

**2021-2022**  
**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION**  
**SOCCER**



**SOCCER OFFICIALS AND COACHES'**  
**HANDBOOK**

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## 2021-2022 Soccer Dates and Deadlines

Monday, January 3, 2022.....	Date of First Official Day for Soccer Practice
Tuesday, January 4, 2022.....	Online Rules Clinic for ALL COACHES and OFFICIALS Opens
Tuesday, January 11, 2022.....	First day for OFFICIALS to take Online Soccer Rules EXAM.
Monday, January 24, 2022.....	Deadline for completion of Online Soccer Clinic for COACHES and OFFICIALS
Monday, January 24, 2022.....	Deadline for completion of Online Soccer Rules Exam for OFFICIALS ONLY!!
Monday, January 24, 2022.....	Earliest Date for Soccer Game
Saturday, April 9, 2022.....	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 9.
Saturday, April 9, 2022.....	Region Qualifiers Determined-State qualifiers have to be submitted to GHSA by Sunday, April 10 at 9:00 am.

### STATE SOCCER PLAYOFFS

Tuesday, April 12, 2022.....	First Round Girls - A, 3A, 5A, & 7A
Wednesday, April 13, 2022 .....	First Round Boys - A, 3A, 5A, & 7A
Thursday, April 14, 2022 .....	First Round Girls - 2A, 4A, & 6A
Friday, April 15, 2022.....	First Round Boys - 2A, 4A, & 6A
Monday, April 18, 2022.....	Second Round Girls- A, 3A, 5A, & 7A
Tuesday, April 19, 2022.....	Second Round Boys- A, 3A, 5A, & 7A.
Wednesday, April 20, 2022.....	Second Round Girls-2A, 4A, & 6A
Thursday, April 21, 2022 .....	Second Round Boys-2A, 4A, & 6A
Monday, April 25, 2022.....	Quarterfinals Girls-Class A-7A
Tuesday, April 26, 2022.....	Quarterfinals Boys-Class A-7A
Thursday, April 28, 2022.....	Semifinals Girls- A-7A
Friday, April 29, 2022.....	Semifinals Boys- A-7A

**STATE FINALS SCHEDULE ON FOLLOWING PAGE**



## 2022 GHSA Soccer State Championship Finals Schedule

### At McEachern

### At Mercer

Tuesday, May 3, 2022	Class A Private Girls/Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm	Class A Public Girls/Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm
Wednesday, May 4, 2022	Class 3A Girls and Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm	Class 2A Girls and Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm
Thursday, May 5, 2022	Class 5A Girls and Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm	Class 4A Girls and Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm
Friday, May 6, 2022	Class 7A Girls and Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm	Class 6A Girls and Boys Girls 5 pm and Boys 7:30 pm



## **2021-2022 GHSA Soccer Protocol and Procedures from GHSA Constitution and By-Laws**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

- A. Soccer is a state championship event for boys and girls played in the Spring season. Schools in classes A through 7A are aligned in Regions.
- 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. The number of soccer matches allowed (not including state tournaments) shall be eighteen (18). If a region chooses to play a region 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.
- D. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. 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.
- G. 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.
- H. 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.
- I. 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.
- J. 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.
- K. *Schools must enter team schedules, rosters and weekly game/meet results during the season on MaxPreps and be responsible for updates as needed. This information will support statewide media, event programs, broadcasts partners and GHSA Region Standings. Teams are encouraged to maintain team/individual statistics on MaxPreps.*

### **REGION COMPETITION:**

- A. When a Region has not adopted its own tie-breaker method, the following **Tie-Breaking Procedure** will be used for seeding purposes:
  - 1. Record against all teams in the Region.
  - 2. Winning team in head-to-head competition between schools that are tied.
  - 3. Goals allowed in head-to-head competition between schools that are tied.
  - 4. Goal differential in head-to-head competition between schools that are tied (maximum of three (3) goals per game).
  - 5. Goals allowed in all Region games



