

## **2026 Girls State Soccer Tournament Manual**

Congratulations on qualifying for the 2026 Iowa Girls State Soccer Tournament. The following information should answer some questions you and your fans may have in preparing for this year's tournament. Read the information below carefully and share it with your parents and fans.

The State Soccer Tournament will be held on June 8th, 9th, 11th and 13th at Iowa State University. The June 8th & 9th quarterfinals and the June 11th semi-finals will be held at the Lied Recreational Fields in Ames on the Iowa State University campus. [Map](#)

The State Championship games on Saturday, June 13th will be held at the Cyclone Sports Complex also in Ames on the Iowa State University campus. [Map](#)

Wednesday, June 10th and Friday, June 12th will be used if weather causes delays.

The State Soccer schedule can be found on Bound or click [HERE](#).

**Bound: Stats must be updated by noon Saturday, June 6th.** Please be sure stats through the regional final match are posted in the Bound database. Also, please cross-check your Bound roster. The roster in Bound is the roster that will appear in the program. Please make sure it is accurate! Duplicate numbers on rosters are not allowed.

**TICKETS SOLD ONLY THROUGH BOUND:** Tickets are \$13 plus processing fees and must be **purchased through Bound**. The price of \$13 includes the fee for parking. You can access these tickets by going to the IGHSU website under "State Soccer Tournament Central." All ticket sales are digital tickets. **No cash sales will be conducted on-site.**

Spectator gates open at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 8th; 11:00 am on Tuesday, June 9th & Thursday, June 11th and 10:30 am on Saturday, June 13th. Children not yet in kindergarten will be admitted for free. You will be stamped when you enter the complex. **If you leave the complex and plan to attend another match later in the day, your stamp must be visible to re-enter the park. If no stamp is visible, you must purchase another ticket.**

**PLEASE NOTE:** Spectators will NOT be allowed to bring the following items inside the Lied Recreational Fields complex or into the Cyclone Sports Complex: Coolers & Thermoses, backpacks & large bags; outside food & drink, and weapons of any kind. Be prepared to have items you bring into the park inspected.

**Also please remind your fans that signs, banners, and artificial noisemakers are prohibited. Fans are not permitted on the playing fields at any time. Also, pets will not be allowed into the complex.**

Lawn chairs, strollers, and umbrellas **ARE** permitted into the complex.

Teams may bring their coolers to the complex and must be brought in by the team when they check into the facility. Water will be available at each team bench. The expectation is that the cooler is specifically for team use only.

**SPECTATOR PARKING:** The admission price of \$13 includes the parking fee.

**TEAM BUS DROP-OFF AND PARKING:** Team buses have a designated drop off area and parking area. Please click on the [Bus Map and Team Drop Off](#) to see where buses should drop off and park.

**EMERGENCY PERSONNEL:** The Ames Fire and Rescue Department will provide emergency personnel for players, officials and spectators. They will be located west of the admission area on the parking lot at Lied Recreational Facility and at the Northwest Corner of Cyclone Sports Complex. They will be on site 30 minutes before the start of the day's first match.

**TRAINERS:** Trainers through Iowa State University will be on-site before the first game each day until the last contest of each day. Their tent will be located by the team benches at both Lied Recreational Fields and Cyclone Sports Complex.

**ROYAL PUBLISHING:** Royal Publishing is authorized by the IGHSAU to sell "hometown" advertisements to be included in the state soccer program. If your team qualifies for the state tournament, businesses in your communities & your booster club may be contacted by Royal Publishing to inquire about purchasing an advertisement in the state tournament program. Businesses & booster clubs are not obligated to purchase an ad.

**STATE SOCCER PROGRAMS:** Will be sold for \$5 and can be paid via cash or card.

**TEAM ADMISSION:** Upon drop off at Lied Recreational Fields/Cyclone Stadium, your team will check in at the main entrance table with Heidi and be given instructions on warmups and pre-game and receive a timing sheet for pre-game and introductions. [Map](#)

Following this, your team will be admitted through the pass gate near the spectator admission. You are limited to 28 people, which shall include 22 players, coaches, managers, bus driver, etc. No more than 28 will be allowed on your sideline/team bench area.

A pass gate form can be found by going to the forms section in your Bound Account. Please fill out the Bound form, click save, print and bring the roster to Heidi Reed at the pass gate when you arrive. School trainers must be included in the school's travel party. **Any additional personnel beyond the allotted 28 must purchase a ticket (or school will be billed by IGHSAU) & sit in bleachers with other spectators.**

**WARM-UP AND PRE-GAME PROCEDURES:** Each team must provide their own warm-up balls. We will be utilizing two fields during the quarterfinal and semi-final round play at the state tournament. Teams will be allowed 20 minutes to warm up on the game field for all matches during the State Tournament. Fields in the practice area may also be used for any additional warm-up.

