



Kentucky High School Athletic Association

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MEMO

July 18, 2012

TO: Julian Tackett, Commissioner

FR: Michael J. Barren

RE: Heat Index with regard to Soccer Games

The upcoming season will soon be upon us and with our recent weather patterns I would like to be proactive and notify the member schools of our suggested modification to the playing rules (Rule 7, 2012-13 NFHS Soccer Rules) with regard to duration of the game and length of periods if we find that we must take Heat timeouts.

The rule calls for two equal halves of 40 minutes or four equal quarters of 20 minutes with a halftime interval of 10 minutes. The KHSAA has always used two equal halves of 40 minutes for our soccer contests. I do not want to change that Standard Rule of Play. But sometimes we also find ourselves having to meet the KHSAA Heat Index Policy in regard to mandated water breaks.

Our Heat Index Policy states that when readings reach a level of 95 degrees, mandatory water breaks of 10 minute duration must be given at the completion of every 30 minutes of play.

I would like to have the schools change to the four equal quarters of 20 minutes with 10 minute water breaks between each quarter, when the Heat Index requires mandatory water breaks. This will add 20 minutes of game time, but I feel it would be in the best interest of the Student/athletes involved. It would also help the Home Game management with the decision of how to handle Rule 7 in light of our Heat Index requirements.

If the Heat Index shows that we have dropped back below the 95 degrees level, the schools could resume their normal play in regards to duration of the game and length of periods.