

# HCAA SOCCER COACH HANDBOOK 2021-2022

*(revised Sept. 2, 2021)*

## **Disclaimer:**

*This Handbook is not intended to be complete or all-encompassing. Please refer to policy and procedures (SHSAA, HCAA, Board/Band) or seek assistance from your school administration, school Athletic Director, or Brian Grest (Horizon SD ASA) if clarification is needed.*

*An attempt has been made to make this Handbook as accurate as possible, but mistakes will likely occur. In the event of conflicting information between the information in this Handbook and SHSAA/HCAA/Board/Band policy and procedures, the latter would take precedent.*

## **Quick Tips:**

- Check e-mails daily or many times daily.
- When uncertain, look it up or ask someone. Do not assume.
- **Horizon SD coaches:** Read through your **funding guide(s)** and form(s) BEFORE the season begins so you understand what is funded and at what level. Budget accordingly.

## **FAQs:**

Q: How do we find games? Are there Horizon SD soccer leagues?

A: There are Horizon SD soccer leagues (see section 8). No obligation, but it's hard to find games if you are not in league play. It is possible some teams would prefer to not join the Horizon SD leagues so they can find their own games that better suit their ability level or other needs.

Q: How is league play related to HCAA (pre-district/district) or SHSAA (conference/regional/provincial) championship playoffs?

A: For Senior, they are largely unrelated in that you do not have to take part in one to take part in the other. For Junior, the HCAA District champion is declared using league play, so it is best if all Junior teams join league. Exceptions can be made to allow a team(s) not in league to contend for the HCAA District Championship pennant if necessary.

Q: If I have questions, who do I ask?

A: Start with your school's Athletic Director or try Brian Grest at [brian.grest@horizonsd.ca](mailto:brian.grest@horizonsd.ca), 306-231-8284 (mobile or text), or 306-682-1016 (office).

Q: **Horizon SD coaches:** Where are the funding guides and forms?

A: Go to the Horizon School Division website. Choose the "HCAA" link across the top. Choose the "Horizon SD Activities Funding Forms" (2<sup>nd</sup> link down the right side).

**COVID-19 NOTE: *The HCAA will be following the Horizon SD COVID-19 protocols. These protocols are not contained within this document; any and all COVID-19 protocol information will be e-mailed directly to the coaches.***

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# 1. Coaches and Qualifications

## a) Who can coach?

A **current teacher** (teacher currently under a teaching contract with the school's Board or Band) is approved to coach any team in that school (notwithstanding the qualifications referenced below).

A **non-faculty coach** – a person who is **NOT** a current teacher (they are not a teacher, or not a teacher currently under a contract with the school's Board or Band) – may coach a team in that school (notwithstanding the qualifications referenced below) if one of these two conditions are met:

1. They are formally **approved as a non-faculty coach** in the current school year by their Board/Band.  
*Horizon SD SCHOOLS: current Horizon SD procedure requires ALL non-faculty coaches to be formally approved by the Horizon SD Board unless an exception is granted in writing by Deputy Director of Education Randolph MacLEAN. Other schools please consult your Board/Band policy.*  
Approval allows that coach to work with the student-athletes **without a teacher-supervisor present**.  
The non-faculty coach approval process involves each of the following:
  - a. SHSAA Form E-14 must be completed and submitted.  
*Horizon SD SCHOOLS – For first-time applicants, please use the new online process. Have your principal initiate it at <https://www.horizonsd.ca/Services/APsandForms/Pages/AP496.aspx>.  
– For renewals, please use the simplified Word document method. Have your principal access it [HERE](#) (scroll about 10 lines from the top).*
  - b. The person seeking approval has been out of high school for at least four years. *Horizon SD SCHOOLS – this is waived for those coaching ONLY GRADE 8 AND YOUNGER students. Other schools please consult your Board/Band policy.*
  - c. The person seeking approval has provided references attesting to suitability and qualifications as outlined in their Board's/Band's policy. *Horizon SD SCHOOLS – this is currently only required at the principal's or superintendent's request. Other schools please consult your Board/Band policy.*
  - d. The person seeking approval has completed the SHSAA-mandated coaching courses ("Respect in Sport" and "Making Head Way in Sport"). *Horizon SD SCHOOLS must attach a copy of the completion certificate (RIS) and coach.ca transcript (MHIS) with the E-14 application. Other schools please consult your Board/Band policy.*
  - e. If the person seeking approval has not ever been previously approved as a non-faculty coach by the SHSAA or their Board/Band, they must complete the SHSAA-mandated coaching course for non-faculty coaches ("Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning"). *Horizon SD SCHOOLS must submit a copy of the completion certificate with the E-14 application. Other schools please consult your Board/Band policy.*
  - f. *Horizon SD SCHOOLS - the person seeking approval must submit (or if a Horizon SD employee, have on file with HR) a valid and current Vulnerable Sector Check. Other schools please consult your Board/Band policy.*

