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**Participating Schools Guidelines**

Attention: Athletic/Activities Directors of Soccer Tournament Teams

Coaches of Soccer Tournament Teams

From: Rich Matter, Assistant Director

***Congratulations*** to your Soccer Team on its participation in the State Adapted Soccer Tournament! Your team, school and community can justifiably be proud of the accomplishments of your student athletes and coaching staff. Please review the enclosed material and distribute the information to the appropriate person.

**General Information Contacts**

* Tournament Director Rich Matter 763-569-0497 / Cell 612-875-1623
* Assistant to Tournament Director Nancy Myers 763-560-2262
* Program and News Media Information Tim Leighton 763-569-0485

**State Tournament Site and Dates**

* Stillwater High School; 5701 Stillwater Boulevard; 651-351-8040
* November 19-20, 2021
* See brackets for schedule of games on the MSHSL Website

For CI: <https://www.mshsl.org/sports-and-activities/adapted-soccer-ci>

For PI: <https://www.mshsl.org/sports-and-activities/adapted-soccer-pi>

**Official Squad For Tournament Play**

* 22 Players
* 3 Coaches
* 2 student Managers

Only official squad and cheerleaders may be on team benches. The home team will sit on home side of the floor.

**Admission Policies**

* **Participant:** Members of the official squad will be admitted through the pass gate, in uniform with their coach. The members of the official squad are invited to attend all tournament games even though their team might be eliminated in the quarterfinal or semifinal rounds. Complimentary admission will be provided at the pass gate with proper ID, and participant’s name on roster.
* **Coach:** Coaches of the official squad will be admitted with proper ID. No passes will be issued.
* **Cheerleader**: Cheerleaders in school-approved uniforms, who have been a regular member of the school's varsity adapted soccer squad, plus one coach will be admitted free of charge. **Note: Grade school students (grades K-6) or younger children may not be on the team bench or serve as cheerleaders or mascots. No waivers granted. Please inform all parties prior to the tournament.**
* **Participating School Bands**: Band members in uniform will be admitted free of charge.

**Tickets:** The MSHSL is primarily responsible for the assignment and distribution of all tickets for Adapted Soccer Championship games. All seats are general admission. Adult/$7.00 and Student/$4.00. All tickets will be sold online through Hometown Ticketing. Four complimentary tickets are provided to each participating school.

**Food and Beverage Clarification:** We understand that schools need to feed their student athletes healthy options during the tournament. If necessary, schools will be allowed to bring in outside food to feed their teams. We are simply asking you to limit the outside food consumption to your teams only and not include parents, siblings, grandparents etc.

All food and beverage at the site will be sold by the Stillwater High School Booster Club. Your cooperation with this policy is greatly appreciated.

**Participation Certificates:** A template and instructions for printing State Tournament Participation Certificates are available on the AD’s Dashboard page.

**Sportsmanship:** The highest standards of sportsmanship are requested from each team participating in the state tournament. The school officials are requested to review the standards of sportsmanship and require the highest level of conduct from the coaches, players and fans. **Coaches are expected to supervise their teams throughout the tournament, including between games. Unruly/disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated and offenders will be ejected from the facility.**

**Staging Area:** An area will be available for teams between games.

**Souvenir Program:** Pre- and Post-Tournament Online Programs will be available on the Adapted Soccer CI and PI activitypages.

**Uniforms:** Please review the uniform rules. All participants must be in compliance with the rule.

**Pregame Procedures**: 10 minutes prior to the start of the game, the scoreboard operator will put 10 minutes on the official clock. When the time has elapsed, each team will go to their respective bench for the start of the team introductions.

**Team Introduction Procedures**

* ***First Round and Championship Games:***

1. Each team member, beginning with the VISITING Team, will be introduced.

2. The players will be announced in the numerical order of their game jersey. The first player will start onto the floor when the announcer say, "Now for the introduction of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ High School Soccer team." The players are to move onto the floor as they are announced. After the players and managers have been introduced, the coaching staff will be presented. They are to enter the floor and stand in front of the team, facing the scorers table. Both teams are to remain on the floor until each has been introduced.

3. The game officials, who are to be located on the scorer's table side at the centerline, will be introduced next.

4. At the conclusion of the introductions, the teams will turn and face the flag for the playing of the National Anthem.

1. The teams will return to their benches briefly and the game will begin.

* ***Second Game of Session Procedure:***

1. When the horn sounds indicating the end of the 10 minute warm-up, the teams will go to their bench area.

2. Introductions will be made following the same procedure as for Game 1.

3. At the conclusion of the introductions, the teams will briefly return to their benches for a brief meeting and the game will begin.

