification of entry in Class A Soccer must be filed in writing with the GHSA Office no later than April 1, for the upcoming school year so that teams may be placed into Areas for competition. All other classifications are structured according to regions.
- D. The number of soccer matches allowed (not including state tournaments) shall be eighteen (18). If a region/area chooses to play a region/area tournament, those matches must be included as part of the 18-game total allowed. Beginning and ending dates for practice and competition can be found at the front of this publication.
- E. All GHSA varsity soccer matches shall be played with one or more officially-dressed officials who are registered under the GHSA plan for the registration of officials.
- F. Teams arriving late for a contest by thirty (30) minutes or more shall forfeit the match, and shall pay the officials unless prior arrangements are made in a timely manner, and both teams agree to start the game late or reschedule it. Consideration will also be given to emergency situations over which the traveling school has no control. The host school has the responsibility of notifying the officials of these changes.
- G. A student may not participate in more than three (3) halves of soccer per day except in a tournament setting, when a player may play two full matches in a calendar day.
- H. During regular season competition played between teams of different classifications, there will be no overtime procedure invoked when regulation play ends with a tie score, unless both coaches agree and inform the match officials prior to the start of the match. During regular season competition between schools in the same classification, and during region/area and state playoff competition, the **overtime procedure** described in item “E” later in this section will be invoked.
- I. In accordance with the National Federation allowance for a state adoption (Rule 7-1-5), when there is a competitive imbalance between the teams, the match will be shortened as follows:
 - 1. If a team is seven (7) or more goals down at the midpoint of the first half, that will be considered the end of the half, and the teams will play a twenty (20) minute second half.
 - 2. If a team is seven (7) or more goals behind at halftime, the second half will be restricted to twenty (20) minutes.
 - 3. When a team trails by ten (10) or more goals at halftime, the game will be terminated.
- J. All soccer matches between schools from the same classification must be played to completion. Matches that are interrupted by weather or mechanical difficulties will be replayed from the point of interruption unless the team that is behind chooses not to complete the match.
- K. In accordance with GHSA By-Laws, soccer coaches will be required to attend a GHSA rules clinic. Failure to do so will result in a fine for the school for each coach who does not attend.



2018-2019 GHSOA Soccer OVERTIME PROCEDURES

1. The overtime will consist of *one (1) fifteen-minute period*, which will be played in its entirety.
2. A coin toss shall take place to determine which team will put the ball in play first.
3. If the score remains tied following the overtime period, a “shootout” of penalty kicks will determine the winner.
4. The head referee shall choose the goal at which the penalty kicks will be taken.
5. Each coach will select any five (5) eligible players (including goalkeeper) to take the kicks.
6. A coin toss shall be held with the team winning the toss having the choice of kicking first or last in the first round.
7. *Teams will then alternate kickers in an A-B-B-A rotation, and there is no follow up on the kicks.*
8. The defending team may change goalkeepers prior to each kick.
9. Following five kicks from each team, the team with the greater number of successful kicks will be given one (1) point and declared the winner.
10. If the same number of penalty kicks are successful for each team, each coach will select five (5) different eligible players who will kick in a “sudden victory” situation. Each team will have an opportunity to kick in each round of the sudden victory procedure.
11. If there is no sudden victory winner after five (5) kicks, the process will be repeated until a winner is determined.



2018-2019 GHSA SOCCER STATE STATE COMPETITION:

- A. Four teams from each Region in classes 2A through 7A, and two (2) teams from each Area in class A *Public and Private divisions*, will advance to the state tournament.
1. Region/Area winners must be determined by April 18, 2019.
 2. It is the responsibilities of the host team to furnish game balls beyond those furnished by the GHSA
 3. In the event that two schools involved cannot agree on the arrangements for the series (dates, times, etc.) the GHSA Executive Director will make a ruling to cover the situation.
 4. Prior to the final round, the higher seeded team will host, unless the competing teams have the same seeding. In that case, a coin flip will designate the host team.
 5. All Championship games will be played on May 16-18, 2019. Admission prices and exact schedules and sites will be posted on the GHSA web site prior to the finals.
 6. At neutral-site games, each participating team is allowed free admission for a maximum of 25 players and team essential personnel. Coaches will be admitted with a GHSA coaching pass.

