

CSOA Fall Soccer Tutorial (2018)

Fall ball is a mix of public and private schools and a mix of games played under NFHS rules and those played under modified FIFA rules. First the public schools.

Public Schools (NFHS rules are always used for public school games)

Arlington Middle School program. There are five schools, Gunston, Jefferson, Kendall, Swanson and Williamsburg. Games are 25-minute halves, no OT. Start time is 3:15pm. Intentional heading is not allowed. Restart is an IDFK for the other team. Genders play sequential and alternate each year. This year the boys start on September 25 followed by the girls on November 5. The season extends to Thanksgiving. These games are all done using the one-man system

Prince William Middle School program. There are 18 schools. Boys play in the fall, girls in the spring. Games are 30-minute halves with 2x5 full time OT periods if tied after regulation. Start time is 5pm, but is flexible because of bus travel issues in PW County. Be prepared to start at 4:45 if both teams are ready. Some schools opt for two officials. Default coverage is one official. Here is the new grouping of schools as of last year

East: Fred Lynn, Graham Park, Potomac, Rippon, Woodbridge

Central: Beville, Benton, Hampton, Lake Ridge, Saunders

West: Bull Run, Gainesville, Marsteller, Reagan

North: Manassas Park, Metz (Manassas City) Parkside, Stonewall

Private Schools: (Schools play a mix of NFHS and Modified FIFA rules. Always get coaches agreement before starting as to the rules of the competition) First the large schools.

Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC). The conference includes schools in Maryland, Virginia and the District. This year, CSOA provides officials for four schools—Bishop Ireton, Bishop O’Connell, Paul VI, and St John’s. The WCAC plays **NFHS** rules, no OT during the regular season. Game times are 4 and 5:30, varsity then JV at Ireton, O’Connell, and St John’s. Paul VI has lights and game times are JV at 5 and then varsity at 6:45.

Independent Athletic Conference (IAC). This a boys’ conference. CSOA provides officials for just two schools, Episcopal and St. Stephens/Agnes (SSSA) . Game times are typically 4-4:30. JV and Varsity play separate schedules. IAC games are played using modified FIFA rules, with two 10-minute OT, if needed, not sudden victory.

Episcopal boys also play a Junior (Frosh) schedule. Episcopal has multiple fields and on occasion we need as many as 10 officials there on any given day.

SSSA has a boys middle school program. More about that when we talk about the SSSA girls program.

Metropolitan Athletic Conference (MAC). This is also a boys' conference. CSOA provides officials for just two schools, Flint Hill and Potomac School (Langley). The MAC also uses modified FIFA rules with two 10-minute OT, if needed, golden goal.

Both Flint Hill and Potomac have robust middle school programs with multiple teams. More on that when we discuss the girls program

Independent Soccer League (ISL). This is a girls' conference. CSOA provides officials for Episcopal, Flint Hill, Mадiera, Potomac and SSSA. The ISL uses modified FIFA rules with two 5-minute OT, if needed, not sudden victory.

Flint Hill, Potomac, and SSSA have middle school programs. Game time for middle school games, girls and boys, is 3:15pm. All three schools, as well as Episcopal, decide field usage schedules each week. So the field assigned to your game in Arbiter may not be the right field. I will make changes in Arbiter when it makes sense to do so. Otherwise, I will use the Arbiter home page to list venue changes. There is no OT in any of these middle school games.

Potomac Valley Athletic Conference (PVAC). This is a Maryland-based girls' conference. However, there is one Virginia school, Oakcrest, which we assign. Oakcrest fields middle school, JV and Varsity teams. All play NFHS rules. There is no OT. Game times vary.

Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC). This is a long-established conference and plays boys in the fall and girls in the spring. CSOA provides officials for four schools, Highland (Warrenton), Seton Manassas (plays at Valley View), Trinity Christian (on Braddock Road just west of GMU), and Wakefield (the Plains). The DAC plays modified FIFA with no OT during the season. All four schools also have middle school teams. Game times vary from 3:30 at Valley View to 4:15 at Trinity.

