

**2025**



**SOCCKER**

**Post-Season Handbook**

# UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

## SOCCKER POST-SEASON HANDBOOK

Congratulations to schools who will represent their district in post-season play! Please read the following information carefully regarding the 2024-2025 UIL Soccer playoffs.

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## IMPORTANT DEADLINES

### Certification Deadlines for Soccer Playoffs.

<b>March 18</b>	District Certification Deadline.
<b>March 20-22</b>	Bi-district.
<b>March 24-25</b>	Area.
<b>March 27-29</b>	Regional Semifinals.
<b>March 31-April 1</b>	Regional Finals.
<b>April 3-5</b>	State Semifinals.
<b>April 10-12</b>	Soccer State Championships.

**Advancement Structure for Postseason.** The last date for certifying the district to the League office is March 18. District chairs will be submitting directly to MaxPreps via the UIL Portal. Once district certifications are submitted, the online brackets will auto-populate with the teams from your district. The district chairs must certify the district representatives through the UIL Portal as soon as they are finalized. Instructions can be found here <https://www.uil texas.org/basketball/page/district-certification-instructions>.

**NOTE: District certification must include the indication of a 1st through 4th place finisher in the dropdown menus based on district standings. All ties must be resolved prior to submission.**

In all conferences, playoff structure would consist of the top four teams from each district advancing to the playoffs. The two advancing schools with the largest enrollments, as submitted in October 2023, in grades 9-12 are bracketed into Division I and the other two schools are bracketed into Division II, with both divisions playing to a state championship. Teams will be seeded according to their order of finish in district play.

### **EXAMPLE:**

District Finish:

1. Green HS – Enrollment 1004
2. Red HS – Enrollment 935
3. Blue HS – Enrollment 985
4. Orange HS – Enrollment 785

Certified into Division I:

1. Green HS
2. Blue HS

Certified into Division II:

1. Red HS
2. Orange HS

Enrollment figures utilized for determining division I and division II status can be found on the UIL website at <http://www.uil texas.org/alignments>.

If the enrollment figures of the 2nd and 3rd largest qualifying schools are exactly the same, the two schools will be required to submit their updated enrollment numbers to the UIL as submitted for the TEA October

25, 2024, snapshot submission to determine division placement. Should the two schools have the same updated enrollment figures, a coinflip should be conducted to determine division placement. *The UIL will contact the schools which could possibly be in this predicament directly to guide them through this process.*

### **Brackets. (\*required for each round of the playoffs)**

**Bi-District Match-Ups.** 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.)

- Updating playoff information in the brackets is REQUIRED starting with Bi-District results.
- Winning teams must submit playoff game results (scores) and next-round details (location, date, and time) immediately after each game via MaxPreps. (If the location is unknown immediately following the game, it should be updated as soon as possible)
- The accuracy of UIL brackets depends on timely updates from coaches.
- UIL syncs schedules, scores, and rosters from MaxPreps to uiltexas.org for postseason publications. Keep this information current throughout the season.
- Make sure that you have admin access to your team in MaxPreps so you can report scores for the UIL playoffs. Coaches and ADs may reach out to MaxPreps representative Alisa Dancer at [adancer@maxpreps.com](mailto:adancer@maxpreps.com) to add admin access to their account.
  - For more information, see <http://www.uiltexas.org/athletics/uil-maxpreps>. To create an account, please go to MaxPreps.

**Playoff Broadcast Information.** Please remember that all video broadcasts of a postseason contest require approval from the UIL. The [infographic outlines](#) 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 [on the UIL website](#). Any questions should be directed to [pr@uiltexas.org](mailto:pr@uiltexas.org).

## **POST-SEASON GAME INFORMATION**

### **Post-season Warm-up 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:
  - 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.

