

200. State Series

Terms & Conditions

Contact: TBA, FHSAA administrator for girls soccer.
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In accordance with Article 8 of the FHSAA Bylaws, the following Terms and Conditions governing the 2010 FHSAA State Girls Soccer Series have been approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors. TBA, FHSAA administrator for girls soccer, shall be the state series director.

201. Team Entries

201.01 Eligibility.

(1) Participation in the state series is voluntary and open to any full member senior high school varsity team provided:

(a) The school successfully sponsors a varsity girls soccer program in the previous school year;

(b) The school's varsity team competes in a minimum of four (4) regular season varsity contests or the necessary district contests, whichever is greater, during the current season;

(c) The school files a commitment to participate in the state series with the FHSAA Office by the specified deadline;

(d) A school must play not less than 60 percent of its regular season contests in the sport against FHSAA member schools; and

(e) A school must not take more than one trip per school year in the sport beyond the neighboring states of Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi.

(2) A school shall enter only one (1) team.

(3) A first-time member senior high school shall not be eligible to enter a team into the FHSAA State Series in any sport in its two years of provisional membership, unless the school is created from the consolidation or division of existing member high schools and remains under the control of the same governing board.

(4) Boys may not participate on a girls team or in the girls division in the FHSAA State Series in any sport. In a team sport, a girl may participate on a boys team in the FHSAA State Series only if the school does not sponsor a girls team in that sport.

201.02 Commitment to Participate.

(1) **Commitment Form.** Each member school that elects to participate in a State Series competition in a team sport must notify the FHSAA Office of its intent to do so on the "Declaration of Intent to Participate in FHSAA State Series" form. The FHSAA issues intent forms on a biennial basis. A commitment made using this form is for the following two school years.

(2) **Signatures Required.** An intent form, to be valid, must bear the signature of the member school principal and Athletic Director or FHSAA Representative.

(3) **Binding Agreement.** A properly executed commitment form is a binding agreement between the member school and the Association. A school that elects to withdraw from its commitment in a team sport shall notify the FHSAA Office of its decision using the form provided for that purpose. Upon approval of the FHSAA

Office, the school shall be assessed a mandatory \$250 administrative fee. If, however, the school fails to notify in writing, and secure the approval of, the FHSAA Office of its decision to withdraw from its commitment in a sport prior to the deadline for filing the Official Entry List in the sport, that school shall be assessed an additional \$250 fine (\$500 total) and its program in that sport placed on administrative probation.

(4) **Failure to Declare Intention before Deadline.** A school that does not commit to participate in the FHSAA State Series in a team sport by the commitment deadline, and later submits a request in writing to the FHSAA Office to participate to the FHSAA Office in that sport shall be assigned to the appropriate classification and district and shall be assessed a mandatory, non-refundable \$100 administrative fee. It shall be the responsibility of the school to schedule the necessary contest(s) with every other school in the district to which it is assigned. If, however, the school is unable to secure the necessary contest(s) with every other school in the district, the school shall not be eligible to participate in the FHSAA State Series in that sport.

No school, however, under any circumstance, shall be assigned to a classification and district in the FHSAA State Series in a team sport if its request for such assignment is received in the FHSAA Office on or after the date of the District Tournament Planning/Scheduling Meeting.

(5) **Intention Agreement.** By filing notice of intent to participate in an FHSAA State Series, a member school agrees to participate in accordance with and abide by all the procedures, guidelines, policies and regulations for that FHSAA State Series as approved by the FHSAA Board of Directors in accordance with the Bylaws of the Florida High School Athletic Association.

202. Student-Athlete Entries

(1) To represent a member school in the state series, a student-athlete:

(a) Must be eligible under Bylaw 9 and applicable administrative guidelines, regulations, policies and procedures.

(b) Must participate in a minimum of four (4) interscholastic contests in the sport during the regular season. A student-athlete who is academically ineligible at the beginning of a sports season and who regains his/her eligibility during that sports season, but is unable to participate in the minimum of four (4) interscholastic contests in that sport shall be exempted from this provision.

(c) Must be submitted to the district tournament/meet host on the school's official entry list.

202.02 Official Entry List.

(1) Each participating school must generate in iFHSAA and submit by fax to its district tournament manager a "2010 FHSAA State Girls Soccer Series Official Entry List" on which is listed the name of each student-athlete who will represent the school in the state series. The official entry list:

(a) Must be filed by 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 11, 2010 (late filing fee is \$50, increases to \$100 if not received by district tournament manager by 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 15, 2010).

(b) May contain the names of up to 22 student-athletes, all of whom may participate. All student-athletes listed must have been previously reported to the FHSAA Office on an "Annual Eligibility Report" through iFHSAA/C2C Schools.

(c) Must be signed by the principal, FHSAA representative and head coach.

(d) Cannot be e-mailed.

(2) A school whose official entry list is not received by the time of its team's first match in the district tournament may be permitted to participate only with the approval of the FHSAA Office; however, that school shall be assessed a minimum financial penalty of \$250. This penalty will increase if it is later determined that a student-athlete(s) representing the school was ineligible to do so. Under no circumstances shall the Manager of a District Tournament/Meet permit a team for which he/she has no Official Entry List to participate in the District Tournament/Meet without the approval of the FHSAA Office.