Finances

1. The GHSA will receive 12% of the gross gate receipts.
 2. For the First and Second Round of the State Playoffs, each HOST SCHOOL will be responsible for paying the Officials. (DO NOT SEND Official payments to GHSA office when submitting the financial playoff report.)
 3. Beginning with the Quarter-Finals and with the Semi-Finals and Finals, a pre-set amount for game officials fees will be sent to the GHSA Office, along with the 12% of gross gate receipts, and the GHSA office will be responsible for paying the officials.
 3. The visiting team shall be paid \$.80 per mile (one way) for travel.
 4. After these three expenses are paid the schools involved will share the remaining gate receipts equally.
 5. The host school is responsible for security, facility fees, maintenance costs, etc., and these expenses shall not be taken out of gate receipts.
- C. Admission must be charged at all playoff games. Beginning immediately after Region/Area winners are determined, fees for single playoff games prior to the Championship Finals are \$7.00. Doubleheaders will be \$10.00.
- D. In order to host a state playoff game, the following site requirements must be met:
1. Seating requirements (seats at 24 inches each):
A & 2A: 750; 3A: 1,000; 4A: 1,500; 5A, 6A & 7A: 2,000
 2. Adequate restroom facilities must be provided
 3. Dressing area must be provided for the visiting team
 4. The playing area must be configured in such a way that spectators must enter through an admission gate.
 5. The field must be sufficiently lighted to allow for night play for all semifinal and championship matches.
 6. Championships matches will be held at centralized sites.
- E. In the post-season tournaments, it is necessary to have team benches located on the same side of the field. This will be true even in situations where fans are kept on opposite sides of the field.



2018-2019 GHS A SOCCER STATE PLAYOFF BRACKET LINKS

BOYS

<https://www.ghsa.net/2018-2019-ghsa-class-aaaaaaa-boys-state-soccer-championship-bracket>

GIRLS

<https://www.ghsa.net/2018-2019-ghsa-class-aaaaaaa-girls-state-soccer-championship-bracket>

(Even though the link shows boys and girls 7A, when you go to the link, you will be able to see all Classifications' Brackets.)



2018-2019 GHSA/NFHS SOCCER



Uniform Rules

2018-19 NFHS Soccer Rules Changes

- 4-1-1a, b a. The home team shall wear dark jerseys and socks (dark is defined as any color which contrasts with white), and the visiting team shall wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks. Prior to and during the game, jerseys shall be tucked into the shorts, unless manufactured to be worn outside. b. Both socks shall be the same color, with the home team wearing socks of a single dominant color, but not necessarily the color of the jersey and the visiting team wearing solid white sock. 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. Rationale: This change allows home teams to wear the school-colored jerseys at home. The change would provide the opportunity for teams to use an alternative color uniform for "special" events, if approved by the state association.
- 4-1-1d, e d. If visible apparel is worn under the jersey and/or shorts, it shall be of similar length for an individual and a solid liked-color for the team. Rationale: The previous rule caused financial hardships for some players and schools. The rule allows for the purchase of one set of cold-weather undergarments per player.
- 4-2-10 In addition to the above permitted uses, state associations may on an individual basis (NEW) permit a player to participate while wearing a head covering if it meets the following criteria: 1. For medical or cosmetic reasons – In the event a participant is required by a licensed medical physician to cover his/her head with a covering or wrap, the physician's statement is required before the state association can approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely that it will come off during play. 2. For religious reasons – In the event there is documented evidence provided to the state association that a participant may not expose his/her uncovered head, the state association may approve a covering or wrap which is not abrasive, hard or dangerous to any other player and which is attached in such a way it is highly unlikely to come off during play. Rationale: The addition of this exception allows for the participation of students who for religious reasons must maintain a covered head in all situations. The same is true for the student who for medical or cosmetic reasons needs to cover the head



2018-2019 GHSOA SOCCER FORMS



Go to the website below for all forms needed for Soccer:

<https://www.ghsa.net/forms>

Soccer Game Cards

State Soccer Playoffs Financial Report - 1st and 2nd Rounds, and Quarterfinals

State Soccer Playoffs Financial Report - DoubleHeader - 1st and 2nd Rounds, and Quarterfinals

State Soccer Playoffs Financial Report - Semifinals

State Soccer Playoffs Financial Report - DoubleHeader - Semifinals

State Soccer Playoffs Financial Report - DoubleHeader - Soccer and Lacrosse

Team Travel Form

Coaches Entry Form - Soccer

Excess Team Entry

Pass Gate Form

Student/Parent Concussion Awareness Form (2018-2019)

Pre-participation Physical Evaluation Form



2018-2019 GHSAs SOCCER



Attn: GHSAs Member Schools

RE: GoFan Digital Ticket Sales

In preparing your financial reports for **GHSAs State Playoffs in all sports**, this is a reminder to you that **GoFan Digital Ticket sales are part of your total gate**. The playoff forms for all sports have a separate line item for you to show the # of digital tickets sold and the resulting gate income. GoFan furnishes a report to GHSAs for all playoff games at all member schools showing the # of digital tickets sold – please make sure your financial report reflects that information.