**OR**

2. A current teacher is assigned as the teacher-supervisor **AND** is present at all times when the non-faculty coach is working with the student-athletes **AND** the school's principal has approved the non-faculty coach **AND** the non-faculty coach has completed the SHSAA-mandated coaching courses ("Respect in Sport" and "Making Head Way in Sport"). *Horizon SD SCHOOLS – this is allowed*

*only as an EXCEPTION granted in writing by Supervisor of Deputy Director of Education Randolph MacLEAN. A valid and current Vulnerable Sector Check must be submitted.*

## **b) Qualifications**

- i) **MANDATORY** – Every junior or senior head coach, assistant coach, or teacher-supervisor in **every HCAA school** MUST complete (or have previously completed) the “**Respect in Sport**” online course (or recognized equivalent), and have done so theoretically prior to the beginning of the season. It takes about three hours and is free. Click [HERE](#) for further details.
- ii) **MANDATORY** – Every junior or senior head coach, assistant coach, or teacher-supervisor in **every HCAA school** MUST complete (or have previously completed) the “**Making Head Way in Sport**” online course (or recognized equivalent), and have done so theoretically prior to the beginning of the season. It takes about thirty minutes and is free. Click [HERE](#) for further details.
- iii) **NON-FACULTY COACHES** – A person applying for **first time approval** as a non-faculty coach MUST complete (or have previously completed) the “Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning” online course. “Approved non-faculty coach” status cannot be awarded until this course is completed. Click [HERE](#) for further details.

As of 2021, the “Coaching School Sport: Redefining Winning” course costs \$53.95. *Horizon SD SCHOOLS may submit a copy of the invoice to the ASA (Brian Grest) for full reimbursement.*

**FURTHER REQUIREMENTS** of non-faculty coaches (E-14 form, out of school four years, references, Vulnerable Sector Check) are outlined on the previous page.

## **2. Student-Athlete Eligibility**

### **a) Junior**

The Junior program is defined as **grades 6-9** (and cannot have been 16 years or older on Aug. 31, 2021). Junior play is governed by the HCAA.

Grade 5 (or younger) players are NOT eligible to play on junior soccer teams. Grade 5 (or younger) players would be considered part of “elementary” programs. “Elementary” programs (and thus grade 5 and younger students) are not sanctioned nor governed by the HCAA, and are not funded by Horizon SD.

A grade 9 student **may** play as both a junior and as a senior.

## b) Senior

A "Senior" program is defined as **grades 9-12**. Senior play is governed by the SHSAA. Senior players must be eligible by SHSAA Bylaws (i.e. have not used up their years of eligibility and cannot have been 19 years or older on Aug. 31, 2021). Please contact Brian Grest if you need clarification on eligibility.

A grade 9 student **may** play as both a junior and as a senior.

The SHSAA may declare a grade 8 student eligible to play with a "senior" team after proper application is made and approval granted. See the SHSAA Handbook or website for exact policy and for the form. Call the SHSAA office (306-721-2151) or Brian Grest if you have any questions. **Remember** – a grade 8 player cannot play on a senior team if the SHSAA has not given their approval.