6. Goal differential in all Region games (maximum of three (3) goals per game). **Note:** When figuring “goals allowed” and “goal differential” in matches decided by penalty kicks, the winning team will have one (1) goal added to its game score and the losing team will have no goals added regardless of the number of penalty kicks that were made by either team.
  7. In any step of the tie-breaking process if a three-way tie is broken so that all ties are broken, that step determines the placements. If two teams remain tied after a step is completed, revert back to head-to-head record to break the tie. If the tie cannot be broken, move to the next step.
- B. If Regions sub-divide into Sub-Regions, then the same tie-breaking procedures (A1 through A7) should be used.
- C. For Region and State competition, if the score is still tied at the end of the second overtime period, the penalty kick procedure will be used to determine the winner.
- D. Financial procedures for all Region playoffs will be determined by the Region. The host school is responsible for payment of officials. The admission fees for State playoffs begin immediately after Region winners are determined.
- E. **OVERTIME PROCEDURE:**
1. The overtime will consist of two (2) ten-minute periods, which will be played to their entirety.
  2. A coin toss shall take place to determine which team will put the ball in play for the first overtime period.
  3. If the score remains tied following the overtime periods, 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.
  7. Teams will alternate kickers, 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.

#### **STATE COMPETITION:**

- A. Four teams from each Region in classes A through 7A will advance to the state tournament.
1. Region winners must be determined by the date indicated on the Beginning and Ending Dates table at the front of this publication.
  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 the dates indicated on the Beginning and Ending Dates table at the front of this publication. 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.
  7. *In the Finals, the “H” on the official GHSA bracket indicates the designated “home” team for purposes of uniform requirements only. Regardless of prior seeding, the team in the bracket with the “H” shall wear dark jerseys and socks for the game.*
- B. Finances:
1. The GHSA will receive 12% of the gross gate receipts.
  2. Host schools will pay the Officials Association directly for the first and second rounds of the playoffs. Please see Fee Chart for Playoff Fees. (Please see Soccer Financial Forms)
  3. A pre-set amount for game officials’ fees will be sent to the GHSA office for the Quarterfinal and Semifinal rounds, along with 12% of gross gate receipts, and the GHSA office will be responsible for paying the officials.
  4. The visiting team shall be paid \$.80 per mile (one way) for travel.
  5. After these three expenses are paid the schools involved will share the remaining gate receipts equally.
  6. 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 winners are determined, fees for single playoff games are \$7.00 and doubleheaders are \$10.00. Championship Finals are \$12.00.



- 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 the 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.



**2021-2022**

## **GHSOA Constitution and By-Laws**

General GHSOA Constitution and By Laws

It is your responsibility to read and have a working knowledge of the information presented in the GHSOA Constitution and By-Laws tabled below and can be found at:

<https://www.ghsa.net/sites/default/files/documents/Constitution/Constitution21-22completecx1.pdf>

### **BY-LAW SECTION 1.00**

#### **STUDENT**

- By-Law 1.10 - Certification of Eligibility
- By-Law 1.20 - Enrollment and Team Membership
- By-Law 1.30 - Age
- By-Law 1.40 - Limits of Participation
- By-Law 1.50 - Scholastic Standing / Scholarship
- By-Law 1.60 - School Service Areas / Transfer / Migrant Student
- By-Law 1.70 - Recruiting / Undue Influence
- By-Law 1.80 - Financial Aid
- By-Law 1.90 - Amateur Status / Awards

### **BY-LAW SECTION 2.00**

#### **SCHOOL**

- By-Law 2.10 - School Membership to GHSOA
- By-Law 2.20 - Administrative Responsibilities
- By-Law 2.30 - Eligibility Reports Filed By The School
- By-Law 2.40 - Student Retention for Athletic Activities
- By-Law 2.50 - Qualifications to Coach
- By-Law 2.60 - Interscholastic Contests and Practices (Heat and Concussion policies)
- By-Law 2.70 - Sportsmanship
- By-Law 2.80 - Media and Filming Regulations
- By-Law 2.90 - Regulations of Competitions

