



2023/2024 High School Soccer Officials Handbook



Substituted players now requested to exit only to bench sideline.



Stop clock to evaluate – player no longer required to come off.



You have already agreed to the following when you renewed your HSSO membership:

Officials Code of Ethics

National Federation of State High School Associations
Colorado High School Activities Association
High School Soccer Officials

NFHS
CHSAA
HSSO

Officials at an interscholastic athletic event are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic Officials.

Officials shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.

Officials shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.

Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interactions with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.

Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.

Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.

Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student-athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession. Officials will not use alcohol or other mind-altering substances prior to officiating the day of a game. Sobriety is an important part of official comportment, and referees must be aware of how substances (and substance abuse) will affect how their judgement is perceived.

Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear to be hazardous.

Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.

Officials shall take precautions to avoid perceived conflicts of interest, in which a connection to participants (players, coaches, administrators) or schools may exist that could be seen as bias:

Without the prior approval of the head coach of each team, an Official shall not serve as a referee on a game involving a team from a school which that Official has attended within the previous three-year period, nor shall the Official serve as a referee on a game from a school at which a child or step-child attends or has attended within the previous three-year period. The Official should block those schools in ArbiterSports, and/or notify the assignor of restrictions...

Front cover:

The flag signal for the AR that tells the referee substitutions are ready: in a two whistle system, whichever referee notices that there are subs should tweet the whistle a couple of times and point to them (so the other ref knows what's going on). As soon as the referee acknowledges the subs, they may come onto the field of play, and at that point are the players. Those coming off are now substitutes, even while still on the field, and the rule change for this year requires those subs to come off the field on the sideline with the benches. This is to reduce the chance for unpleasant interactions that could occur if they come off on the spectator sideline. Since USSF youth games have previously instructed players to exit at the closest line, it will no doubt take a while for players to understand this rule change. Thus, there should be no need to warn or caution if they leave the "wrong way".

Another rule change on substitutions eliminates the requirement for a player to come off the pitch just because the referee stopped the clock. This player seems to be indicating "give me a minute", so stop the clock, and give him a chance to shake it off. If help comes from the bench, though, he must come off.

Important!

Please review the rules changes for this school year. It is your responsibility to stay current with all NFHS rules and CHSAA directives.

Contact your area director to see if there will be any meetings in your area (contact information follows in this handbook).

You can also review rules comments for this and past years at hssocoolorado.org

Specific questions about rules can be directed to me at: mchipman53@gmail.com

You have already signed off on the code of ethics when you renewed your membership. Contact your local area director to see if there are scheduled preseason clinics near you.

TESTING is on line only. There are no paper tests!

When testing is open (**July 25**), go to Arbitersports.com and log in.

Go to the **103372** account - the testing can ONLY be found there (Central Hub) – not on your assigning account.

Click on the tab for "TESTING", and look for the 2022 HSSO/CHSAA Soccer Test. Take the test over as long a period as you wish – you can reenter that test multiple times while taking it (remember to save your work before leaving!). When you are done taking the test, there should be a button for submitting the test. ***Just finishing the test does not submit it!*** When you enter submit, it should then send you an email the score you have received. If you do not like that result then you can retake the test two more times. You should be able to see your specific score and questions missed after August 1 – go to the same site and click the Review button and scroll through the questions.

Remember: no completed test, no badge!

Colorado High School Activities Association
14855 E. 2nd Avenue, Aurora, CO 80011
(303) 344-5050

