

December 2024

Central Suburban League Boys Soccer Guidelines

I. Contest Procedures:

A. Home Team Responsibilities:

The host school should provide the following for each contest:

1. Personnel:

1. An official timer and scorer.
2. Two persons to keep balls in play.

2. Equipment and Facilities:

1. Three acceptable game balls.
2. Seating or space for each team on the same side of the field with official scorer between teams.
3. A clearly marked field; field marking for other sports played on the same field should be in contrasting colors.
4. All spectators will sit on the opposite side of the field from the players' benches for all levels of play.

B. Uniforms:

Home team shall wear dark colored jerseys and socks, and visitors will wear solid white jerseys and socks. Schools without both jerseys are responsible to call competing schools two days before the scheduled contest to confirm jersey conflicts. It is expected for all CSL teams to make an effort to comply with National Federation Rules concerning game equipment and uniforms.

C. Length of Contest:

1. All levels will play 2, 40 minutes halves with no overtime.
2. In the final crossover pairing the 1 vs.1 teams only, if the game ends in a tie it will proceed to two, non-sudden death overtime periods of ten minutes each. In the event of a tie at the conclusion of the overtime periods, the game will move to penalty kicks to determine a winner. All other final crossover games that end in a tie, will remain as a tied score with no overtime or shoot outs taking place.

D. Officials:

1. Varsity games will have three officials, one referee and two assistant

referees.

2. All lower level games will have one official except in preliminary game to the varsity and Junior Varsity games, where two officials will work.

E. Rules: The National Federation Rule Book will be followed.

C. Warm-ups:

Visitors will use the North or East half of the field for pre-game warm-ups. Home team shall use the South or West side of the playing field for warm-ups.

II. Schedule of Contests:

A. Start of Season: The IHSA recommended starting date would be followed.

B. Schedule Limitations:

No Soccer team representing a member school of the IHSA shall, in any one season, participate at any level in more than: 1. Twenty-five (25) matches exclusive of the IHSA series;

C. Incomplete Matches:

1. The CSL Lightning policy will be invoked whenever necessary. (When lightning is seen or thunder heard, the game would be delayed until the area is free of lightning and thunder for 30 minutes before play can resume.) 2. Any match terminated because of inclement weather will be considered a complete contest if one full half has been completed. Contests terminated before a full half is complete will be resumed on the next agreed to playable date exactly where it was when the suspension occurred.

D. Starting times:

1. Weekday games will start at 4:45 PM or if played under the lights, the preliminary game will start at 5:00 PM with the varsity game beginning 20 minutes after the conclusion of the preliminary contest. b. Starting times may be changed if mutually agreed upon by both Athletic Directors.

E. Conference Schedule:

1. All teams will play a single round against division opponents and three

crossovers. None of the crossovers will count toward conference standings. All three of the crossovers will be set in the schedule, with the third crossover, including the Soccer Bowl or 1 vs. 1, being played in the final week of the CSL schedule, week 14 of the IHSA calendar. That game will be played at the North division site in even years, and the South division site in odd numbered years. The final crossover will be set and take place in the final week of the schedule. With the lone exception being the 1 vs. 1 from each division game and the teams they were scheduled to play pairing up. All crossovers would go on a two-year, home and home rotation. Crossovers would be grouped in two groups of three (1, 3, 5) (2, 4, 6), using a formula that would take into account the traditional strengths of programs. Strength of programs will be evaluated every four years. Total Varsity points will be added over the 4-year cycle to determine the division ranking. In the event of a tie, the most recent Varsity contest between the schools tied in the rankings, which ended with a winner, will be used as the tiebreaker. Starting with the 2025-26 season, the conference schedule will look as follows:

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Season Week 5/ GW 3		X		D			
Season Week 6/ GW 4		X		D			
Season Week 7/ GW 5		D					
Season Week 8/ GW 6		D		D			
Season Week 9/ GW 7				X			

2. Division rankings for 2026-2029

South Division

1. New Trier
2. Glenbrook North
3. Evanston
4. Glenbrook South
5. Maine South
6. Nilis West

North Division

1. Deerfield
2. Nilis North
3. Maine East
4. Vernon Hills
5. Maine West
6. Highland Park

3. Schedule Rotation

2026 - South (1, 3, 5) (2, 4, 6) vs North (1, 3, 5) (2, 4, 6)

2027 - Switch Home and Home from 2026

2028 - South (1, 3, 5) (2, 4, 6) vs North (2, 4, 6) (1, 3, 5)

2029- Switch Home and Home from 2028

III. Determination of Champions:

1. An official Central Suburban League champion will be declared at the varsity level only. The best won-loss record from only those games played within each division determines the champion for each division. If more than one team is tied, all teams tied for the best record will be declared champions. (Three (3) points for a win, one (1) for ties, and zero (0) for a loss.)

2. The following tiebreaker criteria will be used to determine final standing for the regular season.

1. Head to head competition
2. Goals against in divisional play
3. Goals scored in divisional play (capped at 3 per game)
4. Goal differential in divisional play
5. Coin flip

IV. Coaches Meeting:

1. A pre-season meeting for all CSL soccer coaches will be held to clarify rule changes, schedules, uniform conflicts, and site and level changes when needed.

2. A post-season meeting will be held to propose guideline changes to the Athletic Directors, select All-Conference players and to review the season.

X. All-Conference Selection Procedures:

Twenty-two (22) All Conference selections from each division will be automatically slotted based on the final standings in conference play. The selections will be distributed as follows for each division:

1st place – 6 selections

2nd place – 5 selections

3rd place – 4 selections

4th place – 3 selections

5th place – 2 selections

6th place – 2 selections