## 3. Resources and References for Coaches

### a) SHSAA Handbook

The SHSAA governs **senior** play, but it does not hurt for each junior coach to have a copy of the SHSAA Handbook. Your school's Athletic Director should have a copy for you. Extra copies can be ordered free of charge from the SHSAA office, and the SHSAA Handbook is also online at [www.shsaa.ca](http://www.shsaa.ca).

For coaches, the most relevant sections of the Handbook are:

- Activity-specific policy (found in the white pages)
- A Code of Ethics for coaches, players, and officials (found in the white pages). Each coach should familiarize themselves with these and possibly copy and post them.
- A Saskatchewan high schools directory with contact and other pertinent information (yellow pages)
- SHSAA playoff calendar (green pages)
- SHSAA playoff host projections (green pages)
- A forms section (white pages). Some of the more pertinent forms are:
  - o E-1 – Application for Reclassification – for those who wish to enter their team into a higher category than their population dictates. It is a TWO year commitment.
  - o E-2 – Use of Grade 8 Students
  - o E-4 – Inter Provincial Competition Sanction Form – to be used when planning on having out-of-province team(s) to a competition you are hosting
  - o E-8 – Member School Special Report Form – for reporting any matter concerning officiating that merits immediate attention.
  - o E-9 – Official's Report Special Report Form – for reporting any matter concerning athlete or coach behavior or incidents that merit the immediate attention of the SHSAA office.

- E-14 – Declaration for Non-Faculty Coach – **Horizon SD schools:** *please use the Horizon SD-specific forms outlined on page 3 of this handbook.*
- E-16 – Seeding Form – a record of matches your team has played to assist the SHSAA with seeding the SHSAA playdowns.
- E-17 – Student Transfer Form – For students transferring schools any time AFTER the beginning of their grade ten year. Contact the SHSAA office (306-721-2151) or Brian Grest for clarification.
- E-18 – Home-Schooled/Distance Learning student registration – in case such a student is intending to compete on your school’s team.

## **b) SHSAA Website and Office**

The SHSAA governs senior play. The SHSAA website can be found at [www.shsaa.ca](http://www.shsaa.ca) and is a wealth of information. You can also contact the SHSAA office directly if you have questions or need clarification:

- Dave Sandomirsky, Executive Director – 306-721-2151; [d.sandomirsky@shsaa.ca](mailto:d.sandomirsky@shsaa.ca)
- Jeff Kitts, Assistant Executive Director – 306-721-2151; [jeff@shsaa.ca](mailto:jeff@shsaa.ca)

## **c) HCAA – Website, Bylaws and Policy**

The HCAA governs **junior** play, but some of the Bylaws and Policies also apply to senior activities.

The **HCAA website** can be found at <https://www.horizonsd.ca/HCAA/Pages/default.aspx> and is a wealth of information. The following is only a partial list of what can be found on the HCAA website:

- HCAA Bylaws and Policy
- News and events
- Athletics calendar and host sites
- Lists of officials
- Champions lists
- Meeting minutes
- League standings and results

For coaches, the most relevant Bylaws are:

- Bylaw IX – Eligibility
- Bylaw X – Advancement to District Championships
- Bylaw XI – Activity Playdown Direction
- Bylaw XII – Protests and Appeals
- Bylaw XIII – Complaints Against Individuals or Teams
- Bylaw XIV – Conduct of Players, Coaches, Teams, or Spectators

For coaches, the most relevant Policies are:

- **Policy XV – Soccer Playdown**
- Policy XXVI – Disqualification and Suspension of Athletes
- Policy XXVII – Junior Co-ops (Joint Sponsorship)

#### **d) ASA (Horizon School Division's Administrator of Student Activities)**

Horizon SD employs a full-time District Athletic Director (ASA) whose mandate includes assisting in the operation of the entire HCAA District and assisting all schools and programs within the HCAA.