<https://chsaanow.com>

Justin Saylor

Assistant Commissioner, Soccer

jsaylor@chsa.org

Mike Book

Assistant Commissioner, Officials

mbook@chsa.org

Collette Stone

Coordinator of Sports

Assistant to Mr Saylor

cstone@chsa.org

Monica Tillman

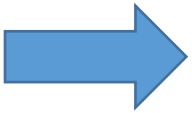
Coordinator of Sports and Officials

Assistant to Mr Book

mtillman@chsa.org

Will receive game reports, etc

For all ArbiterSports questions



Game report:

https://chsaanow.com/sb_output.aspx?form=12



Colorado High School Soccer Officials 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Ken Hehir, President

kenhehir@msn.com

720-530-9945

John Bissell, VP – Evaluation & Discipline

jebissell@comcast.net

720-201-6083

Conor McGahey, VP – Officials Liaison & Recruitment

conormcgahey@gmail.com

970-333-1383

Sonja Urano, Secretary

sportmom55@gmail.com

307-421-5691

Jason Hampton, Treasurer

jasonbhampton@gmail.com

303-775-5294

Megan McCain Smith, Director – Officials Clinics & Rules Interpreter

miamccain7@gmail.com

720-300-1727

Neal Fausset, Director – Liaison & Special Projects

nealfausset@hotmail.com

303-859-1279

Mike Chipman, Ex-Officio Member

mchipman53@gmail.com

720-308-7648



AREA DIRECTORS 2023 – 2024

Area 1
Vacant

Moffat, Routt, Jackson

Area 2

Rio Blanco, Garfield, Eagle, Pitkin

Michael "Mick" Woodworth
970-471-5253
firemick1@gmail.com

Area 3

Mesa, Delta, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel, Gunnison, Hinsdale

Garrie Krizman
970-434-4266
garrie@ipumpco.com

Area 4

Dolores, Montezuma, LaPlata, San Juan, Archuleta

Kevin Aten
970-567-6774
katen@frii.com

Area 5
Pueblo,

Mineral, Saguache, Rio Grande, Conejos, Las Animas, Huerfano, Costillo, Custer,

Larry Rogers **Crowley, Otero, Kiowa, Bent, Baca**
719-542-7217
lcr_kr_socfam@yahoo.com

Area 6

Fremont, Chaffee, Lake, Park, El Paso, Teller, Lincoln, Cheyenne, Alamosa, Kit

Carson, Prowers
Jim Gilbert
719-331-2834
jq092165@gmail.com

Area 7

Douglas, Arapahoe, Elbert

Mike Wallace
303-204-5753
michael.t.wallace@gmail.com

Area 8

Jefferson, Clear Creek, Summit, Gilpin, Grand

Mike Chipman
720-308-7648
mchipman53@gmail.com

Area 9

Denver, Adams, Broomfield, Boulder

Megan McCain
720-300-1727
miamccain7@gmail.com

Area 10

Larimer, Weld, Morgan, Logan, Washington, Yuma, Phillips, Sedgwick

John Barron
970-988-1788
soccer888player@yahoo.com



Colorado High School Soccer Assignors 2023-24



<p>ASO Jerry and Melissa Letofsky 303-368-8005 aleto38676@aol.com</p>	<p>CENTENNIAL, COLORADO, CONFLUENCE, CONTINENTAL, EMAC, FRONT RANGE, JEFFCO, LONGS PEAK, NORTHERN, DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS, Addenbrooke Classical, Aurora West College Prep, Conifer, DSST(s) – (Byers, College View, Conservatory Green, Green Valley Ranch), Evergreen, LOTUS School, STEM, STRIVE Prep Schools, Weld Central</p>
<p>Northern Colorado Sports Officials (NCSO) Ryan Roark, Sean Grogan 970-217-3783 roarkr@goncso.com</p>	<p>FRONT RANGE, LONGS PEAK, NORTHERN, Berthoud, Estes Park, Frontier Academy, Liberty Common, Roosevelt, Sterling, Valley</p>
<p>Dale and Robbie Velichkoff 303-451-8619 dalesleagues@comcast.net</p>	<p>FRONT RANGE, FRONTIER, METRO, MILE HIGH, NORTHERN, Bennett, Clear Creek, Dawson, DSST – Montview, Nederland, Stargate, Summit, Windsor Charter</p>
<p>Robert Sapashe 719-433-6463 bob_sapashe@msn.com</p>	<p>COLORADO SPRINGS METRO, Alamosa, Buena Vista, Canon City, Center, Del Norte, Elizabeth, Florence, Lake County, Lamar, Pueblo School, Rye, Salida, Trinidad</p>
<p>Kevin Aten 970-567-6774 katen@frii.com</p>	<p>FOUR CORNERS – Bayfield, Durango, Ignacio, Montezuma-Cortez, Pagosa, Telluride</p>
<p>Christopher Day 719-480-0372 clday77@gmail.com</p>	<p>MOUNTAINS – CENTRAL – Aspen, Basalt, Battle Mountain, Carbondale, Coal Ridge, Colorado Rocky Mountain, Eagle Valley, Glenwood Springs, Rifle, Roaring Fork, Vail Christian, Vail Mountain School</p>
<p>Vacant – TBD</p>	<p>MOUNTAINS – NORTHWEST – Moffat County, Steamboat</p>
<p>David Dearstyne 970-249-7971 ddearstyne@hotmail.com</p>	<p>MOUNTAINS – SOUTH – Crested Butte, Montrose, Ouray, Ridgway</p>
<p>Chuck Nissen 970-260-8522 cnissen@bresnan.net</p>	<p>MOUNTAINS – WEST – Grand Junction</p>