The National Anthem will be presented before the first match each day. Team introductions will commence five minutes prior to the start of each match. After the National Anthem, schools should line up in front of their bench at the touchline. If there is no National Anthem, line up at the touchline after the time has expired for warm-ups. A timing sheet will be provided to teams when they arrive stating the introduction procedures. **Coaches/Teams are required to participate in the National Anthem and team introductions.**

**BENCH ASSIGNMENT:** Both teams will occupy benches on the same side of the field during the state tournament. The home team (top seed) will occupy the bench to the right of the scorekeeper when facing the field and wear dark uniforms. The visiting team (lower seed) will occupy the bench to the left of the scorekeeper when facing the field and wear white uniforms. Tents will be set up and provided for all teams and matches..

**MATCH ROSTER:** You are permitted to change your roster of 22 players from match to match. The coach must enter the eligible match roster in the official scorebook located at each field before the match. **Please have a coaching staff member check with the public address announcer upon your arrival to verify pronunciations and starting line-ups.**

**STATE TOURNAMENT SOCCER BALL-** The IGHSAU will be using the Spalding TF-5000 soccer ball for the entire state tournament. The IGHSAU will provide game balls.

**BALL HANDLERS-** Ames High School will be providing ball handlers for all matches.

### **PRE GAME PROTOCOLS-**

Introduction of Participants-Walk to midfield-World Cup Format

- A. Introduction of Non-Starters (numerical order) and Assistant Coaches, visiting team
- B. Introduction of Non-Starters (numerical order) and Assistant Coaches, home team
- C. Introduction of Starters (numerical order), goal keeper and head coach, visiting team
- D. Introduction of Starters (numerical order), goal keeper and head coach, home team
- E. Introduction of Officials- Center, AR1, AR2, Substitution Official
  - Coaches are expected to line up with their teams for Anthem/Introductions

**WEATHER PROCEDURES:** The IGHSAU will monitor weather conditions. Due to the fact that all matches are being played at the same facility, we will be waiving the 3 hour wait period. All matches will be played to completion unless the 10 goal margin is in place or mutual consent is agreed upon by administration of both schools. This may mean matches may be delayed to the next day for completion to occur.

**AWARDS & ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAMS:** Awards will be presented to non-advancing teams following each quarterfinal & semifinal match. The advancing teams will participate in an "Advance the Bracket" activity in the presentation areas. Teams are expected to return to their team area immediately following handshakes so awards can be presented.

The 11-member All-Tournament team will be announced and presented on the championship field at the Cyclone Sports Complex immediately upon completion of the championship match in each class.

**VIDEOTAPING:** There is no designated space for teams or fans to videotape. Paying spectators, including anyone filming for scouting purposes, are not restricted from videotaping as long as the video equipment is handheld. **The use of tripods is prohibited in the stands.** The tournament manager will not make special arrangements for seating or electrical hook-up for anyone wishing to videotape. Seating is limited in the press box, and teams will be prohibited from taping in the press box.

**ALL MATCHES WILL BE LIVE STREAMED:** The IGHSAU Digital Network powered by MidAmerican Energy will stream the state quarterfinals, semifinals and championship matches on the IGHSAU website. A link of the game film will also be sent to each head coach after match completion.

**FARM BUREAU SOUVENIR BALLS:** Each team participating in this year's state tournament will receive 24 souvenir soccer balls from Farm Bureau for players and coaches. These balls will be delivered directly to your school. Your school may purchase additional balls for \$30 each by [completing this form](#).

### **Travel & Per Diem Supplements**

Participating teams are paid \$1.25 per mile, one way, plus a \$300 supplemental food allowance for participation in a quarterfinal match.

Teams less than 125 miles from Ames that qualify for the semifinals and/or finals will receive \$1.25 per mile, one way, plus the \$300 food allowance for each additional match in which they participate.

Teams more than 125 miles from Ames that qualify for the semifinals and/or finals will receive a \$450 lodging supplement plus the \$300 food allowance. Lodging reservations and food arrangements are the responsibility of the school.

Please contact TonyaMoe ([tonya@ighsau.org](mailto:tonya@ighsau.org)) with questions regarding the State Soccer Tournament.

Congratulations and good luck!

Tonya Moe-IGHSAU Assistant Director/Soccer Administrator