

## Activity Advisory Committee Recommendation to the MSHSL Board of Directors

### Activity/Activities (Check all that apply)

Soccer, Boys, Soccer, Girls

Submitted on Sat, 10/15/2022 - 12:17 AM

### Indicate the category of the proposed recommendation

Regular Season and Section Tournament Format Recommendations

### Authors of the Proposal

Tracey Griess, Greg Juba, David Alborno, Jeff Winter, Scott Helling-Christy, Chris Laird, Wade McFee, Bob Waypa, Kelly Taylor, Brandon Johnson, Dave Marshak, Matt Carlson, Jeff Beimert

## Current Rule/Policy

State the rule/policy as it appears in the current MSHSL Handbook or Activity/Sport Specific Rules and Policies.

There is no current Mercy rule for Minnesota high school soccer.

## Proposed Recommendation

Submit your proposed change to the above-stated rule/policy.

We propose that in the second half, if the goal differential is 5 goals or more, the clock will only stop for serious injury.

Include any other policies that are impacted by this proposal.

We do not believe that this proposal would significantly impact any other policies. We would no longer have games (or at least lessen the number of games) that have scores with a goal differential in the double digits.

## Rationale

What is the history of the proposal?

During Covid (2020-21), the change was made to end stopping the clock after goals when a team is losing by 5 or more goals. This extra time was thought to add unnecessary exposure during a clearly decided game. We polled our association members and coaches and received an 83% approval for a similar Mercy rule where the clock will continue to run after goals scored if a team is leading by 5 or more goals in the second half. The clock would only stop for serious injury. We want to try to eliminate games where the score is overly lopsided without taking away too many minutes from players and teams. In addition to this rule change, we will continue to encourage coaches to find creative ways to even the playing field to make a competitive game despite the uneven opponents.

How does your proposal benefit education-based opportunities and MSHSL Mission and Beliefs for all Minnesota students?

This proposal will benefit all Minnesota students by providing all with an enjoyable competitive experience and we can avoid overly lopsided results.

### **What other policies are significant in this proposal?**

There are no other significant policies in this proposal

### **Provide evidence of support for the proposal from other groups**

In addition to the support we have from the head coaches in our association, I have spoken with my Activities Director and have confirmed that we have full support from all of the Anoka-Hennepin ADs:

Curt Wallrath - Coon Rapids  
Lance Wicks - Anoka  
Shannon Gerrety - Blaine  
Matt Mattson - Champlin Park  
Eric Lehtola - Andover

He also states that other sports have similar policies in place.

## **Impact**

### **How does your proposal affect this activity, including its impact on all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools**

This proposal will eliminate games where the score is overly lopsided without taking away too many minutes from players and teams. This proposal will similarly affect teams in all classes, areas of the state, and variety of schools.

## **Administration**

### **How does your proposal impact section and state tournaments?**

This proposal will not impact section and state tournaments.

## **Length of Tournament**

### **How does your proposal impact the needed competition time for section and state tournaments?**

There is no impact on competition time for section and state tournaments.

## **Participants**

### **How does your proposal impact the number of participants/teams?**

There is no impact on the number of participants/teams but it may have a slight impact on the minutes of games played but not significantly, and only in severely lopsided games.

### **How does your proposal impact the percentage of participants/teams that would qualify for the state tournament?**

This proposal has no impact on the percentage of participants that would qualify for the state tournament.

## **Facilities**

**How does your proposal impact the facilities needed to accommodate your recommendation at both the section and state level?**

There is no impact on the facilities needed to accommodate this recommendation.

## **Awards**

**How does your proposal impact the number of awards at both section and state?**

There is no impact on the number of awards at both section and state.N/A

## **Other**

**Provide any other pertinent information not included in this proposal**

N/A

## **Primary Author and Contact for Proposal**

**Proposal submitted by**

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**Position**

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