Rules Review

Rules Changes for 2023 / 2024 School Year

3-3-2b (2,3) (NEW):: Permits the referee to stop the clock to review game situations at any time without negatively impacting a player's ability to remain in the game.

Comment: This corrects that rule change from a few years ago that required the player, including the goalkeeper, to leave, just because we stopped the clock. This will allow us to take the proper time to determine if assistance is required – an opinion that I would recommend discussing across the field with the coach, if you are unsure.

3-3-7: Clarifies where a player should re-enter the game to avoid confusion. This rule change clarifies that a player should re-enter the game from the official area at midfield.

Comment: This avoids potential confusion as to who is or is not in the game. There are no changes as to when substitutions may occur.

3-4-1e (NEW): Clarifies players should exit the field on the bench side unless unable to do so due to injury.

Comment: The sub may still come in as soon as you acknowledge (beckon) them. Be mindful that this could become a time wasting situation, and stop the clock if you believe this is happening and may impact the game. I would not call this misconduct, however.

4-2-12 (NEW): Defines how wearable technology devices may be worn. See points of emphasis for more comments. While there are many different types, styles, and functions, the technology can only be worn as a part of the shoe and/or under the uniform and not worn on the arm or below the level of the shoulder.

Comment: A couple of items I can think of that could be “exposed” – hearing aids (ears or head), insulin pumps (various places), and some heart monitors (on wrist, usually looks like a smart watch, and should be treated the same as a medical bracelet).

Rule 4 Reorganization: Adjusts the structure of the uniform rule to offer clarity.

Comment: The reorganization of the uniform rule breaks up the rule into bite-size pieces that are easier for coaches and officials to apply. Hopefully, this isn't the referee's main focus...

11-1-5 (NEW): Defines deliberately playing the ball to clarify the existing rules for off side.

Comment: Off side remains one of those situations that different folks see differently from you,

from fans to players to coaches. This is not really a change, and in my opinion will not eliminate those differences. Call it like you see it!

12-1-1 thru 3 (NEW), 18-1-1: Clarifies various foul categories and defines the seven direct free kick fouls to provide consistency.

Comment: Read these sections, understanding that nothing really changed.

12-3-2, 3 (NEW): Clarifies that neither accidental nor deliberate hand/arm contact can result in a goal.

*Comment: This brings the definition in line with IFAB and USSF and refers to attacking players. Rules regarding handling by defensive players during an attack on goal have not changed: if an own-goal is scored which might involve the hand or arm of the defender, the goal will stand. Taking one last look, realize this change refers to the scoring of a goal. Handling in other situations **remains the same**, including your decision if the incident was a result of normal hand/arm position or if the ball struck the hand as opposed to the hand striking the ball.*

12-8-5 (NEW): Offers clarity regarding goalkeeper handling not permitted outside and inside the penalty area.

Comment: Again, read this section, and realize there is no rule change – just a single location for all of the various rules about what the keeper can and cannot do.