If for any reason, the # of GoFan tickets are not shown on your playoff financial reports and included in the total gate revenue, GHSAs will invoice you for the GHSAs portion of the gate proceeds relating to digital tickets and a notice to pay your visiting team their portion of the omitted gate proceeds as well. **It will be easier for all if you include your digital tickets on the original financial report sent to GHSAs.**

Please do not hesitate to contact the GHSAs office if you have questions concerning the digital ticket program.

Thank you!



2018-2019 GHSOA SOCCER



2019 NFHS SOCCER RULES INTERPRETATIONS

Publisher's Note: The National Federation of State High School Associations is the only source of official high school interpretations. They do not set aside nor modify any rule. They are made and published by the NFHS in response to situations presented.

Dr. Karissa L. Niehoff, Publisher, NFHS Publications © 2018

RULES BOOK CORRECTIONS: (Underlining shows additions; strikethrough shows deletions.) Page 24, 4.1.1 SITUATION D, RULING: (a) Illegal in (a) and (b). Striped jerseys are permissible for the home team as long as the dominant color is dark (dark is defined as any color which contrasts with white). Jerseys with equal-sized stripes that have both dark and white stripes do not have a dominant dark color and are illegal. If visible apparel is worn under the jersey and/or shorts, it shall be similar in length for the individual and all solid and of a like color for the team; Page 79, Comments on Rules Changes: 12.8.1f(15)

PRESEASON GUIDE CORRECTIONS: Page 3, Offside (11-1-4), 2nd paragraph, Play 11, RULING: Indirect free kick at the spot of the infraction (even in own half) Because B1 denied A1 an obvious goal-scoring opportunity, the referee awards the opponent a direct free kick and issues a red card to B1; Page 14, Too Close for Their Own Good, second paragraph, first two sentences: Neither a coach nor a trainer is a player, and cannot be assessed a handling foul. But, since a non-player has interfered with the game, the restart is a direct free kick from the point of the infraction.

SITUATION 1: A player who is part of a wall in a free kick moves his/her hands after the kick to protect his/her face from the ball. RULING: The hand movement is deemed to be a reflex action and is not considered to be deliberate handling. Protecting the head, face, groin or chest from a hard shot or pass using the hands or arms as a reflex is not considered deliberate and therefore not handling. (12-2)

SITUATION 2: A player who is in a defensive position during the taking of a free kick places his/her hands or arms against any part of the body for protection. The offensive player kicks the ball, striking the hands while he/ she remains in front of the body or the arms remain over the chest. In both cases, the hands and arms are stationary. RULING: Legal. This is not handling because the ball struck a stationary hand or arm close to the body and in a natural position, rather than a hand or arm playing the ball. (12-2)

SITUATION 3: A2 kicks a low, hard pass to his/her teammate: (a) B1, a male player who is in the path of the ball, moves his hand to protect his groin and the ball touches his hand; (b) B1, a female player who is in the path of the ball, moves her hand to protect her chest and the ball touches her hand. RULING: Legal in both (a) and (b). Protecting the head, face, groin and chest from a hard shot or pass using the hands or arms as a reflex is not considered deliberate and, therefore, not handling. (12-2)

SITUATION 4: A1 plays the ball toward A2. A2 is in an offside position and runs from the offside position into his/her own half of the field and plays the ball. RULING: A2 is offside as he/ she was in an offside position when the ball was played. An indirect free kick is taken where A2 touched or played the ball. (11-1-4)

SITUATION 5: B1, while attempting to play the ball, trips the attacking player, A1, in the penalty area, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. RULING: The official awards a penalty kick to Team A and issues a caution to B1. (12-8-1)

SITUATION 6: B1, with no attempt to play the ball, trips the attacking player, A1, inside the penalty box, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. RULING: The referee awards Team A a penalty kick and issues a red card to B1. [12-8-2d(4)]

SITUATION 7: B1 trips the attacking player, A1, outside the penalty box, denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity. RULING: The referee awards Team A a direct free kick and issues a red card to B1. [12-8-2d(3)]

