

TO: NEPSAC ATHLETIC DIRECTORS & BOYS SOCCER COACHES

FROM: Bob Andrian, Director, New England Boys Soccer Tournaments

RE: 2009 NEPSAC BOYS SOCCER TOURNAMENTS

Dear Athletic Director,

PLEASE PASS ON THIS INFORMATION TO YOUR BOYS SOCCER COACH.

We will continue with post-season play in boys soccer to include four invitational tournament classes: Class A, B, C & D representing Regions I-II, III, & IV. Please take note of the following particulars:

1. Class divisions will be as follows: Class D: 1-114 boys; Class C: 115-169; Class B: 170-249, and Class A: 250 and up.
2. **Schools will indicate by October 19 in which Class they will choose to play if selected (a team may choose to play "up" one or two classes, but not "down" -- please indicate, as well, if you will play up if chosen to do so. NOTE: If you agree to play up a class or two if invited to do so, you will remain in that class for the next two years, as per NEPSAC membership rule. Also, **AND VERY IMPORTANT: coaches/AD's must obtain from their school registrars the exact number of boys enrolled at present and submit this number to Bob Andrian (Classes A & B) or Scott McCarty (Classes C & D) by Oct. 19.****
3. Bob Andrian (Loomis Chaffee) will chair a regional committee which will oversee the entire tournament. This committee includes: **Region IV:** Charlie Malcolm – Northfield Mt. Hermon; Peter Jones – Kingswood Oxford School; **Region III:** Bob Pipe – Rivers School; Paul Sugg – Roxbury-Latin School; **Region I-II:** Scott Ruggles – Tilton Academy; Chris Cheney – Kimball Union Academy. Representing schools with no league affiliation will be Dick Muther - Tabor Academy and James Proctor – Worcester Academy. **Class C & D Coordinator:** Scott McCarty – Forman School, along with Scott Ruggles – Tilton Academy, Pat McInerney – Kents Hill School, Rick McWilliams – Millbrook School, and Tim Slighter – Lexington Christian Academy.
4. **Based on a spring 2005 survey to all schools (about 33% responded), the Tournament Committee will weigh factors such as strength of schedule, record against common opponents, league standings, and to a**

lesser extent, geographic diversity before making selections to each class. The Committee carefully examines each potential tournament qualifying team's schedule and results. Each class's tournament is an open invitational tournament; that is, the Committee will strive to select the top eight teams in the region for each class. The Committee strongly urges tournament-worthy teams to think very carefully about selecting a class to play in. Exceptional teams are encouraged to "play up" a class when appropriate. We are all committed to providing the highest quality in post-season play.

5. **ELIGIBILITY:** Individual athletes who are 19 years old, or younger, on September 1st of each school year are eligible to participate in all NEPSAC championships **AS LONG AS THE PLAYER IS ON THE TOURNAMENT-BOUND TEAM BY THE CLASSIFICATION DEADLINE (OCTOBER 19)**. This regulation pertains to all four classes. Postgraduate students may play in any class tournament.

6. The Class A tournament will continue to honor the memory of Jack Stewart, former long-time Berkshire School coach. Jack and his wife Ellie have endowed the Champion's Bowl as the New England Class A Stewart Cup.

7. Participating schools in all classes will have to pay a \$290.00 flat fee to the Tournament Committee to cover officiating and administrative costs, including trophies. A team bowl will be awarded to the four winners and runners up in each division.

8. Every effort will be made to arrange for a superb soccer atmosphere for the championship games. We are hopeful these games will be played at NEPSAC schools but they may also be played at an alternative site. As directed by NEPSSA we are always looking for a suitable site for the finals and senior bowl all-star games. This year's championships and All-Star games will be played at Loomis Chaffee School on Sunday, Nov. 21.

9. A team must have at least a .500 overall record to participate and must have played a minimum of 8 NEPSAC games.

10. Every effort will be made to have teams play new opponents in the tournament, to minimize the need for classes to be missed, to reduce travel time spent, and to provide a home game for the top four seeds in each class while remaining faithful to the seeding process. These, of course, were the goals of the original Stewart Cup years ago.

11. NEPSAC rules state that quarterfinal games requiring **165 minutes or less of travel time will be played at the higher seed**. Semifinal games will generally be played at the higher seed unless the two and $\frac{3}{4}$ hour travel time limit is exceeded. NOTE: Every conceivable effort shall be made by the

Committee to insure that all games are played on fields not less than 70 yards wide and 110 yards long.

12. Quarterfinal and semifinal games will be 45-minute halves followed by two 5-minute sudden death overtime periods, followed by penalty kicks. Finals will be 45-minute halves followed by two 10-minute sudden death overtime periods, followed by Co-Champions. Yellow cards do not carry over from the regular season. A red card, of course, does. After a player's third yellow in the tourney, he sits out the remainder of the third game. All games will use the three-man officiating system.

13. The tournament will end on the third Sunday of November, **even if games cannot be played due to inclement weather.**

14. The Tournament Committee will evaluate this year's tournament procedures and will consider any suggestions to make the operation even better the following year. Please do not hesitate to call your Region's Committee representative or me with any questions.

Cordially yours,

For Class A & B: Bob Andrian (860) 687-6196 For Class C & D: Scott
McCarty: (860) 567-6215
(860) 567-3501, Fax

E-mail: bob_andrian@loomis.org
scott.mccarty@formanschool.org

IMPORTANT REMINDER: YOUR TOURNAMENT CLASSIFICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED BY MONDAY, OCT. 19. PLEASE, IF YOU HAVE TO, DISCUSS THIS CHOICE WITH YOUR SOCCER COACH. THEN DO THE FOLLOWING:

- 1. DESIGNATE THE CLASSIFICATION: A, B, C, OR D**
- 2. INDICATE THE TOTAL NUMBER OF BOYS, GRADES 9-12, AS DETERMINED BY REGISTRAR**
- 2. IF IT APPLIES TO YOUR SCHOOL, INDICATE WHETHER OR NOT YOU WOULD PLAY UP A CLASS IF INVITED TO DO SO. YOU MAY PLAY UP ONE OR TWO DIVISIONS.**

3. E-MAIL THIS INFORMATION TO BOB ANDRIAN IF YOU ARE A CLASS A OR B SCHOOL, AND E-MAIL THE INFORMATION TO SCOTT MCCARTY IF YOU ARE A CLASS C OR D SCHOOL