### **BY-LAW SECTION 3.00**

#### **REGION**

- By-Law 3.10 - Region Authority
- By-Law 3.20 - Region Responsibilities to State Association
- By-Law 3.30 - Region Financial Obligations to State Association

### **BY-LAW SECTION 4.00**

#### **STATE**

- By-Law 4.10 - GHSOA Administrative Responsibilities to Member Schools
- By-Law 4.20 - Reclassification
- By-Law 4.30 - State Association Contest / Event Responsibilities
- By-Law 4.40 - State Passes to GHSOA Events
- By-Law 4.50 - Certification of Athletic Officials
- By-Law 4.60 - Special GHSOA Policies





### **Practice Policy for Heat and Humidity:**

(a) Schools must follow the statewide policy for conducting practices and voluntary conditioning workouts (This policy is year-round, including during the summer) in all sports during times of extremely high heat and/or humidity that will be signed by each head coach at the beginning of each season and distributed to all players and their parents or guardians. The policy shall follow modified guidelines of the American College of Sports Medicine in regard to:

- (1) The scheduling of practices at various heat/humidity levels.
- (2) The ratio of workout time to time allotted for rest and hydration at various heat/humidity levels.
- (3) The heat/humidity levels that will result in practice being terminated.

(b) A scientifically-approved instrument that measures the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature must be utilized at each practice to ensure that the written policy is being followed properly. WBGT readings should be taken every hour, beginning 30 minutes before the beginning of practice.

### **WBGT ACTIVITY GUIDELINES AND REST BREAK GUIDELINES**

Under 82.0 Normal Activities - Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 3 minutes each during the workout.

82.0 - 86.9 Use discretion for intense or prolonged exercise; watch at-risk players carefully. Provide at least three separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 minutes each.

87.0 - 89.9 Maximum practice time is 2 hours. For Football: players are restricted to helmet, shoulder pads, and shorts during practice, and all protective equipment must be removed during conditioning activities. If the WBGT rises to this level **during** practice, players may continue to work out wearing football pants without changing to shorts. For All Sports: Provide at least four separate rest breaks each hour with a minimum duration of 4 minutes each.

90.0 - 92.0 Maximum practice time is 1 hour. For Football: no protective equipment may be worn during practice, and there may be no conditioning activities. For All Sports: There must be 20 minutes of rest breaks distributed throughout the hour of practice.

Over 92.0 No outdoor workouts. Delay practice until a cooler WBGT level is reached.

(c) Practices are defined as: the period of time that a participant engages in a coach-supervised, school approved sport or conditioning-related activity. Practices are timed from the time the players report to the practice or workout area until players leave that area. If a practice is interrupted for a weather-related reason, the "clock" on that practice will stop and will begin again when the practice resumes.

(d) Conditioning activities include such things as weight training, wind-sprints, timed runs for distance, etc., and may be a part of the practice time or included in "voluntary workouts."

(e) A walk-through is not a part of the practice time regulation, and may last no longer than one hour. This activity may not include conditioning activities or contact drills. No protective equipment may be worn during a walk-through, and no full-speed drills may be held.

(f) Rest breaks may not be combined with any other type of activity and players must be given unlimited access to hydration. These breaks must be held in a "cool zone" where players are out of direct sunlight.

(g) When the WBGT reading is over 86, ice towels and spray bottles filled with ice water should be available at the "cool zone" to aid the cooling process AND cold immersion tubs must be available for the benefit of any player showing early signs of heat illness. *In the event of a serious EHI, the principal of "Cool First, Transport Second" should be utilized and implemented by the first medical provider onsite until cooling is completed (core temperature of 103 or less).*



**GHSA Concussion Policy and SB 60, Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act**

(a) **GHSA Concussion Policy:** In accordance with Georgia law and national playing rules published by the NFHS, any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be immediately removed from the practice or contest and shall not return to play until an appropriate health care professional has determined that no concussion has occurred. (NOTE: An appropriate health care professional may include: licensed physician (MD/DO) or another licensed individual under the supervision of a licensed physician, such as a nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, or certified athletic trainer who has received training in concussion evaluation and management).

