Virginia Independent Schools Athletic Association

2026

We will be using Modified IFAB rules except for the following modifications. If you have been playing with National Federation rules and are unfamiliar with the Modified FIFA differences, the following are the major changes:

● Substitutions are on goals, goal kicks and possession throw-ins (if the other team is at midfield they may also come in).

● If a throw-in never comes in, it is a re-throw for that team.

● If a player is cautioned (yellow card), the coach does not have to substitute the player. It is the coach's option. Modifications for the VISAA Tournament matches (played with Modified FIFA Rules)

● Substitutions on an injury or a caution are unlimited for both teams if they are at midfield waiting to come in.

● Substitutions: If team A has a throw-in and has substitutes ready at midfield and team B has substitutes at midfield, both teams will be waived in.

● Play two 40 minute periods.

● If tied at the end of regulation, there will be a 5 minute interval to confer with coaches. One 5 minute sudden victory (golden goal) period will be played. If still tied, teams immediately switch ends and play another 5 minute sudden victory overtime period.

● If still tied, after the overtime periods, FIFA penalty kicks will be used; taken by any of the 11 players on the field at the end of the second overtime. Coaches designate the first 5 kickers to the official. If still tied, coaches then designate the next 5 kickers who must be different kickers from the first set of 5 kickers. The second set of 5 kickers is sudden death victory. If still tied, after 10 kicks, the 11 th man MUST be used next and then any other 4 players including but not limited to the first set of 5 kickers.

● If there is the possibility of inclement weather the day of a match, the Athletic Directors of both schools involved must do everything to get the match in that day. If the match is abandoned due to field conditions or inclement weather and at least one half (40 minutes) has been played and there is a result, then that team will advance to the next round. If, however, less than 40 minutes has been played, the match must be replayed in its entirety the following day. If more than 40 minutes have been played when the match is abandoned due to field conditions or inclement weather and the match is tied, then the match is replayed from the point of stoppage to the conclusion of the match. If the match cannot be replayed or finished before the next round and all potential game sites (home or away) are unplayable, the higher seed will advance.

● Any player, coach or bench personnel issued a red card will be suspended from the following state soccer match. Two yellows are considered a red card.

● If a player(s) is ejected from a contest they must be removed out of sight and sound from the playing area; if there is school administration to do so. If a player is ejected from a contest and no school administration is present to assist, the player may stay in the team bench area provided that they do not cause any further disruption to the game. If a further disruption develops, with the ejected player, the game shall be stopped until that player is out of sight and sound of the playing field. The player must be escorted by an official from the offending team's school away from the playing area. The ejected player will be suspended from the next contest. These incidents must be reported by the offending team, with name and number, to the VISAA State Soccer Director, James Brown, within 2 hours of the end of the contest.

● If a coach is ejected, the match will be suspended until the ejected coach is out of sight and sound of the playing area. There must be an authority figure employed by the offending school that will take over responsibility for the players in the bench area. If there is no such person available the match will be terminated and the offending team will forfeit the match.

● During the finals the higher seeded team will be designated the home team and they are responsible to provide at least 2 competent ball runners. VISAA State Soccer will supply Wilson Championship balls.

● During round 1, the quarterfinals, and the semifinals, the preferred field dimensions for the host team are 65 yards wide by 110 yards long