

## **SOCCER CONTEST FORMAT**

### **VARSIITY:**

1. All matches shall have two (2) forty-minute halves.
2. The timing of the contest must be in compliance with the NFHS Soccer Rules, i.e., the clock is mandated to stop for “a penalty kick, for cautioning (yellow card), for disqualification (red card, yellow-red card), following the scoring of a goal and when the referee orders time out.
3. Season contests which are tied at the end of eighty minutes remain a tie.
4. A tied game during the regular season may be resolved ONLY
  - a. When both schools are from the same Conference and,
  - b. The conference has determined to use the Tie-Game Procedure (follow the Tournament Tie-Break Procedure).

### **JUNIOR VARSITY AND FRESHMAN:**

1. All matches shall have two (2) **thirty-five-minute halves**.
2. The timing of the contest must be in compliance with the NFHS Soccer Rules, i.e., the clock is mandated to stop for “a penalty kick, for cautioning (yellow card), for disqualification (red card, yellow-red card), following the scoring of a goal and when the referee orders time out. **NO RUNNING CLOCK!**
3. Season contests which are tied at the end of eighty minutes remain a tie.
4. A tied game during the regular season may be resolved ONLY
  - a. When both schools are from the same Conference and,
  - b. The conference has determined to use the Tie-Game Procedure (follow the Tournament Tie-Break Procedure).

**NOTE 1:** Schools with less than 25 players on its roster between the varsity and junior varsity levels will be allowed to play a full varsity match of two 40-minute halves and a single *40-minute half* for the junior varsity players. The full varsity match shall be played first. All halves shall be counted and Boys’ Rule 56-3 and Girls’ Rule 106-3 must be enforced.

Two teams with 25 or more players on its roster between the varsity and junior varsity levels shall play a full match at the junior varsity level as well varsity level. The halves rules shall be in effect.

**NOTE 2:** Officials are hired by the schools to insure a level playing field for all involved student-athletes by enforcing the NFHS Soccer playing rules as they are printed in the rules book. Contests for sub-varsity level teams should meet the standards as set forth by NFHS and endorsed by IHSAA. **Schools must insure that the officials are following the IHSAA rules and not establishing their own rules for expediency sake.**

Conferences have not been authorized by the IHSAA to circumvent the rules by setting their own playing rules. The standards that are set and enforced for soccer are similar to the standards that are set and enforced for the other IHSAA sponsored sports.