(1) No athlete is allowed to return to a game or practice on the same day that a concussion (1) has been diagnosed OR (2) cannot be ruled out.

(2) Any athlete diagnosed with a concussion shall be cleared medically by an appropriate health care professional prior to resuming participation in any future practice or contest. The formulation of a gradual return to play protocol shall be a part of the medical clearance.

(3) It is mandatory that every coach in each GHSA sport (including Community Coaches, Student Teachers, and Interns) participate in a free, online course on concussion management prepared by the NFHS and available at [www.nfhslearn.com](http://www.nfhslearn.com) at least every two years.

(4) Each school will be responsible for monitoring the participation of its coaches in the concussion management course and shall keep a record of those who participate.

(5) Each school must distribute to every athlete and his/her parent/guardian an information sheet that includes: the dangers of concussion injuries, the signs/symptoms of concussion, and the concussion management protocol outlined in this by-law. This sheet must be signed by the parent/guardian of each athlete and a copy kept on file at the school.

(b) **SB 60, Jeremy Nelson and Nick Blakely Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act:** *In accordance with Georgia law:*

(1) *Each school must distribute to every athlete and his/her parent/guardian an information sheet that includes: the Early Warning Signs, How to Recognize Sudden Cardiac Arrest, and Learn Hands-Only CPR outlined in this by-law. This sheet must be signed by the parent/guardian of each athlete, each athlete and a copy kept on file at the school.*

(2) *Each school must hold an informational meeting twice per year regarding the symptoms and warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest. At such informational meeting, an information sheet on sudden cardiac arrest symptoms and warning signs shall be provided to each student's parent or guardian. In addition to students, parents or guardians, coaches, and other school officials, such informational meetings may include physicians, pediatric cardiologists, and athletic trainers.*



## 2021-2022 GHS A SOCCER STATE PLAYOFF BRACKET LOCATION

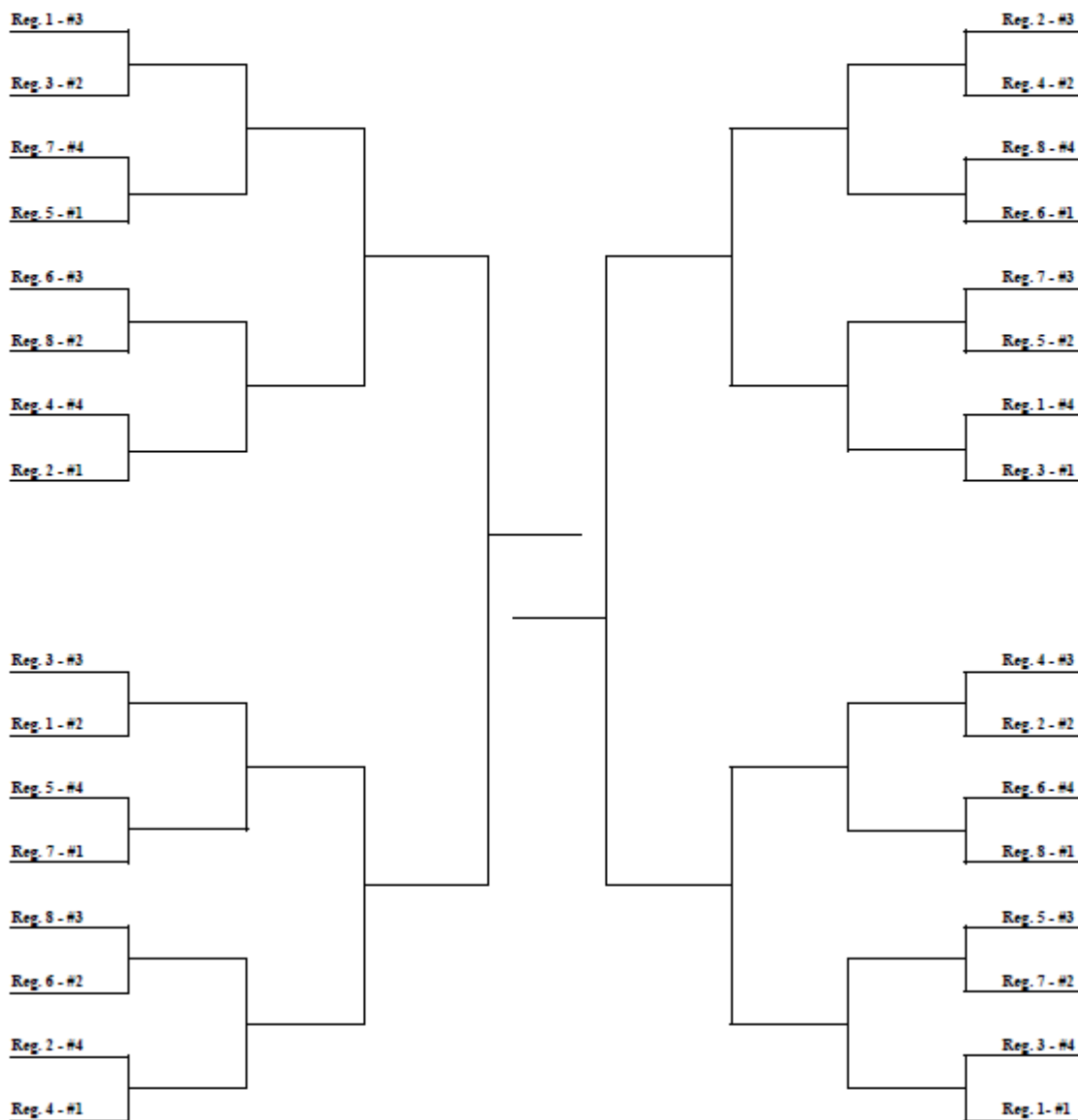
### STATE SOCCER TOURNAMENT 2022 Boys and Girls: All Classes

