



Executive Summary: Dissolution of Boys and Girls Soccer Co-ops with Belle Plaine

Submitted by: John Buteyn/Brittany Barker

Since our soccer programs' inception, we have had a co-op in both our boys and girls programs with Belle Plaine. We are the flagship of the co-op, and Belle Plaine students have competed for our teams under our Jordan brands. When the programs were started over a decade ago, Belle Plaine's participation was needed and beneficial to sustain program health and development.

Over the last several years, participation among Jordan student-athletes in soccer has continued to grow, while Belle Plaine's participation numbers have remained small. Last season, of 22 rostered Varsity boys athletes, 19 were from Jordan and three from Belle Plaine. Of the 19 rostered Varsity players on the girls side, only one was from Belle Plaine.

Combining Jordan's enrollment with half of Belle Plaine's enrollment, which is how the MSHSL determines competitive classification for co-ops, places our soccer programs at the AA level for postseason competition. Without Belle Plaine's enrollment number added on, Jordan's enrollment alone would place us at the A level for postseason competition. We have reached the point where the level of participation we have seen and

continue to see from Belle Plaine does not justify our placement in a higher level of competition, and Jordan is capable of sustaining healthy soccer programs on its own without the support of a co-op. It is our recommendation that our co-ops with Belle Plaine in both boys and girls soccer be dissolved beginning with the 2027-28 school year.