

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Section 1. Sports Committee.

- a. Men's and women's soccer coaches will combine to form one OAC Men's and Women's Soccer Coaches Committee. (Revised 5-12-03)
 1. A chair and vice-chair will be elected from the coaches to a two-year term. The vice-chair will become chair for another two-year term.
 2. If a women's coach is chair, then the vice chair must be a men's coach, and vice versa. If the chair is a coach of both genders, the vice-chair may be a coach of either gender.
- b. Meetings.
 1. Fall: The men's and women's coaches will meet at Capital University on the Monday following the OAC Tournament to determine All-Conference, Player-of-the-Year and Coach-of-the-Year Awards. The men's coaches will meet at 9:00 a.m. and the women's coaches will meet at 11:00 a.m. in even-numbered years, vice versa in odd-numbered years. The SID of Capital will be invited to conduct the voting process. In the absence of the SID, the committee chair will run the meeting.
 2. Spring: The men's and women's coaches will meet at Otterbein on the first Monday of April. The women will meet first in even-numbered years with the men to follow, vice versa in odd-numbered years.
- c. All OAC men's and women's soccer programs should maintain current membership in the Ohio Collegiate Soccer Association (OCSA) and the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA).

Section 2. Scheduling Procedures.

- a. Each team will schedule every other team in the Conference.
- b. Regular season games will be scheduled on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. and on weekdays at 4:00 p.m. (3:00 p.m. after daylight savings time ends) or 7:00 p.m., at the discretion of the host institution. By mutual agreement different starting times may be scheduled so as not to conflict with afternoon sporting events or coaches who have dual roles. (Revised 5-12-03)
- c. Prior to June 1, each institution should send a playing schedule to the OAC office. Prior to September 1, each institution should send a team roster and playing schedule to the Conference office and also to the soccer coaches of the Conference.

Section 3. OAC Services Required.

- a. The Conference office will notify an official referee association of the dates of the tournament in November of the previous year. In addition, it will let the referee association know of the sites of the tournament games as soon as possible during the current season.
- b. Weekly statistics of teams and individuals, as well as team and individual records (including Player-of-the-Week), will be accumulated and released by the Conference office.
- c. The information director is responsible for compiling the ballots from which the all-OAC soccer teams are chosen.

- d. One certificate will be mailed to each selection to the all-OAC team.
- e. The information director is responsible for compiling the ballots from which the all-academic soccer teams are chosen.
- f. One certificate will be mailed to each selection on the all-academic team.
- g. The championship trophy and the plaque for the OAC Coach of the Year will be supplied by the Conference office.
- h. The OAC office will release the all-OAC teams and the OAC Players and Coaches of the Year after the coaches November meeting.
- i. The Conference office will be responsible for mailing a certificate in recognition of each Player-of-the-Year.

Section 4. Officials.

- a. There are two NISOA sanctioned bodies in the State of Ohio (one north and one south) which must be used for assignment of OAC soccer matches.
- b. OAC institutions will send their schedules to the assigning officer of either NISOA body who will make assignments of all OAC matches.
- c. The host institution should have the check ready to pay officials at the game site.

Section 5. Game Management.

- a. All games will be played by NCAA rules.
- b. Pregame
 - 1. Home games: At least two weeks prior to a scheduled game, pregame materials should be sent to the opposing coach as follows:
 - a. time of game.
 - b. date of game.
 - c. dressing location and directions.
 - d. field location - directions if necessary (map).
 - e. towel procedures.
 - f. office and home telephone numbers.
 - g. location of visitors bench.
 - h. numerical roster.
 - i. postgame meal arrangements (if requested).
 - 2. Away Games: At least one week in advance of the scheduled game, the visiting coach should send to the opposing coach:
 - a. numerical roster for programs, public address, radio, etc.
 - b. game time reminders.
 - c. departure time.
 - d. arrival time (minimum one hour prior to kickoff time).
 - e. office and home telephone numbers.
 - f. number of people traveling.

