Arizona Interscholastic Association
Soccer Manual

(Updated October 20, 2026)

All rules as stated in the National Federation Rules Book for this sport, along with the AIA Constitution & Bylaws, as well as the information found in this document, apply.

School/Division Alignments
Timeline by Sport & Transfer Eligibility Dates (Quick Glance Calendar)
Soccer Coach Information

Post Season Resources

- AIA General Postseason Manual

- Fall - Postseason Qualifying Criteria - Girls, Boys
- Winter - Postseason Qualifying Criteria - Girls, Boys

- Fall - Postseason Information for Spectators - Girls, Boys
- Winter - Postseason Information for Spectators - Girls, Boys

2026-27 Email Updates

Click this LINK to view emails that have been sent out via the AIA regarding Soccer:

Preseason Information & Requirements

Coaches Course Requirements

All head coaches are required to complete the annual coaches course & exam prior to the start of the season. These can be accessed in the AIA dashboard.

Coach Communication Information

Each school must ensure that accurate contact information for each head coach is entered into the AIA dashboard directory as soon as it is known.

Team Roster Requirements

All schools must input their current team photo & current roster of players prior to postseason via their Head Coach MaxPreps account.
Team sport instructions: https://www.aiaonline.org/files/17485/maxpreps-rosters-how-to.pdf

Playoff Information for Teams

Note: Playoff games are subject to time and date changes and/or venue relocation. Factors include, but are not limited to: location of high seed, contractual obligations, broadcast commitments, seating capacity, and travel considerations of participating schools.

AIA Bracket Shows

- **Fall Soccer - Bracket Release** - Saturday, October 24
- **2A/3A Winter Soccer Bracket Show** - Friday, February 6
- **Open Winter Soccer Bracket Show** - Saturday, February 6
- **4A-6A Bracket(s) Release** - Saturday, February 13

General Instructions

The Tournament Site Director will supply the game balls for neutral sites; participants must bring their own practice balls for warm-up.

The host school, the higher seed, will provide the game balls for high-seed sites. The official AIA Soccer Balls are the Wilson Vivido and must be used at all AIA State Tournament games.

Each team is to provide at least two ball personnel. Please report to the Site Director for instructions and ground rules.

A coach must be in attendance during all practice and warm-up sessions.

All schools will allow only 30 dressed players, certified coaches, two managers, and two statisticians in the bench area.

For scoring purposes, the home team is the highest seed on the bracket, and they will be seated on the right side of the scorers' table as you face the field.

Schools are responsible to ensure enforcement; noncompliance may lead to a sanction against the school.

PreGame Procedure

Coaches shall be responsible for submitting a team roster and lineup to the officials 10 minutes prior to the start of the match.

The field will open one hour before the first game each day for warmups.

Championship Competition Rules

Competition Format - All Events - AZPreps365.com

- Select “Tournament” tab under the respective Season/Gender