* ***Consolation and Semifinal Games:***

1. Only the starters will be introduced in the Consolation and Semifinal Games.

2. The National Anthem will be played following the introductions for each Consolation game on Saturday morning.

**Game Officials:** The game officials will be hired from the list compiled by the MSHSL.

**Game Ball:** The game balls will be provided at the tournament site.

**Official Clock:** The scoreboard clock will be the official time.

**Awards**

* Certificates of Participation: To each student member of the official squad.
* Certificates of Recognition: To the head coach and assistant coach(es) of each team.
* Medals: To all members of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.
* Medals: To the head coach and assistant coach(es) of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place teams.
* Trophies: To champion, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place teams and winner of consolation.
* Plaques: To the 6th, 7th and 8th place teams.
* **Awards Presentation:** Trophies will be awarded at the completion of each final session, i.e., consolation, 3rd and 4th place trophies, 6th, 7th and 8th place plaques following each of the Saturday games, then Second place and Championship Trophies following the final session. Teams will line up on the floor to be presented medals and trophies or plaques.

**RESPONSIBILITY FOR SPECTATOR CONDUCT:**

In order to elevate standards of sportsmanship and encourage the growth of responsible citizenship among the students, member schools, fans and school personnel, the MSHSL held a Sportsmanship Summit and asked student participants to identify behavior expectations they felt should be in place at every school event.

These minimum behavior expectations provide a foundation upon which member schools, conferences, administrative regions and the League’s Board of Directors can build specific guidelines for activities under their control.

MSHSL Bylaw 409, **RESPONSIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATING TEAMS, STUDENTS AND SPECTATORS**, speaks to this issue, directly, and Bylaw 409-2 specifically states that, **“School officials shall be held responsible for the proper conduct of teams, team members, students and home spectators regardless of where the contest is being held.”**

In all MSHSL activities, each participating school shall designate a person or persons from that school to serve as crowd control supervisors or chaperones. MSHSL tournament staff may require school administrators to contact the tournament manager prior to the start of the tournament game so that they can be immediately contacted to respond to behavioral issues regarding their team members, students and/or spectators at the tournament site. Each supervisor or chaperone should be immediately identifiable to the students and to the tournament site ushers and other security personnel. This will help to coordinate crowd control between school supervisors and tournament site personnel.

**MSHSL MINIMAL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR REGULAR AND POST-SEASON TOURNAMENT COMPETITIONS**

* Respect the American flag and the National Anthem.
* Spectators must wear clothing that covers the entire torso. Those who do not comply or who wear clothing that is vulgar, obscene or that in some other way inappropriate, as determined by school/tournament personnel, will be removed from the arena/stadium if they do not cooperate with this behavior expectation.
* The use of appropriate language is expected at all times. Profanity, negative chants, booing, trash talk, name calling, personal attacks or other acts of disrespect are unacceptable and must be immediately addressed by school and/or tournament administrators.
* Respect the game/contest. Under no condition shall anyone other than the members of the official squad enter the playing surface. No one may interfere with the contest in any way.
* Hand held signs, which do not obstruct the view of others, will be permitted provided they are in good taste. Signs, message boards, “white” boards or other similar items contest/tournament officials deem to be in poor taste will be removed.
* Artificial noise makers (i.e. megaphones, cowbells, sirens, whistles, thunder sticks, and other similar items) are not allowed.
* Laser lights are strictly prohibited.

**THANK YOU** for supporting your student athletes and fine arts participants and for providing a positive environment in which educational activities are conducted.

**Statement of Rights to Events**

All Minnesota State High School League Subsection, Section and State Tournaments are presented under the authority of the Minnesota State High School League. The Minnesota State High School League reserves all rights to these events and their presentation. The sale or use of any photographs, or the rebroadcast or reproduction of any portion of these tournaments by any means, including video and Internet publication or streaming, is strictly prohibited unless approved in advance, in writing, by the Minnesota State High School League Executive Director. The Minnesota State High School League expressly reserves the right to seek maximum legal recourse against all violators.

**The following information can be located on the MSHSL web site for review and distribution *(www.mshsl.org)***

* All-Tournament Team Award Information
* Athletic Rules and Policies Manual
* Brackets
* State Tournament Brackets
* Souvenir Photos

***Good luck to your team in this state tournament experience!***

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