c. Game Day

1. All OAC contests will be played using the official NCAA championship ball. Home teams will be responsible for providing seven practice balls and one game ball of proper size and inflation for the visiting team use during warm-up and at halftime.
2. Visiting teams should have a scorer seated at the scorer's table in full view of the timer. Scorebooks should agree at the conclusion of the game.
3. Introduction of starting players should take place five minutes before time of scheduled kickoff.
4. Each Conference coach should be familiar with the NCAA Code of Ethics and accept the responsibility for control of his players, both in the game and on the bench.
5. All players of a team should wear matching uniforms. The home team shall wear light-colored uniforms and the visiting team dark-colored uniforms. Goalkeepers should wear colors that distinguish them from all other players (NCAA soccer rule).
6. Host coach should see that a physician is present and/or where medical services can be obtained quickly, i.e., transportation, hospital, stretchers, etc.
7. Host institution should have the playing field marked according to NCAA rules and have the field in the best playing condition possible; holes filled in, area in front of goals cared for, especially on rainy days; proper goal posts fixed firmly in ground (check NCAA rules); grass cut approximately 1 to 1 3/4 inches.
8. Scoreboard should be in full view of players and spectators.
9. Public address system should announce starting lineup with position, hometown, year in school and name of player. During the game the announcer should cover substitutions on and off, scorers and persons assisting in the score, goal kicks, corner kicks and throw-ins.
10. Videotape, scouting reports or verbal conversation cannot be given to non-Conference opponents about an OAC team. However, a scouting report involving an OAC team may be secured from a non-conference opponent.

Section 6. Championship.

- a. There are two champions recognized during the soccer season. There will be a regular-season champion and a tournament champion. Each will receive a trophy from the Conference office.
- b. The OAC tournament champion shall receive the automatic bid to the NCAA playoffs. (Adopted 5-17-99)
- c. To determine the regular season championship, standings and seeding into the tournament, the following steps shall be taken: (Revised 5-12-03)
 1. Award each team three points for a win, one point for a tie, zero points for a loss.
 2. Divide total points accumulated by total points possible (matches played times three) to arrive at a percentage.
 3. Teams will then be ranked by percentage.
- d. If at the conclusion of the regular season two or more teams are tied, co-championships shall be awarded to each team.

Section 7. OAC Soccer Championship Tournament

- a. At the conclusion of regular-season play, the top six teams will meet in a single-elimination tournament to determine an OAC tournament champion. (Revised 5-15-07)
- b. The team with the highest winning percentage will be seeded #1, next highest #2, etc. The seeding will be conducted by the OAC office on the last day of Conference play. Coin flips will be made via telephone at that time. Seed #6 will play at seed #3; seed #5 will play at seed #4; the winner of the #6 at #3 game will play at seed #2; the winner of the #5 at #4 game will play at seed #1; the highest seed remaining will host the championship game.
- c. All ties will be broken in the order in which they occur, from top to bottom in the standings. When comparing tied teams against positions lower in the standings which are also tied, those lower tied teams shall be considered as a single position for purposes of comparison. (Example: Team A and Team B, who are tied for first place, would compare against Team X and Team Y, who tied for third place, as follows: Team A would compare its combined record against both X and Y against Team B's combined record against both X and Y.)
 1. **Two-team Ties.** If two teams tie for a position and one beats the other during the regular season, that team receives the higher seed. If the two teams tied during the regular season, compare each tied team's record against the team occupying the highest position in the standings and continue down through the standings until one team gains the advantage, thereby drawing the higher seed.
 2. **Multiple (3 or more teams) Tie.** Compare the combined record of each of the tied teams against the other teams involved in the tie until an advantage is gained. (Example: Team A's combined record against both Team B and Team C, as compared to Team C's combined record against both Team A and Team B.) If the multiple tie still exists, compare each of the tied teams' records against the team occupying the highest position in the standings until the tie is reduced to a two-team tie, at which time revert to the two-team process or until the tie is broken.
 3. **Unbreakable Tie.** If a tie still exists after items one and two above, and the teams tied during the regular season, the team that was the visiting team during the regular season receives the higher seed. (Adopted 5-12-98)
 4. **Coin Toss.** In the event that a tie cannot be broken, the tie shall be broken by a coin toss conducted by the OAC commissioner. (Adopted 5-12-98)
- d. Pre-championship matches will begin at 2:00 p.m. at all facilities that do not have lighting. Matches will begin at 2:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m., per the discretion of the host institution, at facilities that do have lighting. (Revised 5-12-03)
- e. All games will be hosted by the higher seeds. The top two seeds will have a bye into the semifinal round. First-round games (#6 at #3 and #5 at #4) will be played at 2:00 p.m. or 7:00 p.m. (Revised 5-13-08)
 1. The gender that played on Tuesday during the last week of the regular season will play first-round tournament games on Monday, the semifinals on Wednesday and the final on Saturday. (Revised 5-13-08)
 2. The gender that played on Wednesday during the last week of the regular season will play first-round tournament games on Tuesday, the semifinals on Thursday and the final on Saturday. (Revised (5-13-08)