**A, 3A, 5A and 7A Dates:**

1st Rd.	2nd Rd.	Quarters	Semifinals	FINALS	Semifinals	Quarters	2nd Rd.	1st Rd.
G: 4/12	G: 4/18	G: 4/25	G: 4/28	May 3-6	G: 4/28	G: 4/25	G: 4/18	G: 4/12
B: 4/13	B: 4/19	B: 4/26	B: 4/29	May 3-6	B: 4/29	B: 4/26	B: 4/19	B: 4/13

**2A, 4A and 6A Dates:**

1st Rd.	2nd Rd.	Quarters	Semifinals	FINALS	Semifinals	Quarters	2nd Rd.	1st Rd.
G: 4/14	G: 4/20	G: 4/25	G: 4/28	May 3-6	G: 4/28	G: 4/25	G: 4/20	G: 4/14
B: 4/15	B: 4/21	B: 4/26	B: 4/29	May 3-6	B: 4/26	B: 4/26	B: 4/21	B: 4/15



In ALL Rounds (except neutral-site Finals), the higher-seeded team will host. If both teams are the same seed, a "universal" GHS A coin flip will determine the host school (or the designated home team in a neutral-site Final).



## 2021-2022 NFHS SOCCER



### RULES CHANGES

**2-2-4:** SECTION 2 BALL SPECIFICATIONS ART. 4...If the ball becomes deflated during play, it is declared dead and the game is resumed by a drop ball at the spot where it was last played. If the ball becomes deflated within the goal area, then the ball is dropped subject to the provisions of Rule 9-2-2 and 9-2-3. Ball deflated during a penalty kick results in retaken kick.

**Rationale:** The provisions for a drop ball have changed, refer to 9-2.

**4-1-1a:** SECTION 1 REQUIRED EQUIPMENT ART. 1a...The visiting team shall wear solid white jerseys and solid white socks, and the home team shall wear dark jerseys and socks (dark is defined as any color which contrasts with white).

**Rationale:** Manufacturing practices have changed.

**4-2-7e, f:** SECTION 2 OTHER EQUIPMENT ART. 7...A tooth and mouth protector (intraoral), if worn, shall:

**Rationale:** SMAC no longer recommends the mouth protector meet these two criteria; dropping these two requirements brings soccer in line with the other sports that allow mouth guards.

