

General Counsel Chad Collins

Topic

Sports Report

Sports Report

Sport

Fall Soccer

Positive Developments and Highlights

Attendance was strong overall and the weather was favorable for most games throughout the Championship. St. X was the winner of the Boys Championship with a 1-0 win over Lafayette High School. For the girls, Bethlehem High School defeated Sacred Heart Academy 4-3 with 3 quick goals in the last minutes of the contest as the teams traded the lead.

Issues of Concern (legal, playing Rules, fiscal management, etc.)

We plan to continue to study the format and calendar of the last two weeks of the season. With the changes implemented this past year by the Board, we saw less travel required of teams on school nights. We hope to look for ways to continue to ensure no long, overnight or late travel is needed on school nights especially in the Second Round games.

Officials Update/Review

At the close of the season, we saw an increase in the number of licensed soccer officials. This in no way means we still do not have a shortage. With Mr. Bottoms joining the team and moving forward with planned programs such as RefReps, we hope to continue to add more officials. With the close of the season, Nick Adkins of the 11th Region was named this year's Soccer Outstanding Official. Cliff Florence (8th Region) was also a finalist for this award.

Fiscal and Budget Issues and Review (attendance, etc.)

With great attendance across the championship, revenue for this event is strong as expected and continues to emphasize the desire of our state to see interscholastic athletics at this level. We are excited to continue to support the students opportunity to participate in this as well as our other championships.

Noteworthy Changes / Anticipates Changes

We expect to look at the site specifications for our Opening Rounds of the Championship that take place at home sites. As the Board has identified, it is important to provide the students with a championship quality experience and the venues the games are played is a part of that. We also plan to discuss with the Board, the current Mercy Rule in Soccer. Currently, a game ends when one team has a 10 goal lead after one half. This is a state adoption as authorized in the NFHS Playing Rules. We hope for discussion on whether there is a better alternative to 10 goals.