

2019-2020
GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
SOCCER



SOCCER OFFICIALS AND COACHES'
HANDBOOK

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2019-2020 GHSOA Soccer Coaches' Handbook

Table of Contents:

P 1Dates and Deadlines
P 2Protocol and Procedures
P 3OVERTIME Procedures
P 4State Playoff Information
P 5State Playoff Bracket Links Boys and Girls
P 6NFHS Rule Changes
P 8GHSOA Soccer Forms
P 9GHSOA Soccer Official's Uniform
P 10 GHSOA Playoff Procedures For Officials
P 11-13 GHSOA Playoff Procedures For Coaches
P 14GHSOA Electronic Ticket Information



2019-2020 Soccer Dates and Deadlines



Monday, January 13, 2020.....	Date of First Official Day for Soccer Practice
Monday, January 13, 2020.....	Online Rules Clinic for ALL COACHES and OFFICIALS Opens
Friday, January 17, 2020.....	First day for OFFICIALS to take Online Soccer Rules EXAM.
Friday, January 31, 2020.....	Deadline for completion of Online Soccer Rules Clinic for COACHES and OFFICIALS
Friday, January 31, 2020.....	Deadline for completion of Online Soccer Rules Exam for OFFICIALS ONLY!!
Monday, February 3, 2020.....	Earliest Date for Soccer Game
Thursday, April 16, 2020	Last Play Date-Do not schedule games after this date, (not even non-region games) If you have already, you will need to re-schedule them so your regular season ends by April 16.
Thursday, April 16, 2020	Area/Region Qualifiers Determined-State qualifiers have to be submitted to GHSA by Friday, April 17 at 9:00 am.

STATE SOCCER PLAYOFFS

Tuesday, April 21, 2020.....	First Round Girls - A, 3A, 5A, & 7A
Wednesday, April 22, 2020	First Round Boys - A, 3A, 5A, & 7A
Thursday, April 23, 2020	First Round Girls - 2A, 4A, & 6A
Friday, April 24, 2020.....	First Round Boys - 2A, 4A, & 6A
Monday, April 27, 2020.....	Second Round Girls- A, 3A, 5A, & 7A
Tuesday, April 28, 2020.....	Second Round Boys- A, 3A, 5A, & 7A.
Wednesday, April 29, 2020.....	Second Round Girls 2A, 4A, & 6A
Thursday, April 30, 2020	Second Round Boys 2A, 4A, & 6A
Tuesday, May 5, 2020.....	Quarterfinals-Girls 2A-7A, Semi Finals Girls Class A
Wednesday, May 6, 2020.....	Quarterfinals-Boys 2A-7A, Semi Finals Boys Class A
Tuesday, May 12, 2020.....	Semifinals - Class 2A-7A

FINALS

Thursday, May 14, 2020	FINALS- Class A
Friday, May 15, 2020 and	
Saturday, May 16, 2020	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.



2019-2020 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.



2019-2020 GHSA Soccer OVERTIME PROCEDURES

1. The overtime will consist of *two (2) 10-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 (A-B-A-B 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.



**2019-2020 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 16, 2020.
 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 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 14-16, 2020. 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 and officials.
 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.



**2019-2020 GHS A SOCCER
STATE PLAYOFF BRACKET LOCATION**

Both Girls' and Boys' Brackets can be found at GHS A.net/Soccer

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



2019-2020 NFHS SOCCER



RULES

Rule 2-2-4 Correction-If the ball becomes deflated during play, it is declared dead where it was last played and the game is resumed by a drop ball between any number of opposing players at the spot where it was last played. If the ball becomes deflated within the goal area, then the ball is dropped between any number of opposing players subject to the provisions of Rule 9-2-2.

Rule 3-4-3-The clock shall be stopped when a substitute by the team in the lead is beckoned onto the field in the final five minutes of the second period, in the fourth quarter (if the game is played in quarters) and in the second period of the overtime.

Rule 4-3 improperly equipped-Improperly Equipped Players (18-1-1u). Cautions will not be issued for improperly equipped player(s). If not immediately correctable, improperly equipped player(s) shall be instructed to leave the field of play when the ball next ceases to be in play. The player(s) may be replaced. The removed player(s), if not replaced, may re-enter at the next dead ball only after reporting to an official, who shall be satisfied the player's equipment and uniform are in order. Play shall not be stopped for an infringement of this rule except that the referee may stop play immediately where there is a dangerous situation.

Rule 5-3-1d advantage signal-The officials shall: (d) call out "play on" and, with an underswing of one or both arms, indicate a foul which was observed but shall go unpenalized because penalizing the offending team would give an advantage to the offending team. If the referee applies the advantage, which was anticipated but does not develop at that time, the referee shall penalize the original offense.