Independent Schools. CSOA provides officials for two large private schools without league affiliation, Pope John Paul (Dumfries) and King Abdullah Academy. Both play modified FIFA with no OT. King Abdullah also has a middle school program. Both play boys in the fall, girls in the spring. Game times vary. Pope John Paul has lights and may play some evening games. The school also uses the new Ali Kreiger complex near the school.

Small Private Schools

NVIAC (Northern Virginia Independent Athletic Conference) The NVIAC plays NFHS rules, with no OT. CSOA contracted schools are:

Christ Chapel Academy (plays at Howison), high school and middle school. Game times are 3:30 for varsity and 3:45 for middle school

County Christian school (Asburn), high school and middle school. HEARTS homeschool has combined with County Christian for athletics. Game times vary

Dominion Christian School (Reston), high school and middle school. Dominion plays at Arrowbrook. Game times vary

Fairfax Home School (plays at South Run), high school and middle school. Game times are 3:30 for both varsity and middle school

Other

Holy Family Academy (HFA). HFA is located in PW County and plays all its games, HS and MS, at Valley View. Start time is 3:30, modified FIFA. Given that Seton also uses Valley View we may have as many as 7 officials there at one time. Field allocations vary, so look around and make sure you have the right team/level at hand.

Temple Baptist School (Ashburn) high school, boys, modified-FIFA, no OT, start time varies. This is a different school than Fairfax Temple Baptist which RSRA assigns.

Virginia Catholic Athletic Conference. This is a collection of small private schools that play middle school only. CSOA provides officials for Aquinas (plays at Veteran's Park), Holy Family Catholic School (plays at Chinn), Linton Hall (Linton Hall Road) and St. William of York (Stafford). Conference plays boys in fall, girls in spring. Start time is typically 4pm.

Langley School (McLean). Plays both both boys and girls in the fall. Game times are typically 3:30 or 3:45. Usual schedule is two games. Could be both boys, both girls, or a combination. Langley fields 7/8 grade teams and 5/6 grade teams. Former play 30-minute halves no OT. Latter play 25-minute halves, no OT.

VISAA (Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association)

VISAA is to private schools as VHSL is to public schools. It provides a state-wide governing organization for all athletics and other interscholastic activities. All of CSOA's large private school boys' teams compete in the fall.

The complexity is that VISAA dictates that soccer be played under modified-FIFA rules. In season non-conference games are almost all VISAA games with the results determining seeding for post-season play. Pre-game discussions with the coaches of the boys' teams in the fall must include a determination that the game is a VISAA game played under modified-FIFA rules.

For example, if one of the WCAC schools is hosting, say, Flint Hill or Potomac, then the game will not be played under NFHS rules.

Rules differences

Here is a link to the NFHS rule changes for 2018-2019

<https://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/soccer-rules-changes-2018-19/>

Note that home team now wears dark and visitors white. Another substantive change is that on a kick off the kicker can be across the half line.

I do have the 2018-2019 rule book downloaded as an App on my Ipad from the App Store. VHSL-registered officials will not receive a hard copy rule book until the Spring.

You also need to be aware of the Point of Emphasis for DOGSO. Here is the NFHS current guidance:

1. Denying an Obvious Goal Scoring Opportunity: The penalty associated with a player who denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity has been amended. In an effort to make the penalty better fit the infraction, now when a player commits an offense against an opponent within their own penalty area which denies an obvious goal scoring opportunity and the referee awards a penalty kick, the offender is cautioned if the offense was an attempt to play the ball. Formerly, this player was disqualified and penalty kick was awarded. In circumstances where there was no attempt to play the ball, the player is still disqualified. In evaluating whether there has been an obvious goal scoring opportunity, officials are encouraged to consider the following:

- Distance between the offense and the goal (the offense must be near the goal)
- General direction of play (the attacking players are generally headed towards the goal)
- Likelihood of keeping or gaining control of the ball (the player must have or be able to get control of the ball in order to score)
- Location and number of defenders (not more than one defender between the attacking player and the goal, not counting the player that committed the foul and the defenders must be able to challenge the attacking player)

If any of the above considerations are missing, it is not an obvious goal scoring opportunity.

Here is a link to a rule-by-rule comparison between NCAA, FIFA, and NFHS:

<https://www.nfhs.org/media/1018270/2018-soccer-guide-interscholastic.pdf>