

AHSAA District Soccer Meeting – 2008 -2009

The following notes were taken from the AHSAA District Soccer Meeting by John Drake, AHSAA District 8 Soccer Representative, Cullman High School, Cullman, Alabama.

Please forward these notes to all soccer coaches in the AHSAA.

The meeting was held on May 21, 2008.

In attendance from the Central Board were: Steve Savarese, Alan Mitchell, Joe Evans, Ron Ingram, Wanda Gilliland, and Steve Bailey.

Agenda:

1. Opening remarks – Steve Savarese
2. Review minutes of last meeting – Alan Mitchell
3. Coaches' Education – (certification) – Joe Evans
4. Sportsmanship initiative (STAR Sportsmanship) – Ron Ingram
5. Fines and ejections (and conduct rule) – Wanda Gilliland
6. AHSADCA and All-Star Sports Week Update – Steve Bailey
7. New AHSAA website requirements – Steve Savarese
8. Officials – Greg Brewer
9. Evaluate tie-breaking procedures – Alan Mitchell
10. Evaluate state tournament – Steve Savarese
11. Travel/riesing fuel costs – Steve Savarese
12. New Business.

A. Districts 1,2,3,4,5,6, and 8 were present at the meeting. District 7 was absent.

B. Opening remarks were made by Steve Savarese.

- The District Soccer Committee is an advisory committee to the AHSAA.
- The Central Board makes final decisions.
- Decisions are made based on serving the children of this state.

C. Last years minutes

- All Star Week
- New Web Site
- State assigned officials
- 3 whistles system discussed
- Goal differentials
- NOCSOE Shinguards
- Conduct Related Red Cards
- Final 4 format – more rest between matches.
- New play-off format discussed with a possible additional round added.

D. Coaches' Education – Joe Evans

1. Each coach on sideline must have proper certification to be on the sideline. This includes volunteer coaches. Each coach, school faculty or volunteers, must have at least one of the following:
 - a. A valid AHSAA coaching card (if you have this card you are required to have completed the first aid course, coaching ethics course, have a valid CPR card, and have a STAR certificate).
 - b. For a first year coach, you must have a valid CPR card, a STAR certificate, and have

started either the first aid course or the coaching ethics course.

c. For a second year coach, you must have a valid CPR card, a STAR certificate, and have completed one of the required courses and started the second one.

d. For a third year coach, you must have a valid CPR card, a STAR certificate, and have completed the coaching ethics course and the first aid course.

e. Anyone (volunteer or faculty teacher) must have a CPR certification, a STAR certificate, and you must have at least started the 1st required coaching course.

2. All courses are readily available online. Contact your district representative, athletic director, or the AHSAA if you have questions.

E. Sportsmanship – Steve Savarese and Ron Ingram

1. Steve Savarese

a. No cursing will be tolerated! Coaches will be fined if he or she allows it from their assistants or players.

b. We will not tolerate winning at all costs!

2. Ron Ingram - STAR (Stop, Think, Act, Review) Sportsmanship initiative.

a. There is a MS(7 & 8th grade) and a HS(9-12th grade) component of the STAR test. All students and coaches must take the test and have a STAR certificate on file in their AD's office. Also, any student that is playing on a 9-12 team must take the 9-12 component even if he or she is a 7-8 student.

b. The purpose of the STAR test is to change behavior.

c. Teams and players will be subject to forfeit and fines if they do not take the STAR test and if they do not have a certificate on file.

F. Fines, ejections, and conduct rule – Wanda Gilliland

1. The Conduct Rule is the same as usual. Three strikes and you are out!

2. 1st offense - \$300, 2nd offense - \$500, 3rd offense - \$750 and you are suspended for the remainder of the season(at least). If the offense occurs on the last date of the season, then the Central Board will make additional recommendations.

3. No words may be used on the field of play or practice that would not be used in the classroom.

G. AHSADCA (Alabama High School Athletic Directors & Coaches Association) – Steve Bailey, President

1. Mission: to be a service organization for all sports, not just one sport.

2. Support the All Star Sports Week

a. Breakfast – Outreach Breakfast

b. Bus rectification offered

3. Question: Are coaches interested in a pre-season soccer clinic? Answer: Yes.

a. A January soccer clinic was unanimously approved to be sponsored by the state.

H. New AHSAA website requirements – Steve Savarese

1. All games must be posted to the AHSAA website immediately following the games, which will be the responsibility of the home coach.

2. The data must be imported for the system to work effectively.

I. State Tournament Discussion – Central Board and District Committee

1. Is Huntsville doing a good job? Yes

2. Time out of school and fuel costs were discussed.

3. Can it be done differently? Discussion on starting the tournament on Thursday. Discussion on giving more time between matches. Discussion on the playing order of the matches, including both genders in a classification simultaneously. Discussion of overtime and penalty kick procedures.

4. The overtime and penalty kick discussion was to get rid of the penalty kicks and go straight to KFTM to end ties. This was voted down 4 to 3.

5. Made a motion and approved: to extend game times as much as possible, thus allowing overtime and penalty kicks to take place without the pressure of the next games' start times.

J. Officials – Greg Brewer

1. Schools can option to pay referees through Refpay.com.
2. Officials will use the Arbiter.net software to assign games.
3. Officials will still be assigned by state for play-offs. This was agreed upon by the soccer committee as well.

K. Evaluation of Tie-Breaking procedures – Alan Mitchell

1. Goal differential for tie breakers will be abolished. The new software will not accommodate goal differentials. This primarily affects football and soccer, where each of these sports figure in scoring as part of tie-breakers.
2. Passed new tie-breaking procedure as amended by soccer committee. Part of the procedure may figure strength of schedule, common opponents, and/or a third played game with a tied opponent within a section. This new procedure is something that the software will automatically figure.

L. New Business – Soccer Committee

1. Change of section opponents: Discussion of allowing more teams to play in post-season by going to the area format. This will allow more teams to participate in the play-offs. This was not approved.
2. If you declare and do not field a team, you will be fined. The state needs to be made aware of any schools doing this. This was approved.
3. Extending the season by adding a week onto the beginning or the end of the season. This was not approved.