**Championship Structure.** The top 4 teams in Conferences 4A-6A will advance from district to the post-season.

**Playoff Game Details.** All game details for playoff games 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.**

**Site Selection.** 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.

**Officials.** Officials for all playoff rounds, except for the State Finals, 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. [Official's Assignment Request Form](#)

#### **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.
- **Length of Periods: NEW FOR 2024-25** After 20 minutes of play (elapsed game time) or beyond in the second half, if one team has a goal differential of +8 goals or more, the game would be stopped and declared as final.
- **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 State Semifinals must submit following materials to the UIL office by Wednesday, April 2nd. This is an important step in providing you with the best possible program. Your assistance in this effort is appreciated.
  - **Team Information Form**
    - Girls' Team Information Form: <https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-soccer-girls>
    - Boys' Team Information Form: <https://www.uiltexas.org/forms/team-info-soccer-boys>
    - **NEW FOR 2025** – Your roster and schedule will be pulled from MaxPreps, so it is imperative that all players are listed in MaxPreps and all games are listed.
  - **Pictures Submission Form**
    - We will be collecting your school photo submission through an online form.
    - To be completed online at <https://www.uiltexas.org/machform/view.php?id=949239>
      - Team Picture
      - Head Coach Picture
      - Logo

## **2024-2025 Post Season Video Broadcast Information**

Live or tape-delayed video broadcasts of a postseason contest require approval from the UIL. The UIL retains all broadcast rights to postseason contests and has granted rights to its broadcast partners (NFHS Network and Bally Sports Southwest), who have first rights to all postseason activities. Please see below for more information. Any questions should be directed to the UIL Media Department: [pr@uiltexas.org](mailto:pr@uiltexas.org)

Broadcast Opportunities for UIL Member Schools:

### **1. Non-Commercial Academic Video Broadcasts**

Schools interested in doing a non-commercial Academic Video Broadcast must submit this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [UIL Member School Playoff Video Broadcast Request](#). There are no fees to do an academic broadcast.

The UIL defines an Academic Broadcast as a broadcast with an educational purpose that is produced solely by a UIL member school and/or school district primarily using school facilities, equipment, staff, and students without any commercial relationship for the financial benefit of another party.

To be approved, the broadcast must feature at least one high-definition camera and an on-air broadcaster. Any use of professional broadcasters should be as an exception on a limited basis and on a non-paid, volunteer basis. Regular season commercial obligations cannot be applied to postseason academic broadcasts.

Schools may air postseason broadcasts LIVE if approved by UIL. Additionally, schools may distribute the broadcast via their school or district website or via their official school-affiliated social media or YouTube channels. Other commercial .com websites are prohibited. The web page where the broadcast is to appear should be free of sponsor logos.

Failure to comply with the above may result in future prohibition of academic broadcasts.

### **2. NFHS School Broadcast Program Webcast**

Schools who are members of the NFHS Network School Broadcast Program (SBP) and wish to broadcast an event on the network must submit this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [UIL Member School Video Playoff Broadcast Request](#). There are no fees to do an NFHS School Broadcast Program webcast.

#### **WHAT IS THE NFHS SCHOOL BROADCAST PROGRAM?**

The School Broadcast Program (or SBP) lets high schools produce and broadcast their own games, pep rallies, news shows, and any other event live on the NFHS Network. The NFHS Network has a dedicated support team and account managers to assist these schools with using the platform to stream their events. Most of these events are done by the actual students, and it is a great way for them to get real world experience and exposure to an always evolving technology platform. To learn more about SBP, please visit: <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/sbp>

## **Media Outlets**

Media outlets and third party, non-school affiliated broadcast entities interested in video broadcasting a postseason contest have two options, abbreviated below. Full information can be found online, linked here.

- **NFHS Production Partner**

Media outlets may enter into an agreement with Sports in Action on behalf of the NFHS Network to produce and distribute one or more postseason contests exclusively on the NFHS Network. Outlets interested in participating should contact Sports in Action at [sublicense@sportsinaction.com](mailto:sublicense@sportsinaction.com) to be set up as an NFHS Production Partner.

- **Sublicense Video Rights**

In the occurrence the contest is not being produced by UIL broadcast partners, the contest may be sublicensed to interested media outlets. Media outlets must complete this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [Playoff Video Broadcast Request Form](#) and receive an approval email from Sports In Action. The approved broadcaster is responsible for communication with the schools for selected broadcasts. The approved broadcaster will schedule the set-up and tear-down times for equipment with the schools and the venues. The approved broadcaster is responsible for any expenses associated with the broadcast. UIL approval does not guarantee preferred placement, accommodations are at the discretion of the host venue.

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