(3) Additions or changes to an official entry list must be submitted in writing to the district, regional or state tournament manager using Form AT8. The coach must certify that the student-athlete has been reported to the FHSAA Office on an annual eligibility list via iFHSAA and has met minimum regular season participation requirements. The following provisions will apply:

(a) Additions/changes are permissible at any time during the state series provided the change is made between tournament games. Once a team begins a tournament game it cannot make an addition/change to its official entry list for that game.

(b) An administrative fee of \$50 per addition or change will be assessed if the AT8 form is filed after the district entry list deadline. This penalty will increase if it is later determined that the student-athlete(s) added to the school's Official Entry List was ineligible. This fee will be waived for changes due to academic eligibility changes from the first semester to the second semester.

(4) The Event Manager must forward to the FHSAA office within ten (10) working days following the conclusion of a district, regional or state finals event: 1). The Official Entry Lists submitted by the participating schools; 2). The Entry List Addition/Change Forms (AT8); and 3). The Entry List log. The minimum fine for noncompliance with this regulation is \$100.

203. School Classification

Please refer to Policy 12 in the FHSAA Handbook for more information on school classification. State series assignments as of press time are provided in Appendix B. Check FHSAA.org for the most up-to-date assignments.

204. Districts

204.01 Assignment. Participating schools are geographically assigned to one of 16 district complexes in their respective classifications. (See Appendix B for state series assignments as of press time. For the most up-to-date assignments, see FHSAA.org.) A tournament shall be conducted in each district complex at the conclusion of the regular season to determine the two teams that shall represent the district complex in the remainder of the state series.

204.02 District Coordinator. One school in each district complex has been designated as the district coordinator (see Appendix B or FHSAA.org). The FHSAA representative or his/her designee at the district coordinator school shall be responsible for hosting, conducting and reporting to the FHSAA Office results of the district meeting. The tournament manager is responsible for all aspects of the district tournament, including the seeding of teams, upon conclusion of the district planning meeting and receipt of the meeting's minutes.

204.03 District Meeting. Each district coordinator was required to conduct a district meeting between Mar. 16-Apr. 16, 2009 to schedule mandatory district games and plan the district tournament for the 2009-10 school year. During this meeting, district members were to:

(1) Determine whether district members would schedule and play one or two games against each other for district tournament seeding purposes.

(2) Schedule the necessary district games against each other; and

(3) Determine a site and make arrangements for the district tournament, including the selection of officials.

(4) A similar meeting will be held between Mar. 15-Apr. 15, 2010 to schedule mandatory district games and plan the district tournament for the 2010-11 school year. The site and time of the meeting shall be determined by the District Coordinator, except that the time of the meeting should cause no loss of time from school for any attendee. The District Coordinator shall give written notice to the FHSAA representative, athletic director and appropriate head coach of each school in his/her district as to the date, time and site of the meeting at least seven (7) days in advance of the date of the meeting. If, however, the FHSAA representative, athletic director and appropriate head coach at a given school has not received written notification from the District Coordinator as to the date, time and site of the meeting, it is his/her responsibility to contact the District Coordinator for the arrangements. Exceptions to this policy must be made in writing to the Executive Director.

(2) Each school in the district shall be required to send a representative to attend the meeting and vote on behalf of the school on all matters pertaining to plans for the district tournament. A school that is not represented at the meeting shall be assessed a \$100 penalty. If a school wishes to submit an invitation to host the district tournament at the meeting and its representative present is not the principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director, the representative must have in his/her possession a letter of invitation signed by one or more of the principal, FHSAA representative or athletic director. A District Coordinator may request of the Executive Director or his/her designee permission to conduct a district scheduling/tournament meeting by teleconference if his/her district is spread over a large geographic area.

(3) The following items of business must be addressed at the district meeting:

(a) Review FHSAA rules, policies, terms and conditions governing the state series, including the FHSAA "Licensing and Merchandising Policy."

(b) Schedule all mandatory games between district opponents within the permissible dates. All district games must be scheduled during this meeting. If a school does not have the appropriate representative present at the meeting, the district coordinator shall schedule the district games for that school.

(c) Select host school, site and determine schedule or tournament games and number of sessions for the district tournament. (Note: An actual host school must be selected at this meeting and may be subsequently changed only with the permission of the FHSAA Office. Designating the No. 1 seed, etc., when determined, as the host school is not permitted.)

(d) Review the seeding and bracketing provisions.

(e) Determine team awards to be ordered.

(f) Select and make arrangements for purchase of soccer balls.

(g) Determine number of passes to be allowed participating teams.

(h) Select officials and submit recommended list to FHSAA Office by deadline.

(i) Select official timer and scorer and set their compensation.

(j) Determine financial arrangements and complete the Financial Terms Form

included in the district meeting packet. See Section 206. Determine how expenses/profits will be shared among participating schools.

- (k) Determine allocation of tickets to participating schools on an equitable basis if seating is limited.
- (l) Determine the amount of compensation, not to exceed \$100 total for the event, to be paid to the tournament manager.
- (m) Use of multiple sites for district tournaments requires the approval of the FHSAA Office.
- (n) Other business (i.e., AED availability, medical presence, etc.).

(5) The FHSAA Office will e-mail each district coordinator a form on which to record the decisions made during the district meeting. The report form should be completed and returned to the FHSAA Office immediately after the meeting is concluded. A copy of the report form as well as the minutes of the meeting should be mailed to each school in the district.

