

Gottschalk MCAL Soccer Report

Every End is a New Beginning

Winter sports are under way, and teams across the league are starting their preparations for another run at a MCAL Championships. Many faces are gone from last year, including twelve ALL-MCAL First Teamers, and ten more from the Second Team and Honorable Mention combined. New faces will emerge, new players will step up and become the ones that shape the outcome of the league this season. Optimism is flowing around the league, and only time will tell which school will be the last one standing...

The 2017-18 season will be an end of an era of sorts, as this will mark the final season that Justin-Siena will take part in the MCAL. Next season they will join a league with other schools from Sonoma County. While many will rejoice in no longer having to make the trek to Napa, it will have an impact on schedules moving forward. Dropping down to nine teams creates a situation where one team will have a bye on each match day, and we will have to rework the format of the schedule to adjust to an odd number of teams.

One option was to adopt a double round robin format, meaning every team would play each other team twice. This format would eliminate the unbalanced schedules, but based on timelines it will also require teams to play three-game weeks, which is a lot for soccer players. Yes, teams already do play three game weeks in order to get non-conference games in, but each school has control over when and where to place those games, and the strength of the opponent. A double round robin would require schools to play even more three game weeks to get non-conference games in, putting the players at risk more often than the current system does. To make the schedule fit, there is also an option to reduce the playoff teams down to four. Another option was presented which would see a school play four teams twice one year, and the other four teams twice the next year. So over a two year period, each school will have played each of the other schools twice in one of the seasons. Schedules amongst teams of like ability, based on results of the previous two seasons, would be relatively the same, creating more competitive balance than the current system. The latter also had an option of an all inclusive playoff, similar to the West Coast Conference Basketball Playoff in the NCAA.

Time will tell if either option above, or another option, gets adopted. If it does go to a double round robin, we would then need to reassess which title should now hold more weight. Currently, the winner of the MCAL Playoff earns the automatic NCS bid, and is seen as the true champion of the MCAL, and with teams playing different schedules in the regular season it makes sense. If you now have every team playing every other team twice, then the winner of the regular season, having proved they were the best over 16 games, should earn the automatic bid, with the MCAL Playoff being a secondary pennant being battled for that can serve as a last opportunity for teams to earn important wins for NCS acceptance/seeding.

Time to enjoy our last 10-team season, so grab your rain gear, some hot chocolate, and see you out on the pitch...

VARSITY TABLE

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	GD	PTS	Overall
Branson									
Drake									
Justin-Siena									
Marin Catholic									
Novato									
Redwood									
San Marin									
San Rafael									
Tamalpais									
Terra Linda									

Matchday 1 - Dec 2nd

Branson v Terra Linda
 San Marin v Justin-Siena
 San Rafael v Novato
 Drake v Marin Catholic
 Tamalpais v Redwood

Matchday 2 - Dec 5th

Terra Linda v San Rafael
 Redwood v Drake
 Novato v Tamalpais
 Marin Catholic v San Marin
 Justin-Siena v Branson

Matchday 3 - Dec 9th

Branson v Novato
 Justin-Siena v Terra Linda
 Marin Catholic v Tamalpais
 Redwood v San Marin
 Drake v San Rafael

Matchday 4 - Dec 16th

Terra Linda v Redwood
 Tamalpais v Justin-Siena
 San Rafael v San Marin
 Novato v Marin Catholic
 Branson v Drake

Matchday 5 - Jan 3rd

Justin-Siena v San Rafael
 Marin Catholic v Terra Linda
 Redwood v Novato
 San Marin v Branson (1/2)
 Drake v Tamalpais

Matchday 6 - Jan 6th

Terra Linda v Drake
 San Marin v Tamalpais
 Redwood v San Rafael
 Justin-Siena v Novato
 Branson v Marin Catholic

Matchday 7 - Jan 9th

Justin-Siena v Redwood
 Marin Catholic v San Rafael
 Novato v Drake
 Tamalpais v Branson
 Terra Linda v San Marin

Matchday 8 - Jan 13th

Drake v San Marin
 San Rafael v Tamalpais
 Novato v Terra Linda
 Marin Catholic v Justin-Siena
 Branson v Redwood

Matchday 9 - Jan 17th

Redwood v Marin Catholic
 San Marin v Novato
 San Rafael v Branson
 Drake v Justin-Siena
 Tamalpais v Terra Linda

Matchday 10 - Jan 20th

Terra Linda v Branson
 Redwood v Tamalpais
 Novato v San Rafael
 Marin Catholic v Drake
 Justin-Siena v San Marin

