

Length of Periods

This memo is intended to clearly state what the policy of EMSOA is related to length of periods in varsity and sub-varsity MIAA soccer contests.

First, the NFHS rulebook states:

- Rule 7.1.1 Length of Periods: Two equal halves of 40 minutes each shall be played unless, by state high school association adoption, four equal quarters of 20 minutes each are specified.
- Rule 7.1.2 Length of Periods: Period may be shortened by state high school association adoption, or if mutually agreed upon or in an emergency, by agreement of coaches or ordered by the head referee, provided it is determined to shorten the period before the game or before the second half begins and all remaining periods are the same length.

Second, the MIAA Handbook ("Rules and Regulations Governing Athletics")

- 78.3: Length of Contests: This rule has been deleted from the current release of the MIAA Handbook Book. This defers the length of contests to the NFHS Soccer Rulebook.

The EMSOA's policy is that NFHS Rules 7.1.1 and 7.1.2 apply to both varsity and sub-varsity MIAA contests. Note that Rule 7.1.2 allows the periods for sub-varsity games to be less than 40 minutes when both teams agree.