204.04 District Schedule. Each participating school shall schedule and play one or two regular season games (as determined in the district meeting) with every other district member to be eligible to participate in the district tournament. The results of the district games shall be used to determine seeding for the district tournament.

(1) The decision to play a one-game district schedule, rather than two, must be by majority vote of representatives present at the district meeting. If a majority cannot agree to play a one-game schedule, then a two-game schedule shall be played.

(a) If a district votes to play a one-game district schedule and two district opponents elect to play each other more than once, then the results of the first game only will count toward district seeding.

(2) All district games must be scheduled and played not later than Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010. If a scheduled district game is postponed due to inclement weather or other unforeseen and unavoidable situations and can only be played after the Jan. 9, 2010 deadline, the FHSAA Office may grant permission for the game to be played after the deadline and counted. This exception, however, may be granted only if the game was originally scheduled to be played prior to the deadline.

205. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules

205.01 Tournament Series. The successive tournament series shall be designated respectively as district, regional and FHSAA Finals (see Appendix C for tournament bracket).

205.02 District Tournaments.

(1) **Dates, Time Schedule and Site.**

(a) Dates. Week 29 (Jan. 18-22, 2010)

(b) Time Schedule. The championship game shall be played on Friday, Jan. 22. Otherwise, each district will determine the time schedule for its tournament at the district meeting.

(c) Site. Each district will determine a site for its tournament at the district meeting.

(2) **Seeding.** The following guidelines shall be used to seed a district tournament:

(a) Each school shall be seeded based on the district points it accumulates in the games played against all district opponents during the regular season. Three (3) points

shall be awarded for each victory over a district opponent. One (1) point shall be awarded for each tie with a district opponent. The school with the most district points shall be seeded No. 1; the school with the second-most district points shall be seeded No. 2; etc. In the event two or more teams are unable to play the required district games due to reasons acceptable to the FHSAA Office, all teams in that district shall be seeded according to the average of district points accumulated.

(b) **Two Teams Tied.** When two teams are tied for a seed, the following procedure shall be used (in the following order until the tie is broken):

1. Won-loss results of head-to-head competition between the two teams;
2. District points accumulated by the two teams versus the highest-seeded team (and proceeding through the lowest seeded team, if necessary);
3. Number of district points earned on the road in district games;
4. Number of district points earned at home in district games; and
5. Coin toss by the tournament manager.

(c) **Three (or more) Teams Tied.** When three or more teams are tied for a seed, the following procedure shall be used (in the following order until the tie is broken):

1. Total district points earned in all games played among the tied teams;
2. District points accumulated by the tied teams versus the highest-seeded team (and proceeding through the lowest seeded team, if necessary);
3. Number of district points earned on the road in district games;
4. Number of district points earned at home in district games; and
5. Draw by the tournament manager.

Once the three-or-more-way tie has been reduced to two schools, the two-school tiebreaker formula shall be used.

(3) **Bracketing.** A single-elimination, standard progression bracket shall be used. The Nos. 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 seeds shall be placed in the upper half of the bracket and the Nos. 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 seeds shall be placed in the lower half of the bracket. Byes, if any, shall be awarded to the higher seeded teams. The team on the top line of the bracket in each game shall be designated the home team for that game.

(4) **Seeding Reports.** Each school in the district shall report by phone to the district tournament manager its final district win-loss record and district points accumulated not later than 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 11, 2010. Only games played prior to this date may reported. The district tournament manager shall seed the schools, place the schools on the bracket according to their seed, and assign game dates and times in accordance with the provisions herein and the arrangements agreed upon at the district meeting. A copy of the finalized bracket shall then be faxed to the district coordinator and all schools in the district.

205.03 Regional Tournaments.

(1) **Complexes.** Competition will be conducted in four regional complexes in each classification as follows:

(a) **All Classes.** Districts 1-4 will comprise the Region 1 complex, Districts 5-8 the Region 2 complex, Districts 9-12 the Region 3 complex, and Districts 13-16 the Region 4 complex. The champion and runner-up from each district shall advance to the regional tournament in their respective regional complex.

One tournament will be conducted in each regional complex.

(2) **Dates and Time Schedule.** Regional tournaments shall be played during

Weeks 30-31 on the following dates:

- Quarterfinals – Thursday, Jan. 28, 2010;
- Semifinals – Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2010;
- Championships – Friday, Feb. 5, 2010.

Game times will be determined by the principal of the host school.

(3) **Bracketing and Sites.** One of the competing schools shall serve as the host school for regional tournament quarterfinal, semifinal and championship games. The host school shall be designated by the FHSAA as follows (see Appendix C for tournament brackets):

(a) In the quarterfinals, the champion of odd-numbered districts will host the runners-up from their neighboring even-numbered districts, and vice versa.

(b) In the regional semifinals, the school on the **top line** of the bracket in each game shall be designated the host school, except that when a district champion plays a district runner-up, the district champion always shall be designated the host school.

(c) In the regional championships, the school on the **top line** of the bracket in each game shall be designated the host school. If, however, the school on the **top line** of the bracket served as a host school in the regional semifinals and the school on the **bottom line** of the bracket was a visitor in the regional semifinals, the school on the **bottom line** of the bracket will be designated the host school for the regional final. In any case, when a district champion plays a district runner-up, the district champion always shall be designated the host school.