SITUATION 8: A player, coach or bench personnel enters or leaves the playing field without permission from the official and interferes with play or an official. RULING: The referee shall penalize the infraction with a direct free kick from the point of the infraction. (13-2-1j)

SITUATION 9: A player, coach or bench personnel enters or leaves the playing field without permission from the official, but does not interfere with play or an official. RULING: The referee shall penalize the infraction with an indirect free kick from the point of the infraction. (13-2-3a)

SITUATION 10: A1 passes the ball and a defender, B1, heads the ball directly to A2, who is in an offside position. RULING: A2 is not offside because he/she received the ball directly from a defender who deliberately played the ball. (11-1-4)



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2019 GHSOA Playoff Procedures for Officials

Your Local Association/Assignor will be responsible for assigning officials for the First and Second Round of the Playoffs for the Schools they service during the regular season. You should contact your local assignor and make sure they know your availability (just as you did during the regular season)

2019 GHSOA Playoff Procedures for Officials

The GHSOA assignment committee will be responsible for assigning the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, and Final Games. Kay Argo is the contact for the committee. pkargo@gsaa.net 770-978-0072. This year the GSOA Referee Assignment System (www.gsoa.net) will be used for the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals. If you are in the pool for Quarter Finals, Semi Finals or Finals you will receive an email with login instructions. GSOA members will use their current login credentials.

GHSOA Web-Based Playoff System Assignments

For the First and Second Round, work with your local assignor. For Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals, you will receive an email from the GSOA assignment system. Login to the GSOA Website and either Accept or Decline the Game (see instruction sheet emailed to you with login information) or go to www.gsoa.net and look under Referee Information → Tutorials. Game details may not be available until 24 hours prior to the game.

You receive additional instructions / updates via email over the next few weeks.

Kay Argo Work: 770-978-0072 Cell: 770-329-2838 Email: pkargo@gsaa.net

- * **The GHSOA assignment committee will be responsible for assigning the Semi and Final Games.**
- * **Kay Argo is the contact for the committee. pkargo@gsaa.net 770-978-0072**
- * **This year the GSOA Referee Assignment System (www.gsoa.net) will be used for the Semi Finals and Finals**
- * **If you are in the pool for Semi Final or Higher you will receive an email with login instructions. GSOA members will use their current login credentials**

Assignments

- * **For all games through the Second Round, work with your local assignor**
- * **For Quarter Finals, Semi Finals and Finals, you will receive an email from the GSOA assignment system.**
 - **Login to the GSOA Website and either Accept or Decline the Game (see instruction sheet emailed to you with login information) or go to www.gsoa.net and look under Referee Information → Tutorials**
- * **Game details may not be available until 24 hours prior to the game**



2018-2019 GHSA SOCCER

COACHES' GENERAL INFORMATION 2019 STATE PLAYOFFS

GHSA COORDINATOR – Kevin Giddens (229-529-4410)

Email: kevin@ghsa.net

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR – Michael Tolmich (770-833-2337)

Email: mtolmich@gmail.com

OFFICIALS ASSIGNING COORDINATOR – Kay Argo (770-978-0072)

Email: pkargo13@gmail.com

1. Officials

FIRST and SECOND rounds: The host school will contact their local referee assignor to schedule officials.

Quarterfinals: GHSA Office will assign Association crews.

Semifinals: The host school should contact Kay Argo by text or email to schedule referees.

2. Soccer Balls

Select is the official soccer ball for GHSA. Host schools are to supply the GHSA official soccer balls for the First Round and Second Rounds of the Playoffs. GHSA will ship six (6) soccer balls to the home teams for the Quarterfinals and Semifinals (six balls will be sent to the home team for use in these rounds). After the Quarter and Semifinal games, each participating team will be allowed to keep three (3) of the GHSA supplied Select balls (win or lose). The winning team should plan on bringing those three (3) balls to the next round. GHSA will supply all game balls for the finals.

Each team is responsible for bringing their warm-up balls.

3. Adjustments to Schedule (including doubleheaders):

The Host school SHOULD NOT take it upon themselves to make adjustments. The GHSA published schedule should be followed unless there are important school-related circumstances (i.e., Honors Night, Prom, etc).