12-9-4(NEW), 12-8-1f(14, 15), 12-8-2d (3,4): Defines considerations of denying an obvious goal-scoring opportunity DOGSO is an egregious attempt to prevent opponents from scoring. Rule 12 describes the various sanctions in place when an opponent is denied an obvious goal scoring opportunity. For a player to be sent off for denying and obvious goal-scoring opportunity the following four criteria must be present: 1. Distance between the offense and the goal (DOGSO must be near the goal). 2. General direction of play (the attacking players are generally headed toward the goal). 3. Likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball (the player must have or been able to control the ball in order to score). 4. Location and number of defenders (If another defender, including the goalkeeper is in a close enough position to make a lawful tackle or attempt a save then this criterion is not met).

COLORADO: Overtime in the regular season has been eliminated. All games are over after 80 minutes.

Points of Emphasis

Wearable Technology

Technology companies are making massive strides in developing and marketing wearable devices for student athletes. Wearable sports technologies are being used to monitor athletic training, in-game performance, and recovery after an injury. The availability of wearable technologies that allow individuals to monitor a variety of body functions, including but not limited to, heart rate, blood pressure, pace and distance traveled are readily available and cost effective. Nearly all these wearable technologies can both transmit and receive collected data from other mechanisms. This data can be used to evaluate how the body is performing, and the user can adjust as needed based on that data.

Coaching and Team Area Decorum.

Good sport conduct is the behavior appropriate of coaches, players, and bench personnel. This includes every individual who is in the team area during a game. Coaches set the tone for the contest with their display of sportsmanship. Officials should be aware of the behavior of the players, coaches, and other bench/sideline personnel. A positive, open line of communication between officials and coaches ultimately results in a better contest for everyone involved. Inappropriate bench behavior shows a clear lack of respect.

Examples of inappropriate bench decorum include but are not limited to:

- Kicking or throwing objects in reaction to a decision.
- Entering the field of play to dissent a call or confront an official or player.
- Acting in a provocative or inflammatory manner.
- Arguing calls consistently.
- Engaging in a verbal or physical confrontation with the opposing coaching staff or players.
- Confronting or arguing with spectators.

Referees are reminded that they are expected to manage this type of behavior calmly but firmly, and to report unacceptable behavior on a game report.

Schedule for this school year

On-line test begins	August 1
Boy's season begins	August 17
Boy's regular season ends	October 21
Post season	October 25
Finals	November 12
Girl's season begins	March 7, 2024
Girl's regular season ends	May 4
Post season	May 7
Finals	May 21 and 22

Post season assignments are for active members only (not Provisional or JV). First round games will usually be assigned by the school's assignor, while all subsequent games will be assigned by CHSAA, all in ArbiterSports. Look for a post season application email from CHSAA about 2-3 weeks prior to the end of the applicable season.

GAME REPORTS

Please use the CHSAA supplemental game reports for communication of misconduct, (caution for coaches, ejections for anyone), and other issues of concern or note (using the supplemental game report). The reporting of cautions for players is also encouraged, although not yet required.

Find the form at: https://chsaanow.com/sb_output.aspx?form=12

or at hss-colorado.org as a link.

These are all reviewed by CHSAA, and athletic directors notified within a day, so, complete them within 24 hours!

LIST OF SOCCER OFFICIALS

In ArbiterSports.com, account 104522 has a tab "LISTS", which has all referees still on file, paid or unpaid. Click on the name of the referee to find contact information.

DIRECTIONS TO HIGH SCHOOLS SOCCER LOCATIONS

Under your assignments at Arbitersorts.com, click on the site shown for the game. It will give an address, which, if you click on that, provides a map. If you are not sure call the school – the number is listed.

Also at Arbitersports.com, if you click on the game number (after accepting, of course), it will provide you with the name of the other official(s), and contact information. They may have better information, plus, this is a good step to confirm that everyone will be at the game at the correct time.