(d) Determination of a host school using these criteria is not absolute. In all cases, the FHSAA Office reserves the right to select an alternate site.

205.04 FHSAA Finals.

(1) **Dates and Site.** The FHSAA Girls Soccer Finals state tournament shall be played on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday of Week 32 (Feb. 10-13, 2010) at Pepin-Rood Stadium at the University of Tampa. Lanness Robinson, Director of Athletics for Hillsborough County, will be the Tournament Manager. Paul McLaughlin, FHSAA administrator for girls soccer, will be the Tournament Director.

(2) **Schedule.** The following schedule shall be used:

Wednesday, Feb. 10	Thursday, Feb. 11	Friday, Feb. 12	Saturday, Feb. 13
<i>Session 1, Noon</i>	<i>Session 3, Noon</i>	<i>Session 5, Noon</i>	<i>Session 7, Noon</i>
Semifinal Game 1	Semifinal Game 1	Semifinal Game 1	Final Game 3
Semifinal Game 2	Semifinal Game 2	Semifinal Game 2	Final Game 4
<i>Session 2, 5 p.m.</i>	<i>Session 4, 5 p.m.</i>	<i>Session 6, 5 p.m.</i>	Final Game 5
Semifinal Game 1	Final Game 1	Semifinal Game 1	
Semifinal Game 2	Final Game 2	Semifinal Game 2	

The second game in each semifinal session will begin 30 minutes following the conclusion of the previous game. The second game in each championship session will begin at the designated time or as soon thereafter as possible. Check FHSAA.org for specific game times.

(3) **Bracketing.** In establishing the competitive rotation of the bracket, Regions 2, 3 and 4 rotate clockwise against the stationary Region 1. The rotation for the next three years is as follows:

- 2009-10 – Region 1 vs. Region 3; Region 2 vs. Region 4
- 2010-11 – Region 1 vs. Region 4; Region 2 vs. Region 3
- 2011-12 – Region 1 vs. Region 2; Region 3 vs. Region 4

(4) **Home Team.** The Region 1 Champion and the Region 2 Champion shall be the home team in each semifinal game. The school on the bottom line of the bracket

shall be the home team for the state championship game.

(5) **Coaches' Meeting.** A mandatory pre-tournament meeting of head coaches will be held Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 10 a.m. for Class 2A and Class 6A schools, Thursday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. for Class 4A coaches, and Friday, Feb. 12 at 10 a.m. for Class 3A and Class 5A schools. These meetings will be held in a room to be determined at the tournament venue. The head coach of each participating team is required to attend the appropriate meeting. Packets containing field passes and other tournament information will be distributed at this meeting. Failure to attend the coaches' meeting may result in a financial penalty.

205.05 Advancement of Winners.

(1) **District to Regional.** The champion and runner-up from each of the 16 district tournaments shall advance to one of the four regional tournaments in each classification to which they are assigned.

(2) **Regional to FHSAA Finals.** The champion from each of the four regional tournaments in each classification shall advance to the FHSAA Finals.

205.06 Local Management. The FHSAA representative of the host school will be the local manager for the state series event that his/her school is hosting. He/she will be responsible for making the necessary preparations to host the event and for the filing of necessary reports to the FHSAA Office upon conclusion of the event.

The local manager of a state series event is required to report to the FHSAA the arrangements for the event(s) his/her school will host not later than 12 a.m. (midnight) EST on the date of the event; as well as the score(s) of the contest(s) in the event that his/her school hosted upon its conclusion and the updated win-loss records of participating teams.

Reports may be made via online from any computer at <http://scores.fhsaa.org> or by e-mail to "girlssoccer@fhsaa.org".

206. Financial Terms

Please refer to Policy 9 in the FHSAA Handbook for more information on financial terms.

207. Tournament Regulations

207.01 Squads.

(1) **Player Limit.** Each participating school shall be allowed a maximum of 22 players in uniform for each tournament game. Uniformed players, coaches and team managers will be admitted to tournament games free of charge.

(2) **FHSAA Finals.** The number of field passes for participating teams shall not exceed the number of uniformed players plus eight (8) to be used by coaches, managers, statisticians, trainers, medical personnel, administrators, etc.

207.02 Pregame Warmup and Procedures. The following pre-game time schedule shall be followed in all state series games:

First Game of Session

20:00 on game clock (35:00 before game time) – Teams begin 20-minute on-field warmup period.

5:00 on game clock (20:00 before game time) – Captains and officials meet.

0:00 on game clock (15:00 before game time) – Teams report to sidelines.

(12:00 before game time) – Teams (players and coaches) and officials proceed together in line to midfield.

(11:00 before game time) – Introduction of players, coaches and officials. As player's name is called he/she steps forward then back into line. Visiting team non-starters, then starters, then assistant coaches, then head coach. Home team non-starters, then starters, then assistant coaches, then head coach. Introduction of officials.

(5:00 before game time) – National Anthem.

(2:00 before game time) – Introductions end; final preparations.

(game time) – Reset clock to 40:00; game begins.

Second and Subsequent Game(es) of Session

20:00 on game clock (32:00 before game time) – Teams begin 20-minute on-field warmup period.

5:00 on game clock (17:00 before game time) – Captains and officials meet.

0:00 on game clock (12:00 before game time) – Teams report to sidelines.