The current ASA is Brian Grest. If you have any questions or concerns or need any clarification, contact him at any time as it is a large part of his job to act as a resource to the coaches. His office is currently in Humboldt Collegiate. He can be reached at:

306-231-8284 (cell – preferred number)

306-682-1016 (office)

[brian.grest@horizonsd.ca](mailto:brian.grest@horizonsd.ca)

### **4. Registering Teams (Beginning of the Season)**

#### **a) Senior**

The deadline for declaring (“Team Entry Form”) and registering (“E-5 Eligibility Form”) your school’s senior boys or senior girls program on the SHSAA website (minimum 7 or 11 players checked off) is **Wed. Sept. 15**. If you (or your school’s Athletic Director – see next paragraphs) fail to properly do so by midnight of this date yet still had or intended to play at least one match against another school, a \$50 late fee will be levied by the SHSAA. Brian Grest will also do a follow-up via e-mail.

Most schools have one person, typically the Athletic Director, do their “Team Entry” form and their “E-5 Eligibility” form on the SHSAA website. Speak to your school Athletic Director to determine if your team is properly registered. You can also contact the SHSAA office (306-721-2151) or Brian Grest (306-231-8284 or 306-682-1016) if you need assistance.

#### **b) Junior**

Brian Grest will solicit information from all schools to ascertain which junior soccer programs each school has.

Junior programs are not required to fill an “E-5 Eligibility form”.

### **5. Start Date for Practices (all soccer programs)**

**SENIOR** – SHSAA Policy states that the first senior soccer practice cannot start earlier than **Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021**. Teams that conducted practices prior to this date could face sanctions, including possible exclusion from HCAA and/or SHSAA playoffs. Please contact Brian Grest if you need clarification.

**JUNIOR** – By HCAA Policy, the first junior practice cannot start earlier than **Wednesday, Sept. 1, 2021**. Teams that conducted practices prior to this date could face sanctions, including possible exclusion from HCAA playoffs. Please contact Brian Grest if you need clarification.

## **6. Maximum Number of Matches (Senior)**

SHSAA Policy states that a senior soccer team may play a **maximum of 16 matches** prior to SHSAA Conferences. Senior teams exceeding this number of matches prior to SHSAA Conferences will face sanctions, including likely exclusion from SHSAA playoffs.

## **7. Championship Playoffs**

### **a) SHSAA Senior Playoffs (Regionals/Provincials)**

Schools may enter a maximum of one senior boys team and a maximum of one senior girls team into the SHSAA playdowns.

Your team is entered into the SHSAA playoff structure when you or your school's Athletic Director fill out your "E-5 Eligibility" form and check "Yes" after "Does your team intend to participate in SHSAA Provincials?" If you check "No", you will not be entered.

Formats for SHSAA Regionals and Provincials can be found in the SHSAA Handbook and/or on the SHSAA website ([www.shsaa.ca](http://www.shsaa.ca)).

**NOTE:** Regionals/Provincials is a championship route – if your team cannot commit to every level, they shall not enter into the first level.

**IMPORTANT:** If you (or your athletic director) checked "Yes" to the SHSAA playoffs when filling out your E-5 form on the SHSAA website but have to opt out, you have until **Wed. Oct. 13** to notify the SHSAA and Brian Grest. Failure to do so by this deadline and subsequent failure to participate in Regionals or any subsequent level will result in a minimum \$200 fine from the SHSAA.

### **b) HCAA Junior Playoffs**

The HCAA District Champion is chosen through Horizon SD league play (league champion is District Champion). An exception to this format will be arranged should any team opt to not join league play.

### **c) Championship Playoff Dates**

#### **Junior Soccer, boys and girls (HCAA)**

Horizon SD league and league playoffs determine the District Champion



## Senior Soccer (SHSAA)

Regionals	Fri/Sat Oct. 22/23	go to <a href="http://www.shsaa.ca">www.shsaa.ca</a> for details
Provincials	Fri/Sat Oct. 29/30	3A Boys (7 v 7) @ Lake Lenore 4A Boys (11 v 11) @ Yorkton 3A Girls (7 v 7) @ Stobart 4A Girls (11 v 11) @ Martensville

### d) Bids to Host

**Senior Regionals** hosts are designated to Districts. Brian Grest will solicit bids after the SHSAA informs us if we are hosting any Regionals, and the HCAA bids committee will choose the host.