HSSO CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Find at <http://www2.chsaa.org/officials/soccer/pdf/Constitution.pdf>

SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE COVERAGE

– Contact CHSAA Start with Monica Tillman at mtillman@chsaa.org

OVERTIME

Overtime has been ELIMINATED all regular season matches in Colorado!

Beginning Fall 2023, elimination of overtime during the regular season.

Eliminating overtime in the regular season aligns with the NCAA and was backed strongly by the Officials Association (HSSO). The committee felt that by eliminating overtime in the regular season, officials would have the ability to accept back-to-back games at different locations knowing that there will not be a situation where overtime would delay the time they could leave one venue and arrive to another. With a 10% decrease in the overall number of officials in 2022, this was an attractive solution to making officials available for multiple games on the same day. Additionally, lower-level games that follow a varsity game where lights are not available often have their game time cut short when overtime is played. Eliminating overtime in the regular season would increase the likelihood of these games starting on time. Finally, ties are already part of the game of soccer here in Colorado and are a possible outcome of every CHSAA game. Elimination of overtime reduces additional match time in an already packed fall and spring schedule while arriving at an outcome that is already possible with the current two overtime format.

SOCCER OFFICIAL FEES

The fees adopted by the CHSAA Legislative Council for the 2023-24 school year.

3 Official Varsity	\$ 85.00 for each
2 Official Varsity	\$ 100.00 for each
2 Official Sub-Varsity	\$ 60.00 for each
1 Official Sub-Varsity	\$ 85.00

An additional increase of \$5.00 will occur during the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

Travel pay remains complicated, so go to

https://chsaanow.com/documents/2023/1/12//CHSAA_Travel_Fees.pdf?id=1504

Basically, \$0.50 mileage applies only if distance is greater than 20 miles, zip code to zip code, and schools within the defined "Metro Area" (Denver and suburbs) will instead pay a stipend of \$10.

MERCY RULE

Colorado Adoption

The "Mercy Rule" is required for all regular season games by CHSAA. It is usually applicable in post season games as well.

Mechanics of the Mercy Rule:

Once a 7-goal differential is reached, notify the time keeper that the Mercy Rule is now in effect, and time will not be stopped for goals, disciplinary action, penalty kicks, substitutions, or minor injuries (use discretion on severity of injury as needed to stop the clock). If the team that is behind then scores a goal, reducing the difference to 6, then the clock will again be stopped per the normal game rules.

When a 10-goal differential is reached, and if the game has completed at least one half (40 minutes) of play, then the game is completed. It is not necessary to start the second half if the differential at the end of the first half is 10 goals or more. At least one half must be played in all cases.

*** The leading team is no longer required to reduce players ***

It is not required to report to CHSAA that the mercy rule was used in a game, but should be mentioned on an ejection report if it might have relevance to the ejection, or on a supplemental game report, if it is relevant to whatever is being reported.

REPORTING PLAYER/COACH CAUTIONS AND EJECTIONS

The CHSAA assesses penalties and maintains a five-year file on each school related to all aspects of conduct penalties and sportsmanship related incidents. This is done with the goal of supporting officials and maintaining the educational atmosphere of all activities.

Because of penalties involved, 100% accurate reporting by officials is crucial. The following must be reported in writing:

- Player ejections, using the GAME REPORT FORM located at hssso-colorado.org
https://chsaanow.com/sb_output.aspx?form=12
- Coach cautions and ejections, using the MISCONDUCT portion of the report
- Instances of unsportsmanlike conduct by crowds before, during or after games, using the SUPPLEMENTAL portion of the report.
- Game management and facility problems which detract from the proper administration of the game, using the SUPPLEMENTAL portion of the report.
- Noteworthy instances of outstanding positive sportsmanship by players, coaches, crowds using the SUPPLEMENTAL portion of the report.

Because of the penalties involved, be sure that the offense warrants the penalty. NEVER contact a coach or CHSAA following the game to reverse your decision.

PROCEDURES

In an effort to provide proper accountability with the administration of CHSAA member schools and their support for exemplary sportsmanship, officials are to follow these procedures when it becomes necessary to eject any participant, or, to caution a member of the coaching staff from a game. Needless to say, we urge preventative measures.