(9:00 before game time) – Teams (players and coaches) and officials proceed together in line to midfield.

(8:00 before game time) – Introduction of players, coaches and officials. As player's name is called he/she steps forward then back into line. Visiting team non-starters, then starters, then assistant coaches, then head coach. Home team non-starters, then starters, then assistant coaches, then head coach. Introduction of officials.

(2:00 before game time) – Introductions end; final preparations.

(game time) – Reset clock to 40:00; game begins.

No participating team, other than the host school's team, shall be permitted onto a tournament field for practice during the week of the district or regional tournaments or FHSAA Finals except for the 20-minute pregame warm-up period.

207.03 Tie Games. All state series games must be played to completion. Tie games will be resolved in accordance with the procedure outlined in s.106.05.

207.04 Official Ball.

(1) **District Tournaments, Regional Tournament Games.** The host school will supply legal game soccer balls which must be approved by the game referees.

(2) **FHSAA Finals.** The Brine BC105 soccer ball shall be the official ball of the FHSAA Finals. The use of this ball will be mandatory in each game of the FHSAA Finals. Brine and the FHSAA will provide the actual balls to be used competition.

207.05 Bands. Bands will not be permitted to play at games in the state series.

207.06 Cheerleaders. Cheerleaders in uniform, along with their adult sponsors, will be admitted free of charge to state series events (i.e., contests or sessions) in which their school's team participates. The number of cheerleaders permitted will be the same as the number who cheered during varsity contests during the regular season.

207.07 Noisemakers. Noisemakers of any kind that mimic the sounds of a game (i.e. whistle or airhorn) are prohibited at games in the state series.

207.08 Failure to Appear and Compete. In the event a team fails to appear at the state series event site to play at the scheduled time for its contest, the contest shall be declared forfeited to the team's opponent, and that team shall advance to the next round. In this event, the FHSAA Office must be notified immediately. If a team's arrival is delayed due to mechanical problems or inclement weather, every reasonable effort must be made by the local manager in consultation with the FHSAA Office to make adjustments, if possible, in the starting time of the contest to accommodate the absent team.

207.09 Team Data Form and Photo. The FHSAA Office will produce the official souvenir program for the FHSAA Finals and will retain all proceeds from

its sale. Schools that advance beyond the regional tournament quarterfinals must submit to the FHSAA Office by e-mail not later than 9 a.m. EST Friday, Jan. 29, 2010 a completed “2010 FHSAA Girls Soccer Finals Team Data Form for Official Souvenir Program & Press Booklet”, along with a photograph of the team for publication in the official souvenir program. The team data form must be downloaded from the FHSAA web site (www.fhsaa.org), completed in a computer and transmitted electronically via e-mail to “program@fhsaa.org”. The digital team photo also must be transmitted as an e-mail attachment to the same e-mail address. The team photo should be saved in a TIFF format. Photos sent in a JPEG format, however, will be accepted provided they have a resolution of at least 150 dpi (300 dpi preferred). Each school that does not meet the 9 a.m. EST Friday, Jan. 29, 2010 deadline shall be assessed a \$50 late fee. If the school advances to the FHSAA Finals and the materials are not received by the FHSAA Office’s publication deadline, the school shall be assessed additional fines up to \$300.

207.10 Up-to-Date Statistics. The 24 schools whose teams advance to the FHSAA Finals must report up-to-date cumulative statistics through the regional tournament championship game by submitting to the FHSAA Office the “2010 FHSAA Girls Soccer Finals Up-to-Date Team Statistics” form not later than noon EST Monday, Feb. 8, 2010. The up-to-date statistics form must be downloaded from the FHSAA web site (www.fhsaa.org), completed in a computer and transmitted electronically via e-mail to “program@fhsaa.org”. Each qualifying school that does not meet the noon EST Monday, Feb. 8, 2010 deadline shall be assessed a \$100 fine.

208. State Series Policies

208.01 Administration and Management. As specified in Bylaw 4.3.2, all state series shall be conducted in accordance with the policies established by the Board of Directors and shall be under the control, direction and supervision of the FHSAA Office.

208.02 Enforcement of Rules & Policies. Participating schools shall adhere to all regulations and policies governing the state series.

The determination of the host school for each event shall be conditioned in part on the school’s willingness to comply with and enforce regulations and policies governing the event. This includes financial terms, as well as licensing and merchandising policies. A school that does not comply with and enforce such regulations and policies shall forfeit its opportunity to serve as host.

208.03 Neutrality. It is the responsibility of the host school to ensure that an atmosphere of neutrality is maintained in all state series events. Such events are not “home contests” for the host schools. Special festivities held as part of, or in conjunction with, regular season home contests (i.e., pregame activities designed to rally support for the home team, such as light shows, or give special recognition to members of the home team) are not permitted during the state series.

208.04 Forfeitures and Vacations of Brackets, Standings. Individuals or teams that are eliminated from state series competition by defeat by individuals or teams that later are ordered to forfeit their victory, place and/or points, are not reinstated and do not advance in the state series competition from which they were eliminated by defeat.

If championships or other placements in state series competitions are ordered

vacated by individuals or teams, other individuals or teams neither advance to those placements nor receive awards for those placements.

208.05 Passes.

(1) FHSAA State Series Passes, FHSAA Lifetime Passes and legitimate news media credentials ONLY will be honored for complimentary admission to state series events.

