*VARSITY SOCCER*

**FIFA RULES APPLY- WITH THE FOLLOWING MODIFICATIONS:**

[**FIFA rules**](http://www.fifa.com/mm/Document/FootballDevelopment/Refereeing/02/36/01/11/LawsofthegamewebEN_Neutral.pdf)

**A. Game Format**

1. Games will consist of two, 45-minute halves, with a 7-minute half time.

2. Official MHSAA soccer ball should be used for league and exhibition play.

3. Due to seasonal time constraints, league play will consist of after school games and a one-day tournament to finish season play.

4. Games that are cancelled due to extreme weather or unplayable field conditions shall be rescheduled if possible or will result in a draw for both teams (1point each).

5. Game sheets must be filled out to monitor official score and yellow and red cards with the home team sending game sheet to the convener.

6. MHSAA carding rules will be in effect for league play.

7. Unlimited substitutions.

8. Athletes must wear shin pads. No shin pads – no play!

9. Soccer cleats or runners may be worn, no metal cleats

Sweat pants, mitts and toques may be worn only in cold weather conditions (ref’s discretion).

10. Ties at the end of the game will be decided by 5 penalty kicks and sudden death penalty kicks.

11. Certified soccer officials or high school teachers with background knowledge of soccer rules can ref the games.

12. A tournament/league fee of $50/team will be implemented to cover the cost of certified officials.

13. It is the convenor’s decision whether to have playoffs or to finalize standings by round robin results.

**B. Playoff Format:**

1. If playoffs are scheduled, the following tie breaking rules will apply:

a) The team with the better won/loss/tie record

b) Goals for and against during the two teams game.

d) Goals for and against in total round robin play.

2. Playoffs will have the 1st place team play the 4th place team and the 2nd place team play the 3rd place team with winners advancing to the finals. Games will be two, 45 minute halves.

3. If still tied after regulation time, the following tie breaker rules will be implemented:

a) 15 minute overtime period (sudden death)

b) 5 penalty kicks shoot out.

c) Sudden death penalty kicks.