PLAYER: (Please include ALL requested information)

If it becomes necessary for an official to eject a player from a high school game, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. Indicate to the player that they are being ejected from the game by showing the red card.
2. Notify the coach for each team of the ejection and the reason for the ejection. Please be specific.
3. Notify the school administrator at the site as needed for game control.
4. Notify CHSAA using the MISCONDUCT portion of the game report
5. It is not required in high school that the player leaves the bench area, as the player is still under supervision of the school and may not have an alternative.

Do not attempt to interpret CHSAA regulations to the coach or coaches involved, or to anyone else, regarding the resulting penalty to the player. You may explain the reason for the ejection within the context of the rules.

COACH: (Please include ALL requested information)

If it becomes necessary to caution or eject a coach from a high school contest, the following procedure is to be followed:

1. Notify the coach of his/her caution or ejection by **showing the yellow or red card**. If a coach has been ejected, ask that he/she remove themselves from the playing area immediately, assuring there is still a responsible person present (a parent is usually insufficient for this requirement). If no responsible person is available, the game must be terminated, and this needs to be included in the game report.
2. Notify the site administrator as needed for game control
3. Notify CHSAA using the MISCONDUCT portion of the game report

Do not attempt to interpret the CHSAA policy pertaining to the ejection of a coach, or the resulting penalty to the coach, to anyone. You may explain the reason for the ejection within the context of the rules.

Once your immediate information is received by CHSAA, the office will work with the school administration on the actions to be taken with player and/or member of the coaching staff. If you are contacted directly by the school administration, ask them to contact CHSAA first (Justin Saylor) and to expect a reply from CHSAA. It is highly recommended that you keep copies of the report and team rosters until the end of the season.



HSSO Membership Levels

The following rules apply to all high school games sanctioned under CHSAA.
All Varsity and Junior Varsity games will have HSSO registered Officials.

Active Member

Active members may referee any level at any position for all high school assignments.
Active members must be registered with USSF.
Test requirements: 85% or higher on the NFHS Soccer Rules Test.
Attend preseason refresher course prior to start of the fall season.
You must be an Active member to be considered for post-season playoffs.

Provisional Member

Provisional members may referee any sub-varsity game, and may be an Assistant Referee on a Varsity game.
Provisional members must be registered with USSF.
Test requirements: 80% or higher on the NFHS Soccer Rules Test.
Attend preseason refresher course prior to start of both the fall season and spring season.
Provisional members are not eligible for post-season assignments.

Requirements to advance to Active Status –

Official must serve one year as a Provisional high school Official and work a minimum of 20 matches, either Varsity Assistant Referee or any sub-varsity contest, to be able to advance to Active member status, score 85% or higher on the soccer rules test, and attended all required recertification and refresher courses. Members may petition the HSSO Board for consideration for early advancement.

Junior Varsity Member

Junior Varsity members may referee any sub-varsity match.
Junior Varsity members may not accept any Varsity level assignment.
Test requirements: 75% or higher on the NFHS Soccer Rules Test.
Attend preseason refresher course prior to start of both the fall season and spring season.
Junior Varsity members are not eligible for post-season assignments.

Requirements to advance to Provisional Status –

Junior Varsity member must work a minimum of 20 sub-varsity high school games, score 80% or higher on the soccer rules test, and be recommended for advancement based on HSSO JV field assessment, **OR** gain USSF certification and maintain USSF status for at least one year. Members may petition the HSSO Board for consideration for early advancement.

If you have accepted an assignment, which you can no longer officiate, contact the Assignor directly for instructions and/or assistance in finding a replacement.

Arrive at the assigned site at least 30 minutes prior to the start of any match. If a crew member does not make it to a game, please contact the Assignor. The Home School will contact CHSAA.

If a Referee on any assigned Varsity or Junior Varsity high school game is not a member of HSSO please contact the HSSO Board.

For questions regarding advancement, contact: Mike Chipman
mchipman53@gmail.com
720-308-7648