### e) Booking of Accommodations (Regionals & Provincials)

All schools will be responsible for their own booking of accommodations (if needed) for Regionals and Provincials.

*Horizon SD SCHOOLS – please refer to your sport-specific funding guide and forms and the Regionals and Provincials funding guides and forms for exact policy, procedure, and expectations (e.g. how many players to a room) pertaining to accommodations for Regionals and Provincials.*

## 8. Horizon SD Soccer Leagues

Horizon SD runs boys and girls soccer leagues for Junior and Senior soccer where viable. These leagues are open to all schools in the HCAA that are in good standing with Horizon SD. Brian Grest will send an e-mail soliciting information as to which teams wish to join league play and which teams do not.

**REMINDER:** The Junior leagues are used to determine the HCAA District Champion, so all Junior teams are very strongly encouraged to join Junior league play (an exception to this format will be arranged should any team opt to not join league play).

**Grade five players are NOT eligible** to compete in Horizon SD junior league play.

**No team is required to join league play**, but it is typically hard to find games if you are not in league play. On occasion, teams opt out of league play. Some common reasons:

- the level of competition in the league does not meet their needs
- the lack of other teams in league play in their area makes for too much travel
- the commitment level from the players makes it hard to commit to a schedule (it is unfair to other teams if games are postponed and/or cancelled)

Teams not in league play still have the opportunity to arrange their own exhibition games throughout the season and take part in tournaments. A contact list of all HCAA teams and coaches will be sent to you to make it easier to arrange these.

**Senior teams do not have to be in league play in order to enter the SHSAA Regional/Provincial playdowns.** Senior league play and SHSAA play are two completely separate strands.

Sr. Boys leagues run Mondays and Wednesdays. They will start the second week of September and run for about six or seven weeks.

Sr. Girls leagues run Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will start the second week of September and run for about six or seven weeks.

Jr. Boys leagues run Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will start the second week of September and run for about four or five weeks.

Jr. Girls leagues run Mondays and Wednesdays. They will start the second week of September and run for about four or five weeks.

## **9. Funding – Horizon SD schools** *(non-Horizon SD schools shall consult their own Board/Band policy)*

### ***a) Finding the Funding Guides and Forms (Horizon SD schools)***

*All funding guides and forms can be found by going to the Horizon School Division website. Choose the “HCAA” link across the top. Choose the “Horizon SD Activities Funding Forms” (link found near the top right). They are kept here so that when you download your guide(s) and form(s), they are always the most current version.*

*Please take a moment to look and **read through everything on your program’s guide(s) and form(s) carefully so that before the season begins**, you are clear on what financial assistance is available for your program.*

### ***b) Soccer “Program” Defined (Horizon SD schools)***

*For the **purposes of funding**, a school may form and receive funding for up to four distinct soccer programs:*

- *Sr. Boys (grades 9-12)*
- *Sr. Girls (grades 9-12)*
- *Jr. Boys (grade 6-9; grade 5 players are not eligible)*
- *Jr. Girls (grade 6-9; grade 5 players are not eligible)*

*If any of these distinct programs splits into two (or more) teams, they are still considered a single program for the purposes of funding. Plan accordingly.*

### ***c) Funding Overview (Horizon SD schools)***

*Horizon SD provides funding to **assist** its schools in running their soccer programs. There are generally two parts to the funding:*

- a) a "regular season grant" – includes **all play for Junior and all league and tournament play for Senior**
- b) "playoff" funding – **Regionals/Provincials for Senior** (not applicable for Junior)

