



## San Diego Section Open Division Soccer Championships

### First Round Format

Athletic Directors & Open Division Soccer Coaches; Congratulations on making it to the Open Division of the San Diego Section Soccer Championships! To see your team recognized as one of the top 8 programs in the entire San Diego Section is quite an accomplishment, and one in which I know your community is extremely proud.

In years past, our format was single elimination in which the teams that lost their first-round game would see their seasons come to an immediate end. This year the format has been adjusted to include two first round games in which total aggregate scoring is used to determine which team will move on to the Semi-Finals. Teams will still match up in the Bracket by seed (#1 vs #8, #2 vs #7, #3 vs #6, #4 vs #5), and will play two contests against the same team, with each team getting to play one of the games at their home site. The Lower Seeded Team will host the first contest, with the Higher Seeded Team hosting the second contest.

Should either team win both contests, they would move on to the Semi-Final Round. Should a team Tie in one contest and win the other contest, they too would also move on to the Semi-Final Round.

Should teams split the two-contest series, total aggregate scoring would be used to determine which school would move on to the Semi-Final Round. For example, let's say that Team A won the first contest 5-3 over Team B. In the second contest Team A lost to Team B by a score of 1-2: Team A would have a total of 6 Goals. Team B would have a total of 5 Goals. Team A would be the team moving on to the Semi-Finals.

Should teams tie both contests, or split the contests in which the total aggregate scoring is also even, we will use the same tie breaking procedures used in all other San Diego Section Soccer Playoff Games: ***Play will consist of one 15-minute sudden-death overtime period. If a tie still exists, the National Federation Rules pertaining to penalty kicks will be followed.*** Overtime will only take place at the conclusion of the second contest.

Teams moving on to the Semi-Finals of the Open Division will also qualify for the State Regional Soccer Championships.



Here is the posted schedule for the Open Division this year:

**DATES AND TIMES:**

Open Division

First Round: Game #1(Girls)      Tuesday      February 17    Lower seed    5:00 p.m.

First Round: Game #1(Boys)      Wednesday    February 18    Lower Seed    5:00 p.m.

First Round: Game #2 (Girls)      Thursday      February 19    Higher seed    5:00 p.m.

First Round: Game #2 (Boys)      Friday          February 20    Higher Seed    5:00 p.m.

\*Semi-Final Round (B & G)      Wednesday    February 25    Higher Seed    5:00 p.m.

**\*FINALS Location: TBD**

Thank you, good luck, and please don't hesitate to reach out to our offices should you have any questions.

Todd Cassen

San Diego Section