

Burlington County Scholastic League
Mercy Rule for Soccer and Field Hockey

Despite individual schools' attempts to prevent excessively lopsided scores, this issue has remained problematic. As a result of this, the BCSL is instituting new guidelines for the Fall 2006 season for soccer and field hockey. No team will be allowed to surpass a seven-goal difference in league matches. For example, scores may not exceed 7-0, 8-1, or 9-2 etc. If the losing team scores one or more goals, lessening the differential, the winning team may then seek to score the same amount of goals, thus returning the differential to seven goals. If a team or teams violate this new rule, the school will be subject to the following League sanctions:

First infraction of the rule will result in a letter from the League president to the school's Head Coach, Athletic Director, Principal and Superintendent.

Second infraction of the rule will result in a one-game suspension of the school's Head Coach and notification to the Athletic Director, Principal and Superintendent.

Third infraction of the rule will result in a two-game suspension of the Head Coach. The coach, accompanied by the school's Athletic Director and Principal, will also be required to appear before the League president and Sportsmanship Committee.

Fourth infraction of the rule will result in the League recommending suspension of the Head Coach for the remainder of the season and any other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the League.