Matchday 11 - Jan 23rd

Branson v Justin-Siena
 San Marin v Marin Catholic
 San Rafael v Terra Linda
 Drake v Redwood
 Tamalpais v Novato

Matchday 12 - Jan 27th

Terra Linda v Justin-Siena
 Tamalpais v Marin Catholic
 San Rafael v Drake
 San Marin v Redwood
 Novato v Branson

Matchday 13 - Jan 31st

Justin-Siena v Tamalpais
 Marin Catholic v Novato
 Redwood v Terra Linda
 San Marin v San Rafael
 Drake v Branson

Matchday 14 - Feb 2nd

Terra Linda v Marin Catholic
 Tamalpais v Drake
 San Rafael v Justin-Siena
 Novato v Redwood
 Branson v San Marin

League Leaders

(Top 15)

	Goals	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

	Assists	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

	Points	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

	Game Winning Goals	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		

	GK - GAA (Min. 7 GM)	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		

	Shutouts	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		

	Team Fair Play Table	Pts
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
	Yellow = 1, Red = 2	

	Team GPG	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

	Team GAA	#
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		

	Hat-Tricks	#
1		

	PK Saves	#
1		

	Free-Kick Goals	#
1		

JUNIOR VARSTIY TABLE

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	GD	Pts
Branson								
Drake								
Justin-Siena								
Marin Catholic								
Novato								
Redwood								
San Marin								
San Rafael								
Tamalpais								
Terra Linda								

Matchday 1 - Dec 2nd

Terra Linda v Branson
Justin-Siena v San Marin
Novato v San Rafael
Marin Catholic v Drake
Redwood v Tamalpais

Matchday 2 - Dec 5th

San Rafael v Terra Linda
Drake v Redwood
Tamalpais v Novato
San Marin v Marin Catholic
Branson v Justin-Siena

Matchday 3 - Dec 9th

Novato v Branson
Terra Linda v Justin-Siena
Tamalpais v Marin Catholic
Redwood v San Marin
San Rafael v Drake

Matchday 4 - Dec 16th

Redwood v Terra Linda
Justin-Siena v Tamalpais
San Marin v San Rafael
Marin Catholic v Novato
Drake v Branson

Matchday 5 - Jan 3rd

San Rafael v Justin-Siena
Terra Linda v Marin Catholic
Novato v Redwood
Branson v San Marin
Tamalpais v Drake

Matchday 6 - Jan 6th

Drake v Terra Linda
Tamalpais v San Marin
San Rafael v Redwood
Novato v Justin-Siena
Marin Catholic v Branson

Matchday 7 - Jan 9th

Redwood v Justin-Siena
San Rafael v Marin Catholic
Drake v Novato
Branson v Tamalpais
San Marin v Terra Linda

Matchday 8 - Jan 13th

San Marin v Drake
Tamalpais v San Rafael
Terra Linda v Novato
Justin-Siena v Marin Catholic
Redwood v Branson

Matchday 9 - Jan 17th

Marin Catholic v Redwood
Novato v San Marin
Branson v San Rafael
Justin-Siena v Drake
Terra Linda v Tamalpais

Matchday 10 - Jan 20th

Branson v Terra Linda
Tamalpais v Redwood
San Rafael v Novato
Drake v Marin Catholic
San Marin v Justin-Siena

Matchday 11 - Jan 23rd

Justin-Siena v Branson
Marin Catholic v San Marin
Terra Linda v San Rafael
Redwood v Drake
Novato v Tamalpais

Matchday 12 - Jan 27th

Justin-Siena v Terra Linda
Marin Catholic v Tamalpais
Drake v San Rafael
Redwood v San Marin
Branson v Novato

Matchday 13 - Jan 31st

Tamalpais v Justin-Siena
Novato v Marin Catholic
Terra Linda v Redwood
San Rafael v San Marin
Branson v Drake

Matchday 14 - Feb 2nd

Marin Catholic v Terra Linda
Drake v Tamalpais
Justin-Siena v San Rafael
Redwood v Novato
San Marin v Branson

MCAL COMBINED TABLE

Team	GP	W	L	T	Pts
Branson					
Drake					
Justin-Siena					
Marin Catholic					
Novato					
Redwood					
San Marin					
San Rafael					
Tamalpais					
Terra Linda					

A LOOK AHEAD AT THE NCS

(Will begin after week two of MCAL play)

MCAL

Overall Record

Notes

NCS Magic Number*

Others

Overall Record

Notes

NCS Magic Number*

*2 pts for a win, 1 for a draw. Team needs to be .500 overall, in league, or in classification to be eligible.

