

2021 Soccer Rules Clinic

Important Dates

- March 1st, First day of soccer season
- March 6th, First possible days of games
 - ▶ Must have 14 days in hybrid before any games are played.
- ► March 12th, Roster and schedule are due on MaxPreps
 - ▶ No mandates for team photos on MaxPreps
- April 3rd, Seeding and Selection If approved
- ▶ April 5th- 10th Quarterfinals and Semifinals at home sites

Finals possible at home sites or a centralized location



This Season Is Different











Event Guidelines

- Participation will be limited to athletes, coaches and event workers. No spectators will be allowed into competitions.
- ▶ Pregame Conference -Limit attendees to head referee or center referee, the head coach from each team, and a single captain from each team. Move the location of the pregame conference to center of the field. All individuals maintain a social distance of 6 feet.
- Suspend handshakes prior to and following the Pregame Conference.
- Bench personnel shall observe social distancing of 6 feet.



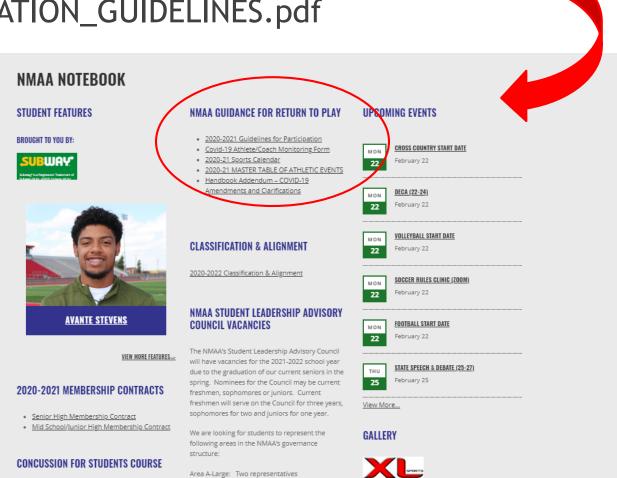
Event Guidelines

- ➤ Substitution Procedures. Maintain social distancing of 6 feet between the substitute, officials and/or teammate(s) by encouraging substitutions to occur closer to the center line.
- ➤ Pre and Post Match Ceremony. Suspend the pregame world cup introduction line and send players to their field positions with bench personnel lined up on the touch line (3-6 feet apart) for introductions. Suspend post game protocol of shaking hands.
- ► Long sleeves are permissible. Long pants are permissible .Under garments are permissible. Officials Uniform and Equipment. Long-sleeved shirt/jackets are permissible. Electronic whistles or any other whistle that can be used with face covering shall be utilized.



NMAA Guidelines for Participation

https://www.nmact.org/file/NMAA_COVID-19_PARTICIPATION_GUIDELINES.pdf



Area A-Small: One representative

Addendum/ Clarification Items

▶ Games missed due to Covid-19 will be considered a "no contest" but can be made up if mutually agreed upon

District games missed due to Covid-19 must be rescheduled if time permits

Game Limitations

- ▶ 10 Varsity
- ▶ 10 Sub varsity
- ▶ If you have a student athlete that competes in club and high school simultaneously, the club games will count towards the limit of 10 matches.
- Athletes participating out of state are subject to the Governors health quarantine guidelines at the time.
 - Currently 14 days NOT mandated but recommended or a Covid negative test.



State Tournament

- 4A and 5A 8 teams
- ► A-3A 4 teams
- Quarterfinals/Semifinals will be played at the site of the higher seed.
- Finals will potentially be played at the University of New Mexico.
- Awards ceremonies will be limited to ensure safe social distancing and to minimize mass gatherings.
- ► Two ten minute overtimes and penalty kicks to follow if still tied. (No longer four overtime periods in Championship games.)



Preseason Video for Parents

https://youtu.be/uinC9aVZ4PA



Concussion Protocol

Concussion Management (SB1). Athletes and Coaches are required annually to complete the concussion management course and concussion fact sheet (parents must complete). Go to www.nmact.org and fulfill this important requirement of state law.

SOCCER RULES CHANGES



Ball Becomes Deflated During Play

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



Home and Away Uniforms

► 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).



Mouth Guard

▶ 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.



Ball In and Out of Play

► 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.



Drop Ball

▶ 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.



Drop ball

▶ 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.

Free Kick

▶ 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.



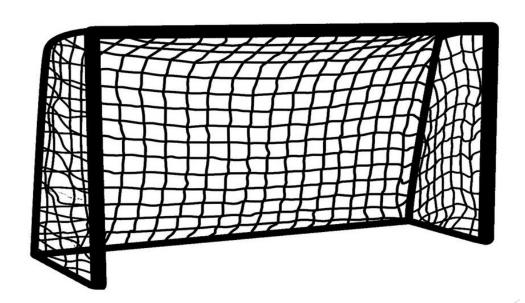
Penalty Kick

▶ 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.

Goal Kick

▶ Players opposing the kicker shall remain outside the penalty area until the ball is in play.

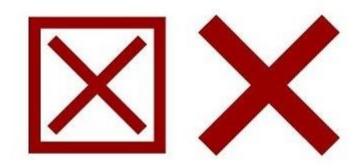


Soccer Match Reporting System (Officials)

- All matches must be entered using the link below. The link can be found at www.nmact.org on the soccer homepage
- http://nmact.powermediallc.org/officials/soccercards/
- ▶ Designate one official to submit report
- ► Same system was used in the 2019 season

Soccer Points of Emphasis





Correct Field Markings and Appropriate Uniform

▶ It is important that games are played on fields marked in a consistent manner, and players wear uniforms according to NFHS rules. If a field is improperly marked and/or if a team wears an illegal uniform the referee shall contact the state association, who will work with school administrators to make appropriate changes. In addition, during pregame communication with school administration, game officials are also encouraged to communicate these corrective actions directly to administrators.



Understanding the Difference Between Fair, Hard Play and a Foul

Soccer is a contact sport and understanding the differences between fair and hard play and a foul that is either reckless or serious is important to ensuring fair play and the safety of the players. When a player acts with disregard of the danger to, or consequences for, the opponent, he/she should be cautioned for reckless play. When a player uses disproportionate and unnecessary force against an opponent, he/she could be disqualified for serious foul play. It is critical coaches teach players about their own safety and the safety of their opponents, and officials recognize the differences between reckless and serious and the corresponding penalties. Safety, fair play and sportsmanship should be emphasized in the pregame meeting. Communication between officials, coaches and captains should continue throughout a match, especially as the intensity increases. And when reckless or serious foul play occurs, officials should deal with the situation immediately - this kind of play should not tolerated.

Education-Based Soccer

▶ High school athletics is education-based, and some mechanics of our game are intentionally different from other levels of soccer. The pregame meeting, for example, is a time for officials to communicate expectations to both coaches and captains. This REQUIRED meeting for both head coaches and captains should cover pertinent rules, sportsmanship, the coin toss, and properly and legally equipped players. This meeting is a purposeful start to an education-based interscholastic match.

Officials Uniform and Equipment

- ► Long-sleeved shirt/jackets are permissible
- ► Electronic whistles or any other whistle that can be used with face covering shall be utilized
- Cloth face coverings are required
- ► Gloves are permissible



Contact Information

- ► Chris Kedge
- ► 505.923.3276 (w)
- ► 505.977.5386 (c)
- ► chris@nmact.org

