

SMAA FOOTBALL GUIDELINES

Revised Aug 2025

- 1. All rules and regulations related to players, equipment, and terms of play as defined in the National Federation of High Schools soccer rule book apply.**
- 2. All footballs will carry the National Federation of High Schools stamp.**
- 3. The date for first practice is designated as that listed in the Maine Principals' Association Handbook and MPA Football Bulletin.**
- 4. The date for the last countable regular season contest is designated as that one defined in the MPA Football Bulletin.**
- 5. The ending date for the activity is designated as that defined by the MPA Handbook. Varsity teams qualifying for MPA invitational tournaments scheduled for dates later than that listed may continue practice and play until the conclusion of the tournament or until they are eliminated, whichever comes first.**
- 6. Terms of conducting the sport are those defined in the MPA Football Bulletin.**
- 7. Number of countable contests: 9 for Class A Teams, 8 for Class B Teams (4/15/25)**
 - A. Sub-Varsity Contests :**

If only two board officials show up for a contest, a controlled scrimmage will be played with no kicking. All coaches will be on the field during the scrimmage. If there are fewer than two board officials, there will be no game or scrimmage.
 - B. Start Time (updated 4/18/20)**

Start times will be determined by mutual agreement of the two schools involved.
- 8. Scheduling Process - Class A & B (updated 4/18/20)**

All football schedules are on a one-year basis. The schedule will be done through a collaborative process established by eleven-man football liaisons and football committee members of all classifications (A, B, C, D). Class A will have a 9 game schedule. The top 4 in each region (North & South) will advance to the playoffs. Class B South will have an 8 game schedule. The top 6 in the north and south will advance to the B playoffs. The top 2 seeds will get a bye in the first round.
- 9. League Championship (updated 4/18/20)**

SMAA Champions for Class A and Class B will be the team in each class that advances farthest in their respective state tournament.
- 10. Method of All-Star Selection (updated 4/18/20)**

Class A recognizes the "Class A Coaches All-State Team" as determined by the coaches of the football schools classified in class A.

Class B All-Conference:

An All-Star nomination form is sent out to all head coaches a few weeks before the fall coaches meeting. Coaches meeting will take place the Monday after the 1st round of playoffs. Coaches may nominate their own players and comment why they are nominating them. This is done for all positions both offensively and defensively.

They also may nominate players and Coaches for the special awards (Dave Allen, Gerry Raymond, Michael Landry and Guy Lajeunesse).

The B South league liaison tabulates all nominations electronically and brings an All-Star ballot to the meeting, most likely by google form vote.

Coaches vote on each position but cannot vote for their own players.

A First and Second Team will be selected. B South will NOT designate Off or Def positions

No “A” player can be a First Team selection both ways.

12. Coaches Meetings

The Class B Fall Coaches Meeting will take place on the Monday after the 1st round of playoffs at an agreed upon time/location.

A spring meeting of all league football coaches and liaison(s), at an agreed upon date and location, MAY be scheduled to address summer (7 v 7 and upcoming preseason needs).

Attendance of all Southern Maine Class A & B football coaches or their representative is expected at each of these meetings.

The SMAA Football Liaisons are expected to represent the SMAA Southern Maine Class A & B football coaches for the purposes of scheduling, all star selection