Varsity Non-Conference Tracker

Branson 11/28 at El Molino 11/30 at Marin Academy 12/12 v Sonoma Academy 12/14 at Urban 12/21 v Richmond	Drake 11/16 v Piner 11/21 at El Cerrito 11/27 v Pinole 11/30 v Encinal 12/13 v Hercules	Justin-Siena 11/20 at El Molino 11/29 at Vintage 11/30 at Sonoma Acad.
Marin Catholic 12/1 at Urban 12/14 at Napa	Novato 11/30 at Windsor 12/18 at American Canyon 12/20 at Richmond	Redwood 11/28 v Marin Academy 11/30 v Casa Grande 12/7 at Montgomery
San Marin 11/28 v Cardinal Newman 12/7 v Petaluma 12/13 at Tennyson 12/14 at Sonoma Academy 12/22 v Elsie Allen 1/5 at Montgomery	San Rafael 11/15 at Richmond 11/17 at Alhambra 11/21 at Hercules 11/27 at Elsie Allen 11/29 at Tennyson 12/7 at Concord 12/12 at Encinal 12/18 at Ygnacio Valley	Tamalpais 11/22 v Windsor 11/27 at Richmond 11/29 at Miramonte 12/7 v Lowell 12/13 v Las Lomas 1/15 v Marin Academy
Terra Linda 11/27 v Healdsburg 11/29 v Piner 12/11 v Petaluma 12/13 at Rancho Cotati 12/21 at Templeton	MCAL v Others vs BCL West vs NBL vs DFAL vs SCL vs DVAL Overall vs MVAL vs TCAL	