(2) FHSAA State Series Passes issued to member schools may only be issued to and used by those individuals who are directly connected to the schools' athletic departments (i.e. coaches, athletic director, athletic secretary, etc.). A state series pass issued to an individual may only be used by the individual in whose name it is issued. Member schools must not issue state series passes to students or other individuals under the age of 18. Use of state series passes by students or other individuals under the age of 18 is prohibited. Users of state series passes must present a valid government-issued photo ID (i.e., drivers license) with the pass to gain admittance. A state series pass admits only the bearer. Individuals accompanying the bearer of a state series pass who themselves do not possess a pass must purchase a ticket of admission to the event. State series event managers are instructed to confiscate and return to the FHSAA Office any state series pass that is misused.

(3) Visiting school administrators (i.e., principal, FHSAA representative, assistant principals and athletic director) who are required by their principal to attend the event for supervisory purposes shall be admitted upon presentation of a photo I.D., provided the visiting school submits their names to the event manager by fax in writing on school stationery not less than 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the event.

(3) All individuals who gain admittance to a state series event using any one of the accepted passes must record their name, position with school or organization, type of pass used, and pass number (if applicable) on the "FHSAA State Series Event Pass Gate Log" (Form AT10). This pass gate log must be submitted to the FHSAA Office with the financial report.

208.06 Signs and/or Banners. The display of signs, banners, placards or similar items at games in the state series is permitted, provided:

(1) They are in good taste and reflect good sportsmanship in their message and use;

(2) They reflect identification and encouragement to participants and their school or community, and make no reference to the opposing team, its school, players or community;

(3) They are not displayed on the court, or in a manner which interferes with play;

(4) They do not obstruct the view of participants or spectators; and

(5) They are not safety hazards.

208.07 Licensing and Merchandising. The FHSAA owns or controls all rights and interests in its name, logos, trademarks and service marks, whether registered or unregistered, including the official event logo for all FHSAA Finals events. The sale of items bearing any of these marks by a member school or organization without the written consent of the FHSAA is prohibited.

The FHSAA retains the exclusive right to produce and sell souvenir products (apparel and otherwise) at all games, tournaments and meets held as part of the state

series; host schools/organizations are required to sell items provided by the official FHSAA event souvenir merchandiser.

The official FHSAA event souvenir merchandiser is Team IP Sportswear, Inc., of Port St. Lucie. Team IP may be reached by phone at (877) 821-8643. Team IP has been awarded exclusive souvenir merchandising rights to all state series events on the district, regional and FHSAA Finals levels in all sports. A host school/organization that desires to sell souvenir merchandise at a state series event must purchase such merchandise from Team IP. No other vendor shall be permitted to produce such merchandise. Team IP shall have the right to go on-property and sell souvenir merchandise at the site of any state series event. The host school/organization of a state series event shall grant Team IP access to its property for the event.

No individual(s), including those affiliated with a participating member school, shall bring onto the property of a facility at which an FHSAA State Series event is being conducted any items (including but not limited to T-shirts, caps, posters, bumper stickers, etc.) to be sold or otherwise distributed on the property to student-athletes, coaches or spectators without the written approval of the FHSAA. An individual(s) found in violation of this provision shall surrender the items for confiscation, shall be expelled from the property and may be subject to legal action. A member school found in violation of this provision shall be assessed a minimum fine of \$250 and, in addition, shall pay monetary damages to be mutually determined by the FHSAA and its exclusive vendor(s).

The host school/organization of a state series event may be permitted to sell generic merchandise unrelated to the event (i.e., apparel and other merchandise bearing the host school/organization's mark), provided such merchandise has been made available for sale on a consistent basis throughout the year and has not been produced specifically for sale at the state series event.

208.08 Souvenir Programs. All host schools of District Tournaments and Regional Tournament contest that produce an official program must display on the program cover both the appropriate FHSAA sport logo and sportsmanship logo, which may be downloaded from FHSAA.org. If the program cover is preprinted, the logos must be displayed prominently inside or on the team roster inserts.

208.09 Public-Address Announcer. The public-address announcer shall be considered a bench official for all state series events. He/she shall maintain complete neutrality at all times and, as such, shall not be a "cheerleader" for any team. The announcer will follow the FHSAA script for promotional announcements, player introductions and awards ceremonies. Other announcements are limited to:

- Those of an emergency nature (e.g., paging a doctor, lost child or parent, etc.);
- Those of a "practical" nature (e.g., announcing that a driver has left his/her vehicle lights on); and
- Announcements that FHSAA souvenir merchandise, souvenir programs and concessions are on sale in the facility.

During the contest, the announcer:

- Should recognize players about to attempt a play (e.g., coming up to in baseball, punting, kicking or receiving a punt or kick in football, serving in volleyball, etc.);
- Should recognize player(s) making a play (e.g., "Basket by Jones" in basketball, "Smith on the kill" in volleyball, etc.);
- Should report a penalty as signaled by the referee;

- Should report substitutions and timeouts;
- Must not call the “play-by-play” or provide “color commentary” as if he/she were announcing for a radio or television broadcast;
- Must not make any comment that would offer either competing team an unfair advantage in the contest; and
- Must not make any comment critical of any school, team, player, coach or official; or any other comment that has the potential to incite unsporting conduct on the part of any individual.

