VISAA Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association Independent State Soccer Tournament September 8. 2023



Dear Athletic Director and Boys Varsity Soccer Coach:

Division I, Division II, and Division III teams are determined on a two-year cycle. School teams will compete in the same division for the 2023 season, as they did in 2022. Enrollment numbers sent in September 2021 will determine the numbers for the next two-year cycle (2022-2023 and 2023-2024). Schools may elect to play in the higher division. Any classification election is effective for two years.

There will be separate polls, tournaments and All State awards for the three divisions. Each division will have a separate polling committee representing different regions around the state.

All three tournaments will consist of 12 teams with the top 4 teams earning a bye in the first round. Both divisions will rank 14 teams on a bi-weekly basis. The first two rounds for all three divisions will be held at the higher seed. The final four and the championship will be held at City Stadium in Richmond.

The schools invited to participate in the state tournament in November will be notified the evening of Sunday, October 29. The dates for the boy's state soccer tournament are as follows: Division III - First round - November 1 - played at higher seed; rain date Nov 2 Division I & II - First round - November 3 - played at higher seed; rain date Nov 4 Division I & II - Second round - November 3 - played at higher seed; rain date Nov 4 Division I & II - Second round - November 6 - played at higher seed; rain date Nov 7 Division III - Semi Finals - November 7 - City Stadium, Richmond, VA Division I - Semi Finals - November 8 – City Stadium, Richmond, VA Division II - Semi Finals - November 9 – City Stadium, Richmond, VA Division I, II, & III - Finals - November 10 – City Stadium, Richmond, VA

Your school must have the tournament dates listed above reserved on your calendar. By joining we assume that there are no conflicting events that your school is participating in that would prevent your school from playing on these dates. Failure to keep these dates available may result in your school being ineligible the following year(s).

The official website for VISAA is the following address. Click on sports then boys soccer <u>www.visaa.org</u> All the forms you will need for 2023 fall season will be posted on the above state soccer web page. In addition, memberships of DI, DII & DIII and the regional representative contact information will be posted. I would strongly encourage you to bookmark this web site now for future easy reference.

Criteria for Determining State Poll

The following is used, but not limited to, in determining state polls:

- Strength of schedule
- Head to head competition
- Results against common opponents
- Results with divisional ranked teams
- Performance against ranked teams
- Lack of ranked teams on schedule

Criteria for Determining State Tournament Seeding

The following is used, but not limited to, in determining state seedings:

- Strength of schedule
- Head to head competition
- Results against common opponents
- Results with divisional ranked teams
- Performance against ranked teams
- Lack of ranked teams on schedule
- Performance in conference tournament
- Appearance in the top 12
- Team travel
- Two teams that play in the same conference playing in the first round

We are ranking teams in the state in a bi-weekly poll. The dates that the polls will be posted on the VISAA web page are September 19, October 3, and 17. By every Saturday beginning with September 9 you must report your game scores using Max Preps website. The regional representatives will be compiling the team scores to be distributed to the other polling representatives.

Not reporting game results may cause your team to be **INELIGIBLE FOR THE TOURNAMENT.** Please note that the committee does not use Max Preps for their bi-weekly rankings or seedings for the state tournament. Max Preps is used to reference results and records only. Rankings and seedings are determined by the criteria listed above.

If you have any games played on Saturday October 28, contact your regional rep with the results.

If a game ends in a tie during the regular season, teams should follow overtime procedures established by the host team's conference. The visiting coach should be informed of these procedures prior to the match. If the home team does not have a conference affiliation, overtime procedures should be discussed at a coaches meeting prior to the match.

The email distribution list I am using is based on last fall. I do not get an updated one from VISAA Executive Committee until mid - September. If Athletic Directors or boys soccer coaches have changed at your school please email me that information so I can update my distribution list.

I look forward to an exciting fall of private school soccer in the state of Virginia.

Sincerely, James Brown North Cross School VISAA State Soccer Tournament Director (540) 819-5650 cell jbrown@northcross.org