Rule 9-2-1 drop ball-The game is restarted with a drop ball: a. when the ball is caused to go out of bounds by two opponents simultaneously; b. when the ball becomes deflated; c. following temporary suspension of play for an injury or unusual situation and a goalkeeper is not in possession of the ball. d. when simultaneous fouls of the same degree occur by opponents. The ball is dropped by an official from waist level to the ground. Any number of players may contest a dropped ball (including the goalkeepers); a referee cannot decide who may contest a dropped ball or its outcome. The ball shall be dropped again if it touches a player before it touches the ground or leaves the field of play after it touches the ground without touching a player. If a dropped ball enters the goal without touching at least two players, play is restarted with a goal kick if it enters the opponent's goal or a corner kick if it enters the team's own goal, depending on which player touched the ball last. In case of a temporary suspension due to injury or any unusual situation the game shall be started by a drop ball at the point where the ball was when the play was suspended (except as noted in 14-1-7), provided the ball was not in the goal area and not in the possession of the goalkeeper. 12-8-2

Hearing aids worn in or behind the ears, including cochlear implants, are legal provided that the device does not create the threat of injury.

UNIFORMS:

Game Jersey

- Home Team
 - Dark color contrasting white
 - If gray is used, the shading of the gray color should be 70% dark or darker for it to clearly contrast with white (Gray Color Spectrum Chart)
- Visiting Team
 - All-white
 - No color trim

- Only names and patches, emblems, logos or insignias referencing the school are allowed
- 2 ¼ inch square manufacturer's logo allowed
- Team members wear the same color and style uniform
- Goalkeeper's jersey must distinctively different in color from that of team members and opposing team
- **Front of Jersey**
 - All jerseys, including the goalkeeper, must be numbered on the front
 - Numbers must not be duplicated
 - There must be a 4-inch number on the front (jersey or shorts)
 - The color of the number must contrast with the color of the jersey or pants, be clearly visible and match the color of the number on the back of the jersey
- **Back of Jersey**
 - All jerseys, including the goalkeeper, must be numbered on the back
 - Numbers must not be duplicated
 - There must be a 6-inch number on the back
 - The color of the number must contrast with the color of the jersey, be clearly visible and match the color of the number on the front of the jersey
- Socks
 - Home Team
 - Dark color contrasting white
 - Does not need to match the jersey color
 - Both socks must be the same color
 - Visiting Team
 - All white
 - If tape or stays are used, they must the same color as the socks
 - Manufacturer's logo on both sides of the socks is legal
- Shorts
 - May be of a color unlike that of the jersey
 - May have an appropriately size manufacturer's logo
- Shinguards
 - Must meet the NOCSAE standards at time of manufacture
 - NOCSAE seal and height range permanently mark on front of shinguard
 - Worn with bottom edge no higher than 2 inches above the ankle
 - Age- and size-appropriate
 - Worn under socks
 - Must not be altered
- Undergarments
 - If worn, must be of a similar length for an individual
 - Head coverings
 - Goalkeeper may wear a soft-billed baseball-type hat or soft-billed visor
 - Soft-padded headgear is permitted
 - Medical or cosmetic required head coverings must be approved by the State Association
 - Religious required head coverings must be approved by the State Association
 - Solid color, all alike for the team, if worn



2019-2020 GHSA 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 (2019-2020)

Pre-participation Physical Evaluation Form



2019-2020 GHSA SOCCER

Official GHSA Uniform for Soccer Officials

SOCCER-(all crew members must wear matching uniforms)

1. Shirt – Standard gold with black stripes or black with white stripes.
2. Trousers/Shorts – Solid black
3. Shoes – Predominantly black with black laces
4. Socks – Standard black with white stripes (all crew members must match)
5. Equipment - Whistles (2), coin, yellow and red cards, pencil, scorecard, and timing device





2019-2020 GHSOA SOCCER

2020 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)

2020 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@gsoa.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@gsoa.net

- * **The GHSOA assignment committee will be responsible for assigning the Quarter, Semi, and Final Games.**
- * **Kay Argo is the contact for the committee. pkargo@gsoa.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 Final, 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**



2019-2020 STATE PLAYOFF SOCCER

COACHES' GENERAL INFORMATION 2020 STATE PLAYOFFS

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

Email: kevin@ghsa.net

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, contact Kevin Giddens at GHSA for final approval.

Quarterfinals and Semifinals:

- a. Contact Kevin Giddens 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.



2019-2020 GHSA SOCCER



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

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 Kevin Giddens 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.



2019-2020 GHSA SOCCER



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 –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. If possible, opposite from the spectators side.

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.



2019-2020 GHSOA SOCCER



Attn: GHSOA Member Schools

RE: GoFan Digital Ticket Sales

In preparing your financial reports for **GHSOA 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 GHSOA 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, GHSOA will invoice you for the GHSOA 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 GHSOA.**

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