The announcer should be certain of the accuracy of his/her statements before making them. When in doubt, the announcer should remain silent.

208.10 Public-Address Announcements. Announcements promoting the FHSAA and its interscholastic programs must be read over the public-address system, if available, prior to and during all contests in the state series. See the “Promotions and Programs” page on FHSAA.org for the appropriate script.

208.11 Photography and Videotaping.

(1) The FHSAA, subject to the policies of the host facility, allows still cameras and video cameras to be used at state series events so that participants and spectators may record the excitement and festivities for their own personal entertainment – not for the purposes of commercial re-sale or public re-distribution in any form. Only those duly authorized organizations or individuals who have been granted appropriate rights by contract or by issued credential shall be permitted to sell or publicly display or otherwise redistribute images and sounds of state series contests and then only in accordance with the terms and conditions established by the FHSAA.

(2) Each participating school shall be permitted to photograph, film or videotape, for archival, coaching or instructional purposes, only those state series contests in which its team or contestants perform when arrangements are made with the contest management. Photographers, videographers and their equipment must be positioned so that they do not block the view of any spectator.

(3) Spectators may be allowed to bring handheld video cameras that operate on battery power into the facility. Spectators shall be prohibited from using tripods.

(4) There may be additional guidelines or restrictions for FHSAA Finals state championship events.

(5) A school that violates these guidelines shall be guilty of unsporting conduct and will be subject to reprimand and the assessment of a financial penalty by the FHSAA. An organization or individual who violates these guidelines, and in so doing infringes upon the rights of the FHSAA, shall be subject to one or more of the following actions: remedies under breach of contract; revocation of credentials; expulsion from the site of competition; and legal action under applicable state and federal laws.

208.12 All-Tournament/Meet Teams. No employee of the FHSAA nor the local manager may influence in any way the selection of any all-tournament/meet team, including the selection of a most valuable player or other “player of the game.”

208.13 Uniformed Security. The local manager for a state series event is responsible for providing appropriate uniformed security at the event that his/her school is hosting.

208.14 Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs). The presence and availability of an automatic external defibrillator (AED) is mandatory at the site

of every FHSAA state championship series contest on the district, regional, sectional and state levels.

209. Media Policies

209.01 Admission and Seating.

(1) **District and Regional Tournaments.** Media representatives covering a state series event must be admitted free of charge upon presentation of proper news media identification. Space must be set aside to provide for news media representatives whether they be from newspapers, radio stations, commercial television stations and/or cable television stations.

(2) **FHSAA Finals.** News media representatives planning to cover the FHSAA Finals state championship meet must secure credentials as instructed by the FHSAA Office, according to the FHSAA Finals “Media Credential Policy.” Requests for credentials must be submitted to the FHSAA Office online via the FHSAA’s media site (media.fhsaa.org) not later than 5 p.m. EST Monday, Feb. 8, 2010.

(3) **Student Media.** Each school participating in an FHSAA Finals event may request one (1) credential for use by student media (i.e., student newspaper, yearbook, TV/video yearbook) who will be covering the school’s participation in the event. These credentials may be issued only to and used only by students. Requests for credentials beyond the specified number allowed must be accompanied by an explanation of the necessity for the additional credentials.

209.02 Media Rights. The FHSAA owns all media rights to its state series events, including rights to radio broadcasts, telecasts, cablecasts, webcasts, audio and film/video rights, and commercial photography. Radio broadcasts, telecasts, cablecasts and webcasts of state series events are governed by the FHSAA “Broadcast Policy.” Such broadcasts, telecasts, cablecasts and webcasts must be approved by the FHSAA Office. The following provisions shall apply.

(1) The “Application for Media Rights to FHSAA State Series Event” (Form AT11) to the FHSAA Office by 3 p.m. EST on the business day preceding the event to be broadcast, telecast, or cablecast to avoid a \$25 late filing fee.

(2) Radio broadcast rights fees are \$50 per event. Tape-delay telecast and cablecast rights fees are \$250 per event. Rights fees for live telecasts and cablecasts shall be negotiated at the discretion of the FHSAA. The FHSAA Office shall invoice the outlet to which rights are granted. Rights fees must be paid by company check made payable to “FHSAA” and mailed directly to the FHSAA Office within 30 days of receipt of the invoice. Outlets that fail to make payment of rights fees by the deadline shall be assessed a \$25 late fee and may be denied rights to broadcast, telecast or cablecast future contests.

(3) The FHSAA Radio Network owns exclusive rights to the radio broadcast of all FHSAA Finals state championship events. Sun Sports Network owns exclusive rights to the telecast and cablecast of all FHSAA Finals state championship events. EZStream.com owns exclusive rights to the webcast of all state series events.

(4) Approval of radio broadcasts, telecasts and cablecasts of state series contests by the FHSAA Office are final. The FHSAA Office shall fax to the host school a copy of the approved media rights agreement. A host school shall not permit the radio broadcast, telecast or cablecast of a state series contest that has not been approved by the FHSAA Office.

209.03 Post-Competition Procedures.

(1) **District and Regional Tournaments.** The host school should cooperate with news media representatives in providing them access to a work area and telephone following a state series contest so that they can file their reports on the contest. The head coach of each competing team is required to cooperate with the news media by participating in interviews as quickly as possible following the conclusion of the contest and providing contest statistics/results if available. Participation by athletes in interviews is voluntary and at the discretion of the head coach.