The maximum amount of money a school can request for a "regular season grant" is **determined using a calculation** (as outlined on the funding guide and form) that takes into account the number of days the program competed on (to a maximum number of days). "Competition" is defined as playing in sanctioned interschool competition (i.e. against teams from another school). **Refer to the funding guide and form for your specific program to determine the maximum grant possible for your program this season.**

It is very important to understand that the regular season grant is **NOT intended to cover all of your season's expenses**. It is an **assistance only**. For example, School A's season may consist of playing six junior league dates only (max. \$210 grant) and that \$210 may be enough to cover the season's expenses (officials, and gas money/mileage to the drivers for those days). School B, however, entered league play, attended a weekend tournament some distance away, and hosted their own tournament. They spent \$600 total in gas money/mileage to their drivers, \$440 on hotel rooms, and \$400 on officials. Their maximum grant will be \$280 whereas their expenses were \$1,440. It will be up to the team to figure out where they get the other \$1,160 from (Team/user fees? Fundraising?). **Knowing how the grant works before the season starts is imperative so you can budget/plan/fundraise accordingly.**

The "playoff" funding IS intended to cover actual mileage and accommodation (if necessary) expenses, notwithstanding some guidelines and limitations (read the funding guide and form for details).

#### **d) Out-of-Pocket Expenses (Horizon SD schools)**

Horizon SD allows for reimbursement of actual meal costs (to a maximum amount) and accommodation costs (to a maximum amount) for **one approved soccer coach** per program when meals and accommodations are necessary and while in supervision of the student-athletes. **Refer to the specific guide, form, and explanation sheet for details.**

Horizon SD schools may apply to Horizon SD for pre-approval of more than one coach incurring these expenses at the same time if there is an acceptable and approved reason.

#### **e) Funding Detail (Horizon SD schools)**

The best source for learning and getting clarification on funding for Horizon SD soccer programs and coach's out-of-pocket expenses is the **GUIDE that accompanies the form.**

## 10. Team Fees and Fundraising

Every school and every community has its own distinct nuances and history. Communicate with your school principal and school Athletic Director about what is deemed acceptable in your school/community when it comes to team fees and fundraising.

## 11. Communication with Student-Athletes & Parents/Guardians

Consult with your school principal as to what are acceptable methods of communicating with your student-athletes and with your parents/guardians.

## 12. Extra-Curricular Hours (*Horizon SD*)

*Horizon SD policy allows the earning of EDOs for hours in direct supervising of students outside of school hours while taking part in extra-curricular activities. Refer to the Horizon SD LINC agreement for details.*

*Careful record must be kept of all such hours. Speak with your principal about obtaining the form to use to keep track.*

**NOTE:** *Unless prior special approval has been granted, only 1 soccer coach per program can earn EDO hours at any given time.*

*Please also refer to Horizon SD Procedure AP-262*

*(<https://www.horizonsd.ca/Services/APsandForms/Pages/AP262.aspx>) for further clarification, or speak to your school administration or school Athletic Director.*

## 13. Booking and Payment of Officials

*In Horizon SD schools, each school (or school's program) is responsible for their own booking of and payment to officials for the following:*

- *Exhibition matches*
- *Invitational tournaments*
- *League matches (including playoffs)*

**Non-Horizon SD schools** will consult their own Board/Band policy.

It is highly recommended you have a competent/capable **adult** referee(s)\* all soccer matches. Schools are encouraged to get students involved as linespeople. Please make sure your linespeople have been

trained and are capable of handling the level of soccer they are assigned to. **NOTE: *each year, there are complaints over host teams NOT providing two linespeople for each match. Please do everything in your power to have all three officials in place for every match you host.***

*\*some teams have moved toward a 2-referee system*

In all schools, the SHSAA will assign and pay the officials for:

- Regionals
- Provincials

A list of officials is posted on the “officials” page on the HCAA website.

There is no soccer officials association in the HCAA and thus no official pay scale for when a school hires a soccer official. Thus schools and officials should agree on a fee per match prior to any matches taking place. The referee’s experience and qualifications, the level of competition, and current SHSAA, HCAA, and/or SSOA rates could all be factored into an agreed upon fee.