3. Championship games will be played at the highest remaining seed. (Adopted 5-13-08)

	<u>Field Without Lights</u>		<u>Field With Lights</u>	
	<u>Soccer Only</u>	<u>Soccer and Football</u>	<u>Soccer Only</u>	<u>Soccer and Football</u>
One Gender No Football	Saturday 2:00 p.m.	Saturday 2:00 p.m.	Saturday 7:00 p.m.	Saturday 7:00 p.m.
One Gender With Football	Saturday 2:00 p.m.	Sunday 2:00 p.m.	Saturday 7:00 p.m.	Saturday 2:00 or 7:00
Both Genders No Football	Saturday Noon and 2:30	Saturday Noon and 2:30	Saturday 2:00 or 7:00	Saturday 2:00 and 7:00
Both Genders With Football	Saturday Noon and 2:30	Sunday Noon and 2:30	Saturday 2:00 and 7:00	Sat. Opposite FB Sunday 2:00

4. If an institution hosts both genders, the earlier game will be played by the gender that played on Monday and Wednesday. (Adopted 5-13-08)
- f. If an institution cannot host, the opposing team will be given first opportunity to host. If this is also not possible, then the contest will be moved to another suitable site approved by the commissioner. If the game is not played within 24 hours for any reason, the highest seed shall be declared the winner (keeping its same seed).
- g. The host school will be responsible for all game expenses which include:
1. **Officials** (one center and two linesmen). Tournament pay scale for officials will follow recommended soccer official association pay scale.
 2. **Program.** Four pages of 8 ½" x 11" quality stock which includes team roster and brief season review, tournament bracket, etc.
 3. **Balls.** Host will provide three high-quality soccer balls comparable to NCAA balls.
- h. Each visiting school will be responsible for its travel, lodging and meal expenses.
- i. A games committee will oversee each game of the tournament. The chair of the games committee (for each site) will be the tournament director. The tournament director will be the athletics director of the host school or his/her appointed representative. The OAC commissioner, or his/her appointed representative, will also serve on the committee and his/her presence at the tournament is strongly urged. The referee shall also be on the games committee. Other members of the committee should consist of the athletics director of the participating schools or his/her appointed representative.
- j. The tournament will be run by NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules.
- k. If a tournament game is suspended by a referee due to playing conditions, weather or light, the game will be considered official if it has passed the 70th minute (NCAA Rules). If the game is tied or not passed the 70th minute, the highest seed shall advance or be declared the champion. If the game is suspended by the referee for any other reason, the OAC commissioner shall decide the winner.
- l. The host school will be responsible for all statistics of the game.

Section 8. Awards.

a. All-Conference Team

1. The Conference office will send each coach a nomination form on which they may nominate their own players. Nomination forms will be sent by the OAC office two weeks prior to the OAC Tournament, and should be returned to the OAC office by the second-to-last Friday of the regular season.
2. The OAC office will compile the nomination forms and return to the coaches by the Friday of the OAC Tournament week. Coaches must list the player's name, year, position, number, hometown and requested statistics.
3. Selections:
 - a. First Team: 3 forwards, 3 midfielders, 3 defenders, 1 goalkeeper, 2 at-large players.
 - b. Second Team: same as the first team.
 - c. Honorable Mention: will consist of the next 12 ranked student-athletes, regardless of position. (Revised 5-12-03)
4. Each coach must vote for a complete first and second team using 3, 3, 3 and 1 numbers outlined above. Coaches may only vote for nominated players and may not vote for their own players.
5. Selections will be made according to point totals. A first team vote is worth two points; a second team vote is worth one point. The top three defenders, top three midfielders, top three forwards and the top goalkeeper are first team and the next two highest vote-getters, regardless of position, are the at-large selections.
6. Ties in voting will be resolved using the following criteria: The player receiving the highest number of first team votes; if still tied the place of the team's finish in the Conference based on OAC guidelines.
7. Each institution will be represented on one of the three All-OAC teams.

b. OAC Players and Coach-of-the-Year

1. Nominations will be collected using the all-OAC ballot. It will contain spaces to nominate an OAC Coach-of-the-Year, Forward-of-the-Year, Midfielder-of-the-Year, Defender-of-the-Year and Goalkeeper-of-the-Year. The coaches will vote on the ballot nominations at the end of season meeting to determine the award winners.

c. Player-of-the-Week

1. Each school's SID or coach can nominate a player when calling in statistics to the Conference office on each Sunday of the regular season.
2. The Conference office will select a Player-of-the-Week from the nominees and will release the name to the media.