**9-1-1b:** SECTION 1 BALL IN AND OUT OF PLAY ART. 1...The ball is out of play when: a. it has completely crossed the goal line or touch line, whether on the ground or in the air; b. the ball touches an official and remains on the field; and 1. a team starts a promising attack; 2. goes directly into the goal; 3. possession changes

**Rationale:** This is to address situations where the ball touches a referee and a team gains an advantage.

**9-2-1:** SECTION 2 DROP BALL ART. 1...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 a temporary suspension of play for an injury or unusual situation; (except as noted in 14-1-7) d. when simultaneous fouls of the same degree occur by opponents; or e. when the ball touches an official as per 9-1-1b.

**Rationale:** This proposal prevents an opponent from gaining an advantage.

**9-2-3:** SECTION 2 DROP BALL ART. 3...The ball is dropped by an official from waist level to the ground. The referee drops the ball to one player of the team that last possessed the ball at the position where it was last touched by a player(s), an outside agent or match official. If when play was stopped, the ball was in the penalty area or the last touch, by either team, was in the penalty area, the ball is dropped to the defending team's goalkeeper with all opposing players outside the penalty area. In all cases, all other players must remain at least 4 yards from the ball until it is in play.

**Other Rules Affected: 9-2-2:** SECTION 2 DROP BALL ART. 2...The ball should be dropped at the location where it became dead unless this is within the goal area, in which case, it shall be dropped on that part of the goal-area line which runs parallel to the goal line nearest the location where the ball was when play was stopped.

If the ball was caused to go out of bounds by two opponents simultaneously, the ball is dropped five yards inside the boundary line to one player of the team in possession of the ball prior to the simultaneous touch, unless this is the goal area. (See 9-2-3)

**Rationale:** Simplifies the drop ball procedure.

### **9-3:** DELETE SECTION 3 TEMPORARY SUSPENSION

**Rationale:** Information was redundant.

### **13-2-3b:** DELETE SECTION 2 WHEN AWARDED ART. 3b...

**Rationale:** Provisions for drop ball changed.

**13-3-1:** SECTION 3 HOW TAKEN ART. 1...Players opposing the kicker shall be at least 10 yards from the ball until it is kicked, unless they are standing on their own goal line between the goal posts. If the free kick is awarded to the defending team in its penalty area, players opposing the kicker shall be outside the penalty area at least 10 yards from the ball and shall remain there until the ball is in play. Where 3 or more defending team players form a wall, all attacking team players must remain at least 1 yard from the wall until the ball is in play.

**Rationale:** This will allow the ball to be put back into play quicker and will lead to a decrease in confrontational moments during free kicks.

**13-3-2:** SECTION 3 HOW TAKEN ART. 2...The ball shall be kicked while it is stationary on the ground at the spot specified by the official. To be in play, the ball shall be moved in any direction. Failure to kick the ball as specified shall result in a rekick.

**Rationale:** Allows the ball to be put back into play quicker.

**13-3-4:** NEW SECTION 3 HOW TAKEN NEW ART. 4...For indirect kicks, the referee shall signal an indirect kick (using Official NFHS Soccer Signals Rule 5-3-1b) by raising an arm above the head; this signal shall be maintained until the kick is taken and the ball touches another player or goes out of play. If the referee fails to signal the kick is indirect and the ball goes directly into the opponent's goal, the kick shall be retaken.

**Rationale:** This clarifies the need to make the signal and prevents punishing the team taking the kick when the referee fails to give the proper signal.

**14-1-3:** SECTION 1 PENALTY KICK ART. 3...The opposing goalkeeper shall stand with at least one foot on or in-line with the goal line, facing the kicker, between the goal posts, and shall not be touching the goal posts, crossbar, or nets, until the ball is kicked. Lateral or forward movement is allowed, but the goalkeeper is not permitted to come off the line with both feet until the ball is in play.

