



## **2020 Season Policies for Pre-Game, During Game, Post-Game, Covid-19 & Points of Emphasis**

### **Pre-Game**

- Contact your partner at least one day prior to the game to discuss uniform colors, field location (if never been) and arrival time (30 minutes prior to game time).
- Walk to the field together with your partner.
- Officials are expected to wear a mask when walking to the field and during pre-game activities/procedures
- Briefly greet coaches. Remain mindful of social distancing guidelines.
- Complete coin toss conference approximately 5 to 10 minutes prior to game time with **one captain and the head coach**. Remain mindful of social distancing guidelines. Referees shall continue wearing masks for the entirety of the coin toss conference. Confirm proper equipment with coaches then permit the coaches return to their team bench.
- Traditional pre game introductions, anthems and handshakes will not occur. Players will go directly to the field and the game shall commence.

**During the game, officials may wear a mask at any point.**

### **Halftime**

- Come together at the middle of the field and walk to the sideline together. Continue to remain mindful of social distance and wearing masks.

### **After the Game**

- Immediately at the end of the competition officials will meet at the center circle, or the closest/safest area nearest the exit, and head to their vehicles for departure. Officials will wear masks and respect social distancing. Stay together and do not hang around. Make sure your partner has made it to their car safely (if not parked next to each other).
- There will be no handshakes after the game. Do not stick around.



### **Points of Emphasis.**

- 1) Social Media Policy. Officials **must not** post anything related to their game, check-ins, tagging or commenting about other officials or coaches, or anything related to GNHSOA assignments or CIAC competitions.
- 2) Video. Remain mindful of modern recording technology. Many schools record games, many parents and fans use smart phones to record players. Be aware that video and audio recorders are everywhere. Be vigilant, alert, and cautious of your words and actions. Unsafe game environments, lack of player/coach misconduct in games and inappropriate conduct of officials are all matters that can be recorded as proof.
- 3) Player Safety. It is our top priority to keep high school soccer competitions safe. Calling more fouls compared to calling less fouls can be risky and unsafe. Athletic Director's will raise concern if an official does not keep the game safe. Be proactive, manage players who play in an unsafe manner, and keep the game in control.