

SOUTHWEST SUBURBAN CONFERENCE: Football: Sport Guidelines

I. Season Limitations

- A. First practice may begin on Wednesday, August 12, 2009
- B. First contest may be held on Friday, August 28, 2009
- C. Season ends on Saturday, November 28, 2009

II. Contest Limitations (Exclusive of the IHSA State Series)

Each team is permitted to play nine (9) games.

III. Levels of Competition

- A. Varsity (Junior Varsity by mutual agreement)
- B. Sophomore (B optional)
- C. Freshman A & B (C & D optional)

IV. Coaches' Meeting

- A. Pre-Season will be held on Wednesday, August 19, 2009 at Lincoln-Way West High School at 7:00 pm. as a part of the SWSC Fall Mega-meeting.
- B. Post-Season will be held on Monday, October 26, 2009 at Lincoln-Way West High School at 7:00 pm in the Warrior Lodge.

V. Championships and Awards

- A. Team Awards
 1. A championship trophy shall be awarded to the winner at the Varsity level of each Division. All games played within the division and crossover games will count for the championship.
 2. An engraved plate will be awarded to the winner at the Sophomore level of each Division. All games played within the division and crossover games will count for the championship.
- B. Individual Awards - All-Conference
 1. Players from each Division will be selected to the All-Conference Team. *{41 players in an 8-team division and 38 players in a 7-team division}*. **The mission of the coaches is to select the best players in the conference from each division to the All-Conference Team.**
 2. All-Conference selections will be given to schools based on their finish in the Divisional standings as follows:
 - a. Division Champion - 9 selections
 - b. Second place - 7 selections
 - c. Third place - 6 selections
 - d. Fourth place – 5 selections
 - e. Fifth & sixth places – 4 selections each
 - f. Seventh & eighth Places – 3 selections each

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3. In case of a tie in the standings, the teams tied will add the number of selections earned, and then will take the average. This number will be rounded up and each school will receive this number of selections.
4. Voting procedures:
 - a. Submission of players by each school
 - b. Any discussion of players submitted
 - c. If needed, resubmit list of players selected
 - d. Vote to accept

VI. Terms of Contests

A. Time of Contests:

1. Freshmen games will be played on Saturday beginning at 9:00 a.m. or on Thursday night by mutual consent of competing schools.
2. Sophomore games will begin no earlier than 5:00 p.m. (11:00 a.m. on Saturday)
3. Varsity games will begin no earlier than 7:00 p.m. (1:00 p.m. on Saturday)

B. Length of Games:

1. The Varsity will play twelve (12) minute quarters.
2. Lower levels, including JV level, will play ten (10) minute quarters.
3. The half time shall be fifteen (15) minutes in length for the varsity contests, and may be extended to twenty (20). If the half time is extended, the host school must notify the athletic director at least two days prior to the game day.

C. Overtime game

1. Varsity games ending in a tie will go into overtime until a winner is determined using the IHSA tiebreaker format.
2. Lower Level ties will not be broken.

D. Starting Procedure for Varsity Games

1. After the sophomore game, but no sooner than 6:35 p.m. (12:35 p.m. on Saturday), twenty (20) minutes will be set on the field clock. When the clock hits zero, the field is immediately cleared.
2. The National Anthem is played followed by the visitor player introductions, home player introductions with the kick-off no earlier than 7:00 p.m. (1:00 p.m. on Saturday)

E. Uniforms

1. The home team shall wear dark jerseys.
2. The visiting team will wear white/light jerseys (white only in 2010)
3. JV games can be modified by mutual consent.

VII. Officials

The number of assigned officials is as follows:

- A. Varsity – five (5) officials
- B. Sophomore – five (5) officials
- C. Freshman A – three (3) officials
- D. Freshman B – two (2) officials
- E. Junior Varsity – three (3) officials

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VIII. Reporting Results

- A. All SWSC schools must enter all varsity and sophomore scores on the SWSC website by the Monday following the game.
- B. Immediately following the last varsity game of the season, all schools must call in their score to the Resource Athletic Director for IHSA playoff purposes.
- C. The resource AD is responsible to enter conference team champions and all-conference players on the SWSC website.

IX. Miscellaneous Information

- A. Video Exchange Policy
 1. There shall be a mandatory exchange of game videotape for the next opponent.
 1. Videotape shall be exchanged on Sunday morning preceding the game
 2. There will be a two (2) games minimum of the opposing coach's choice.
 3. This procedure is for varsity games only.
 4. The videotape must be returned on the day of the game.
 5. The home team should coordinate the exchange of videotape.
 2. At the completion of the conference football season no member school shall exchange video with a non-member school for the purpose of scouting an opponent for the IHSA playoff series.
 3. Filming is permitted in designated spectator areas. If a team films from the end zone a copy of that film should be made available to the opposing team in a reasonable amount of time.
 4. Football scouting personnel shall be outside the field fencing. If there is no fence, scouts may be outside of the track or in an area specified by the host school's crowd control plan. Teams may video tape in these areas.
 5. A team may scout a pre-season scrimmage, **but no videotaping is allowed.**
- B. Communication - Spotting
 1. Football spotting shall be done from the spectator bleachers or in an area **specified by the host school.**
 2. Each team shall provide their own equipment. If equipment fails, the other team has no obligation to provide any or to stop using theirs.
 3. Phones can be taken out to field huddle or sideline time-outs.
- C. General Responsibilities
 1. Mail, FAX, or e-mail to all competing schools a numerical (roster) for all preliminary and varsity games at least one week prior to scheduled contest.
 2. The host athletic director of the sophomore/varsity football games should notify the visiting school (in writing) of the upcoming game specifics. Information should include, but not limited to: bus parking, locker room facilities, game organization, film/videotape facilities, pre-game warm-ups, half-time procedure, and any other special pre-game/half-time ceremony information.
 3. Locker room facilities shall be provided for the sophomore and varsity visiting teams. Each team must furnish their own towels.

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4. Host athletic directors are requested to have a specific person assigned to meet the opponent's team bus(s), direct them to locker rooms, and provide any necessary information.
 5. It is also required that the host school shall provide adult workers to man chain and down markers at sophomore and varsity games.
 6. A doctor, athletic trainer, and/or emergency medical transportation should be available at all football games.
- D. State Play-off Selection procedures for determining a representative team for IHSA Playoffs when there are two or more teams are tied for the conference championship.
1. Head-to-head competition will be used to decide the conference representative.
 2. If more than a two-way tie and head-to-head does not decide the conference representative, head-to-head differential points scored between the tied teams shall determine the conference representative.
 3. If the points are the same, a flip of the coin will be made.
- E. Playing Sites:

All games will be played at the school's respective campus.

Joliet will play at Joliet West campus in 2009.