**Rationale:** This clarifies the goalkeeper's position during the taking of a penalty kick.

**16-1-2:** SECTION 1 GOAL KICK ART. 2...Players opposing the kicker shall remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.

**Rationale:** Clarifies when the ball is in play.

**16-1-3** SECTION 1 GOAL KICK ART. 3...Once spotted, the ball shall be kicked from the ground from any point within the goal area by a player of the defending team. The ball is in play when it is kicked and moves.

**Rationale:** Clarifies when the ball is in play.

**16-1-4:** SECTION 1 GOAL KICK ART. 4...After the goal kick is properly taken, the ball may be played by any player except the one who executes the goal kick. The kicker may not play the ball until it has been touched by another player.

**Rationale:** Clarifies how the kick is taken and when it is in play.

## **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 be 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 sized manufacturer's logo
- Shinguards
  - Must meet the NOCSAE standards at time of manufacture
  - NOCSAE seal and height range permanently marked 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

## Q-COLLAR

- The FDA has authorized marketing of a new device intended to be worn around the neck of athletes aged 13 years and older during sports activities to aid in the protection of the brain from the potential effects associated with repetitive sub-concussive head impacts. The non-invasive device is called the Q-Collar.
- From a medical perspective, the NFHS SMAC consents to this device being worn by interscholastic athletes.
- The respective NFHS Rules Committees will determine if the Q-Collar will be permissible based on sport-by-sport risk assessments. Soccer does not have a rule that prohibits the wearing of the Q-Collar during competition which makes its use permissible.





## 2021-2022 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





## 2021-2022 GHS A SOCCER

### Official GHS A Uniform for Soccer Officials

#### SOCCER-(all crew members must wear matching uniforms)

1. Shirt – Standard gold with black stripes or black with white stripes. Solid Black, Gold or Green Shirts.
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





## 2021-2022 GHSA PLAYOFF SOCCER



### 2022 GHSA 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)

### 2022 GHSA Playoff Procedures for Officials

The GHSA assignment committee will be responsible for assigning the Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, and Final Games. Tim Wool is the contact for the committee. Tim Wool (678-557-4808) [assignor@goa.net](mailto:assignor@goa.net). This year the GSOA Referee Assignment System ([www.gsoa.net](http://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

### GHSA 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](http://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.

Tim Wool (678-557-4808) [assignor@goa.net](mailto:assignor@goa.net)

- \* **The GHSA assignment committee will be responsible for assigning the Quarter, Semi, and Final Games.**
- \* **Tim Wool is the contact for the committee.** Tim Wool (678-557-4808) [assignor@goa.net](mailto:assignor@goa.net)
- \* **This year the GSOA Referee Assignment System ([www.gsoa.net](http://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](http://www.gsoa.net) and look under Referee Information → Tutorials**
- \* **Game details may not be available until 24 hours prior to the game**



# 2021-2022 GHSA PLAYOFF SOCCER

## COACHES' GENERAL INFORMATION 2022 STATE PLAYOFFS

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

Email: [kevin@ghsa.net](mailto:kevin@ghsa.net)

OFFICIALS ASSIGNING COORDINATOR – Tim Wool (678-557-4808)

Email: [assignor@ghsa.net](mailto:assignor@ghsa.net)

### 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 Tim Wool 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, Second Round, and Quarterfinals of the Playoffs.

GHSA will ship five (5) soccer balls to the home teams for the Semifinals. After the Semifinal games, each participating team will be allowed to keep two (2) of the GHSA supplied Select balls (win or lose), and the third ball goes to the Center Judge of the Semi Final. The winning team should plan on bringing those two (2) 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 Tim Wool.
- 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.



## 2021-2022 GHSA PLAYOFF 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](http://www.gsoa.net/ghsa_playoffs) (no need to login). If an update/revision is required for the game details contact Kevin Giddens and Tim Wool 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.



## **2021-2022 GHSA PLAYOFF 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 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.



## 2021-2022 GHS A PLAYOFF SOCCER



Attn: GHS A Member Schools

**RE: GoFan Digital Ticket Sales**

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

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