FIRST and SECOND ROUND: Any changes from the proposed schedule must follow this protocol:

- a. Contact the visiting school. Both schools must agree to the change.
- b. Contact your local referee assignors to make sure they can supply the referees.
- c. If both a and b are met, then the game can be changed. If there are problems with a or b, you must contact Michael Tolmich and he will make the final decision (in coordination with Kevin Giddens of GHSA)

Quarterfinals and Semifinals:

- a. Contact Michael Tolmich for any proposed changes. He will make the decision whether to approve the change or not. He will contact Kay Argo.
- b. Contact the visiting school. Both schools must agree to the change.

Finals

We will have two (2) host sites for the State Finals. Mercer in Macon and McEachern High School will be host sites. The schedule for who will play where will be made later in the playoffs.



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4. Hosting

The higher seed will always host during the playoffs prior to the finals. If two equal seeds meet in the Quarterfinals or Semifinals, GHSA will flip a coin to determine which school will host prior to the completion of the 2nd Round.

In the finals, GHSA has designated an (H) on the brackets to designate the “Home” team. Seeding prior to the finals will not matter and the team with the (H) will be considered the “Home” team and wear dark jerseys and socks for the game. The only reason for the (H) is to determine which team will wear white and which will wear a dark uniform.

If you think that your team will have a conflict on Finals weekend, please contact Kevin Giddens (kevin@ghsa.net) at GHSA as soon as possible. Please DO NOT wait until the schedule has been made. We must have this information ASAP in order to help coordinate the times and locations for the finals.

Remember that you must contact your local referee assignor to schedule the first two (2) rounds. The GHSA Office will be responsible for assigning and coordinating the referees for the Quarterfinals and Up. Please use text to send information about your scheduled game to Michael Tolmich at 770-833-2337.

Your School:

Coach Name:

Girls or Boys:

Classification:

Region:

Round (1-5):

Game Opponent:

Game Time:

Game Location:

INTERRUPTED GAMES:

Soccer playoff matches are placed on the same set of procedures as football. Any interrupted game that cannot be completed will be replayed from the point of interruption, at the next available date, unless the team that is behind chooses not to have it completed.

VERIFICATION OF SCHEDULES

Coaches must verify game details at www.gsoa.net/ghsa_playoffs (no need to login). If an update/revision is required for the game details contact Michael Tolmich and Kay Argo IMMEDIATELY. The accuracy of this information is critical for the officiating crew assigned to the game.

UNIFORMS

The “VISITING TEAM” MUST wear solid white shirts and socks to comply with NFHS uniforms standards. The HOME TEAM must wear dark shirt and socks.



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CHANGING PLAYING DATES:

The GHSA establishes the playing dates that are found with the Constitution and By-laws with the intent of keeping reasonable spacing between the games in the playoff process. There are also concerns about too many games up on a particular night because of the number of playoff-quality officials across the state.

Schools MAY NOT take it upon themselves to make adjustments. Please reference the earlier page for procedures on changing game dates for the playoffs.

Scheduling around school events is very difficult. The soccer playoff schedule has not varied greatly in a number of years, so the playoff soccer dates should not come as a surprise. Each request for a date change because of school issues will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Academic issues will have precedence over social events. Schools may be required by the GHSA Office to alter match times rather than match dates if schools cannot agree on an acceptable game time.

DOUBLEHEADERS: Sometimes requests are made to play a boy-girl doubleheader if one school is to host both games that round.

There are inherent problems with this change that may have negative effects on the visiting schools. The schools involved lose potential revenue when a doubleheader is played instead of two single games. It is not recommended that the host school clear the stands between games unless there is a significant time lapse between those games. Therefore the following issues need to be addressed before asking to play doubleheaders:

1. Both visiting teams must agree in writing to play the doubleheader.
2. The assignor of officials must verify that the games can be covered with the date change.
3. The admission fee for this doubleheader must be set at \$10.00 instead of \$7.00

FINANCES

Admission: Single Game \$7.00 – Students \$5.00 (Pre-Sale only) – Double Headers \$10.00 to all

State Finals: \$12 for all

Visiting Team: \$.80 per mile (one way)

GHSA Fee: 12% of gross gate receipts plus \$440.00 for game officials.

Game Officials: \$440.00 per game (\$880 for a doubleheader): Schools pay directly to their associations for the First and Second Rounds. In the Quarter and Semifinals, schools pay GHSA who will then pay the officials.

TEAM BENCHES

Throughout the playoffs the team benches shall be located on the same side of the field.

OTHER

The “Host School” should supply game balls, water for both teams, and ball boys/girls.

GAME RESULTS

The “Host School” is responsible for reporting game results via text to Kevin Giddens (229-529-4410) immediately following the contest.