

# SOCCER Playoff Handbook

# UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

# SOCCER PLAYOFF HANDBOOK

Congratulations to schools who will represent their district in post-season play! Please read the following information carefully regarding the 2023-2024 UIL Soccer playoffs.

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# **IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

#### Certification Deadlines for Soccer Playoffs.

March 23	District Certification Deadline.
March 25-26	Bi-district.
March 28-30	Area.
April 1-2	Regional Quarterfinals.
April 5-6	Regional Semifinals & Finals.
April 10-13	Soccer State Tournament.

<u>Bi-District Matchups.</u> Once all DEC Chairs have submitted final district standings, bi-district playoff matchups will automatically be created and appear on the bracket once the UIL office publishes the bracket. Please do not create your bi-district match-up in your MaxPreps account. Once you see the match-up on your schedule in MaxPreps, please add game details (date, time & location.)

**Playoff Broadcast Information.** Please remember that all video broadcasts of a postseason contest require approval from the UIL. The <u>infographic outlines</u> the options schools and media outlets have regarding broadcasting playoff games as well as the process to be approved. All approved broadcasts will be shared each playoff round to each sport specific media page <u>on the UIL website</u>. Any questions should be directed to <u>pr@uiltexas.org</u>.

#### UIL Playoff Reporting: Brackets.

**Use MaxPreps.com to submit results and update next round bracket information.** Beginning with results of the Bi-District round, coaches are required to submit playoff results immediately following their contest. The winning school should submit playoff game results and next round information via MaxPreps through the assigned coach/admin account. The score reported by a coach on a team's page will automatically fill in the bracket. The completeness of the data presented on the UIL brackets will be dependent upon the participation of schools and coaches. Learn more about MaxPreps Sign in or register for a MaxPreps.com account: <a href="https://secure.maxpreps.com/utility/member/login.aspx">https://secure.maxpreps.com/utility/member/login.aspx</a>

# **POSTSEASON GAME INFORMATION**

# Post-season Warmup Games.

- Teams can schedule a warm-up game after district certification and before their first playoff game **if they have not reached their allowable season limit.** This game can be scheduled like any other regular season game. Teams that have exhausted their allowable season game limit are given a UIL one game exception under the following conditions:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Teams that are District Champions and have a first-round bye.
  - The one-game exception can be played only at the end of your school day on Friday or last day of instruction with no loss of school time or anytime on Saturday.

**<u>Championship Structure</u>**. The top 4 teams in Conferences 4A-6A will advance from district to the postseason.

<u>Playoff Game Details.</u> All game details for playoff games (Bi-district, area & regional quarterfinal rounds) must be mutually agreed upon by the two competing schools. If mutual agreement does not exist on any

# details, a coinflip will determine that detail. Once game details are decided on by the two competing schools that information needs to be added to MaxPreps so game details will appear on the bracket.

<u>Site Selection</u>. The teams involved should select sites for all rounds of playoffs except the regional and state sites. See Section 1208 (o and p) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin.

- Home Sites. When two schools flip for two separate sites other than their home field or court, the sites are considered home sites unless both sites are near mid-point.
- **Neutral Sites.** A site mid-point or near mid- point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral site. Unless mutually agree- able, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the two schools.
- **Mid-Point Sites.** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post district contests in the team sports of baseball, Soccer, soccer, softball, team tennis and volleyball shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

<u>Officials.</u> Officials for bi-district, area, regional quarterfinal games will be determined by the two competing schools. If officials cannot be agreed upon by both teams, the team on the top of the bracket will need to include a list of chapters that they prefer to NOT call the game (scratch list) this is representative of BOTH teams, and the UIL will make the assignment. <u>Official's Assignment Request Form</u>

# Sport Specific Information.

- Length of Game: National Federation rules state that two forty-minute halves constitute a game. In post-season play, if a game ends in a tie after regulation time, there shall be two ten-minute overtime periods. If a tie still exists there shall be a shoot-out.
- **Suspended Game**: In games beyond the district level, a game begun then suspended, shall continue from the point of suspension as soon as a playable field is available. Playoff certification deadlines may not be extended without the permission of the UIL athletic director or soccer director.

# Program Information for State Tournament.

- Teams advancing to the regional tournament must submit following materials to the UIL office by Wednesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is an important step in providing you with the best possible program. Your assistance in this effort is appreciated.
  - **Team Information Form** (list of players, coaches, etc. and all games played)
    - Girls' Team Information Form: <u>https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-soccer-girls</u>
    - Boys' Team Information Form: <u>https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-soccer-boys</u>
  - Pictures Submission Form<sup>\*\*</sup>New for 2024<sup>\*\*</sup>
    - We will be collecting your school photo submission through an online form.
    - To be completed online at <u>https://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=949239</u>
      - Team Picture
      - Head Coach Picture
      - Logo

# **REGIONAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION**

<u>Dates.</u> Friday and Saturday, April 5-6, 2024 Regional Soccer Sites: <u>http://www.uiltexas.org/Soccer/regional-sites</u>

<u>Officials.</u> Assignment requests – In all conferences at all playoff levels, except regional tournaments and state tournaments, officials are to be obtained by the two schools involved. If neutral officials are requested through UIL, the home team must make the request. Schools must go to the UIL website to request officials online at <a href="https://www.uiltexas.org/form/officials-request/soccer.php">https://www.uiltexas.org/form/officials-request/soccer.php</a>

• Evaluation form – <u>https://www.uiltexas.org/form/officials-evaluation/submit.php?sport=Soccer</u>

<u>Entry Fees.</u> Fees are determined by each regional director. The League office suggests that fees be kept to a minimum.

**<u>Game Time</u>**. The regional director will determine the schedule for the regional tournament.

**Draw.** The brackets online indicate the regional qualifiers and illustrate exact pairings for the regional tournaments.

Housing. Each school is responsible for its own housing.

<u>Entry Forms.</u> Each district representative is responsible for sending team information to the regional director immediately after the district representatives are certified. UIL does not send team information to regional sites.

<u>Security.</u> Adequate security should be provided for all playoff games, whether the game is played at a neutral site or on the home court of one of the teams.

<u>Spirit Buses & Pep Bands.</u> Please contact your regional site if you plan on bringing spirit buses or pep bands to the regional tournament.

<u>Certification of Regional Champions.</u> The Regional Director will certify the State Qualifiers with the UIL.

Congratulations on a great season!! If we can be of any assistance, please let us know.