Other Contenders

<u>D4 - University</u>	<u>D4 - Head-Royce</u>	<u>D4 - Marin Academy</u>	<u>D4 - Lick-Wilmerding</u>	<u>D4 - Urban</u>
11/28 v Sonoma Acad. 12/1 v Madera 12/6 v St Joe's 12/8 at Head-Royce 12/12 v Crystal Springs 12/15 v Lowell 1/5 at Vintage 1/6 at Napa 1/10 at Lick-Wilmerding 1/12 at Marin Academy 1/16 at Urban 1/18 at St Joe's 1/24 v Head-Royce 1/26 v Lick-Wilmerding 1/30 v Marin Academy 2/2 v Urban	11/30 v Piedmont 12/5 v Moreau Catholic 12/8 v University 12/19 at Albany 12/21 at St. Mary's 1/5 at Urban 1/10 at Marin Academy 1/12 v St. Joe's 1/17 v Lick-Wilmerding 1/19 v Urban 1/24 at University 1/26 v Marin Academy 1/30 at St Joe's 2/2 at Lick-Wilmerding	11/28 at Redwood 11/30 v Branson 12/5 at Lick-Wilmerding 12/8 v Sacred Heart Cath. 1/3 at Urban 1/6 v De Anza 1/10 v Head-Royce 1/13 v University 1/15 at Tam 1/16 v St. Joe's 1/19 v Lick-Wilmerding 1/24 v Urban 1/26 at Head-Royce 1/30 at University 2/1 at St. Joe's	12/1 at Lowell 12/5 v Marin Academy 12/8 at St. Joe's 12/12 v Piedmont 1/5 at Miramonte 1/10 v University 1/12 v Urban 1/17 at Head-Royce 1/19 at Marin Academy 1/24 v St. Joe's 1/26 at University 1/30 at Urban 2/2 v Head-Royce	11/29 at Menlo 12/1 v Marin Catholic 12/5 v Moreau Cath. 12/8 v Castilleja 12/12 at Lowell 12/14 v Branson 12/21 at Sacred HC 12/22 at Berean Chr. 12/28 at Mercy 1/3 v Marin Academy 1/5 v Head-Royce 1/10 at St Joe's 1/12 at Lick 1/16 v Uni 1/19 at Head-Royce 1/24 at Marin Acad. 1/26 v St Joe's 1/30 v Lick Wilmerding 2/2 at University
<u>D4 - Piedmont</u>	<u>D4 - Sonoma Academy</u>	<u>D3 - Analy</u>	<u>D3 - Acalanes</u>	<u>D3 - Miramonte</u>
11/28 v Acalanes 11/30 at Head-Royce 12/5 at Kennedy Freemont 12/12 at Lick-Wilmerding 12/14 v Northgate 12/19 at Miramonte 12/21 v Pittsburg 1/8 v Campolindo 1/10 at Mt. Eden 1/12 v Bishop O'Dowd 1/17 v Castro Valley 1/19 at Arroyo 1/22 at Berean Christian 1/24 at Berkeley 1/26 v Mt. Eden 1/30 at Bishop O'Dowd 2/2 at Castro Valley 2/7 v Arroyo 2/9 v Berkeley	11/28 at University 11/30 v Justin-Siena 12/4 v St. Pat. St. Vin. 12/8 at Napa 12/12 at Branson 12/14 v San Marin 12/18 v Piner 12/21 at Healdsburg 1/3 v Elsie Allen 1/10 v Sonoma Valley 1/17 at Analy 1/19 v El Molino 1/22 v Petaluma 1/24 at Elsie Allen 1/26 at Piner 1/29 v Sonoma Valley 1/31 v Healdsburg 2/2 at Petaluma 2/7 v Analy 2/9 at El Molino	11/28 v Maria Carrillo 12/4 v Rancho Cotate 12/6 at Windsor 12/12 at Ukiah 1/3 at El Molino 1/5 at Petaluma 1/10 v Elsie Allen 1/12 at Piner 1/15 v Healdsburg 1/17 v Sonoma Academy 1/19 v Sonoma Valley 1/24 v El Molino 1/26 v Petaluma 1/29 at Elsie Allen 1/31 v Piner 2/2 at Healdsburg 2/7 at Sonoma Academy 2/9 at Sonoma Valley	12/1 v Antioch 12/5 at Livermore 12/13 v Clayton Valley 12/16 at Northgate 1/3 v Montgomery 1/10 v College Park 1/12 v Alhambra 1/13 at California 1/17 at Campolindo 1/19 at Las Lomas 1/24 v Miramonte 1/26 at College Park 1/31 at Alhambra 2/2 v Campolindo 2/7 v Las Lomas 2/9 at Miramonte	12/1 at El Cerrito 12/4 at Deer Valley 12/6 v Northgate 12/16 v Castro Valley 12/19 v Piedmont 1/10 v Campolindo 1/12 v Las Lomas 1/17 at Alhambra 1/19 v College Park 1/24 at Acalanes 1/26 at Campolindo 1/29 v Alameda 1/31 at Las Lomas 2/2 v Alhambra 2/7 at College Park 2/9 v Acalanes
<u>D3 - Campolindo</u>	<u>D2 - Montgomery</u>	<u>D2 - Livermore</u>	<u>D2 - Las Lomas</u>	<u>D2 - Casa Grande</u>
11/30 at Ygnacio Valley 12/2 v Madera 12/4 v De Anza 12/7 v Clayton Valley Ch. 12/9 v Windsor 1/10 at Miramonte 1/12 at College Park 1/17 v Acalanes 1/19 at Alhambra 1/22 v Castro Valley 1/24 v Las Lomas 1/26 v Miramonte 1/29 at Berean Christian 1/31 v College Park 2/2 at Acalanes 2/7 v Alhambra 2/9 at Las Lomas	11/30 at Davis 12/7 v Redwood 12/8 v Santa Rosa 12/12 at Napa 12/16 v Maria Carillo 12/20 v Cardinal Newman 12/22 at Ukiah 1/3 at Acalanes 1/5 v San Marin 1/10 v Windsor 1/12 at Casa Grande 1/17 v Rancho Cotate 1/19 at Santa Rosa 1/24 v Maria Carillo 1/26 v Cardinal Newman 1/31 v Ukiah 2/2 at Windsor 2/7 v Casa Grande 2/9 at Rancho Cotate	12/4 v Washington 12/5 v Acalanes 12/14 at Amador Valley 12/16 v Windsor 12/19 at Dublin 12/21 v Foothill 1/8 v Alameda 1/9 v Granada 1/11 v Dougherty Valley 1/18 at California 1/23 at San Ramon Valley 1/25 at Monte Vista 1/30 v Amador Valley 2/1 v Dublin 2/6 at Foothill 2/8 at Granada	12/5 v Monte Vista 12/9 at Northgate 12/13 at Tamalpais 12/15 at Benicia 1/10 v Alhambra 1/12 at Miramonte 1/17 v College Park 1/19 v Acalanes 1/24 at Campolindo 1/26 at Alhambra 1/29 at Concord 1/31 v Miramonte 2/2 at College Park 2/7 at Acalanes 2/9 v Campolindo	11/28 v Petaluma 11/30 at Redwood 12/6 at Sonoma Aca. 12/8 v Rancho 12/15 at Windsor 12/16 v California 12/20 v Carillo 12/22 at Newman 1/5 at Alameda 1/10 at Ukiah 1/12 v Montgomery 1/17 at Santa Rosa 1/19 at Rancho 1/24 v Windsor 1/26 at Carillo 1/31 v Newman 2/2 v Ukiah 2/7 at Montgomery 2/9 v Santa Rosa