(2) **FHSAA Finals.** The host site must designate a room or area secluded from the general public for a post-contest press conference involving the head coach and up to three (3) players from each team participating in the just-concluded contest. Participation by the head coach in the press conference is mandatory. Participation by athletes is voluntary and at the discretion of the head coach. Both the head coach and athletes may agree to supplemental one-on-one interviews, at their discretion, following their press conference. News media representatives must remain off the field/court and no interviews may take place during the awards ceremony following the championship contest.

209.04 Restrictions.

(1) **Access to Locker/Dressing Rooms.** The FHSAA operates under a closed lockerroom policy at all FHSAA Finals state championship events. At no time will news media representatives be granted access to lockerrooms or dressing rooms at any state championship event. Team boxes, team benches, team huddles and dug-outs are considered extensions of locker/dressing rooms.

(2) **Access to Competition Area.** Media representatives are not permitted in the competition area (i.e., within the field of play, on the playing court, etc.) at any time during a state series contest until the competition has concluded and a winner has been determined. Photographers shall honor photographer lines and designated areas when marked.

210. Awards

210.01 Team Awards.

(1) **District Tournaments.** Trophies are available for awarding to the champion and runner-up teams, and may be purchased from the FHSAA's authorized vendor by the host school or district as an expense of the tournament as determined by those school representatives present at the district meeting, or individually by the champion and runner-up schools. There shall be no other team awards presented by outside organizations or individuals.

(2) **Regional Tournaments.** Trophies are available for purchase by the champion and runner-up schools from the FHSAA's authorized vendor. There shall be no other team awards presented by outside organizations or individuals.

(3) **FHSAA Finals.** Trophies will be awarded to the champion and runner-up in each class in the FHSAA Finals. There shall be no other team awards presented by outside organizations or individuals.

(4) **FHSAA Authorized Vendor.** Trophies must be ordered from The Trophy Shop in Gainesville by calling (352) 372-8551. The vendor should also be contacted if problems are experienced in receiving trophies on time and in good condition.

210.02 Individual Awards.

(1) **District and Regional Tournaments.** No individual awards will be given at District or Regional Tournaments.

(2) **FHSAA Finals.** Medallions will be presented to members of the champion and runner-up teams at the FHSAA Finals. A total of 30 medallions will be ordered for presentation to teams in the championship game. Schools may purchase additional medallions by contacting the FHSAA Office. Certificates commemorating participation in the FHSAA Finals will be provided to each participating team for presentation to players, coaches and team attendants. There shall be no other awards presented to any individual by any organization or individual at the FHSAA Finals.

211. Officials

211.01 Assignment.

(1) **District Tournaments.** Official crews for each district tournament shall be selected at the district meeting. A crew of at least two officials (referee and assistant referee) shall be assigned to each game. Districts may agree to assign three officials (center referee and two side referees) to each game. When three officials are utilized, the Double Dual System of Control shall be used. The district coordinator shall contract with the appropriate local officials association for those officials selected by the district. The decisions of the officials shall be final. No protests shall be allowed.

(2) **Regional Tournaments.** Official crews for regional tournament games shall be assigned by the FHSAA Office. A crew of three officials (center referee and two side referees) shall be assigned to each game. The decisions of the officials shall be final. No protests shall be allowed.

(3) **FHSAA Finals.** Officials for the FHSAA Finals shall be assigned by the FHSAA Office. A crew of three officials (center referee and two side referees) shall be assigned to each game. The decisions of the officials shall be final. No protests shall be allowed.

211.02 Payment.

(1) **District Tournaments.** The host school for each district tournament shall be responsible for paying game officials from the total revenue of the tournament according to the financial terms stipulated in Policy 9 in the FHSAA Handbook. Checks in payment of officials' fees and expenses must be issued to the local officials association to which the officials belong.

(2) **Regional Tournaments.** The host school for each regional tournament or game shall be responsible for paying game officials from the total revenue of the tournament or game according to the financial terms stipulated in Policy 9 in the FHSAA Handbook. Checks in payment of officials' fees and expenses must be issued to the local officials association to which the officials belong. The FHSAA Office shall notify each host school in advance of the total amount of fees due and the name of the local officials association to which the check is to be issued.

(3) **FHSAA Finals.** The FHSAA Office shall be responsible for paying game officials assigned to work the FHSAA Finals.

211.03 Fees. The fees to be paid officials for games in the state series are as follows:

- District Tournament Games – \$48 per official
- Regional Tournament Games – \$50 per official

- FHSAA Finals – \$55 referee, \$45 per official

Sixty (60) cents per mile one way, one vehicle, is the maximum mileage rate.

211.04 Dressing Facilities. The host school for each regional tournament game shall provide contest officials with a secure and adequate dressing room (one each for mixed gender crews) with properly operating bathroom facilities including showers with warm water at the site of the contest. If the site does not have such facilities, the host school shall obtain and provide at its expense an appropriate hotel/motel room(s) reasonably close to the site. The host school is required to complete dressing room arrangements and have the information available to the head referee at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest. It is the responsibility of the head referee or umpire-in-chief to contact the school administration at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled starting time of the contest to verify the arrangements for the contest. The referee or umpire-in-chief shall report to the FHSAA Office the failure of any host school to provide dressing facilities as required.