Having said this, most if not all competent adult soccer referees use the SHSAA rate of \$40 per match. The rate of pay for linespeople is all over the map. Please discuss payment rates with your hired officials before they officiate for you so there are no misunderstandings when it comes time to pay them. As for student referees, what you pay them is dependent on their ability level and their and your expectations. Again, discuss payment rates with your hired officials before they officiate for you so there are no misunderstandings when it comes time to pay them.

Here is a suggested guideline:

- Adult and qualified/certified/capable student referees:
  - \$40.00/match for senior matches (45-minute halves)
  - At least \$32.00/match for junior matches (35-minute halves)
- Student referees in training:
  - \$30.00/match for senior matches (45-minute halves)
  - \$24.00/match for junior matches (35-minute halves)
- Linespeople:
  - Completely up to you/them (based on age, experience, past practice, etc.)

It is generally accepted that mileage payments will be \$0.40/km. Again, check with your officials when hiring them to ensure this is mutually agreed upon.

## **14. Travel – Horizon SD schools** *(non-Horizon SD schools shall consult their own Board/Band policy)*

### **a) Booking and Reimbursement (Horizon SD)**

*For play at all levels, the school program is responsible for making their own travel arrangements.*

*For all “regular season” play, the school/school program is responsible for all costs.*

*For Regionals and Provincials, Horizon SD will reimburse travel costs. Some parameters and restrictions apply; refer to your funding guides and forms for details.*

*Approved methods of travel include:*

- *Private vehicles. All drivers must have a current approved driver’s form on file at the school prior to travel.*
- *12 or 15 passenger vans (owned or rented) that meet the Board’s criteria. Ensure this is cost efficient (cost of a 12 or 15 passenger van is typically less than paying mileage to two private vehicles).*
- *School buses. Regionals and Provincials, ensure this is cost efficient (overall cost to Horizon SD for a Southland school bus is slightly more than paying mileage to four private vehicles)*
- *Charter buses. For Regionals and Provincials, costs would be covered only up to the equivalent of private vehicles mileage or a school bus cost, whichever is less.*

### **b) Travel Forms (Horizon SD)**

*When utilizing private vehicles, all drivers must have:*

- *a current school year approved driver’s form on file at the school prior to travel.*
- *a current (as defined by Horizon SD procedure) Vulnerable Sector Check on file at the school prior to travel.*

*Any exceptions must be pre-approved (consult your principal).*

*When traveling, a travel roster must be submitted to your school’s office prior to departure.*

*Please consult your school office if you have questions.*

### **c) Weather and Road Conditions**

All travel involves some degree of risk. Student safety is of the utmost importance and must always be given careful consideration. When weather and road conditions are less than ideal, weigh the conditions with student safety carefully and consult school administration before traveling.

Some competitions will proceed even when some teams are not able to attend due to weather and road conditions (e.g. SHSAA playoffs). Although this can be heartbreaking, student safety must take priority over trying to win championships.

## **15. Medical Considerations**

### **a) First Aid Kit**

It is recommended teams carry their own first aid kit with them at all times.

### **b) Medical Forms**

The SHSAA and HCAA ask that all schools have their student-athletes complete form E-7 (SHSAA Handbook) annually. They also recommend coaches have a copy with them (confidentially) when traveling.

### **c) Concussion Protocol**

Along with the qualifications referred to in section 1. a) ii), coaches are reminded they must be aware of current concussion protocol and must follow this protocol when a concussion is suspected. Rule of thumb – “when in doubt, sit them out”.

*The Horizon SD concussion protocol (Procedure AP-497) can be found at <https://www.horizonsd.ca/Services/APsandForms/Pages/AP497.aspx>*

## **16. Coach Contact Lists**

Once compiled, Brian Grest will distribute a list of coaches to assist you with communication and scheduling games with other teams.

## **Appendix A – Required Courses for Coaches**

Click [HERE](#) to view the most current information.