

Athletic Conference for Soccer

Background:

Of the eighteen schools in the Top of Iowa Conference, only Garner-Hayfield-Ventura and Belmond-Klemme offer the sports of girls' and boys' soccer. This creates some scheduling challenges for us.

Fortunately, the North Central Conference—without any prompting or inquiry by us—has invited us (and GHV) to join their conference for soccer only. The North Central Conference consists of the following schools:

- Algona,
- Clarion-Goldfield-Dows,
- Clear Lake,
- Hampton-Dumont,
- Humboldt,
- Iowa Falls-Alden,
- Saint Edmond of Fort Dodge, and
- Webster City.

Of those eight schools, the following five offer soccer:

- ✓ Clear Lake,
- ✓ Hampton-Dumont,
- ✓ Humboldt,
- ✓ Iowa Falls-Alden, and
- ✓ Webster City.

This is a fortuitous opportunity. Belmond-Klemme sits in the midst of these five schools, and they already represented our best options for games. Although these schools are all a little larger than us, there are few schools our size who host soccer. Plus, these are the schools we were playing when we were partnered with the Hampton-Dumont program.

Options and/or Alternatives:

Without the North Central Conference, our best options for games include the following schools:

School	Enrollment	Class
Ames	1,046	3A
Ballard	461	2A
Boone	894	2A
Carroll	510	2A
Charles City	387	2A
East Sac County	174	1A
GCGR, Gladbrook-Reinbeck	252	1A
Kuemper Catholic, Carroll	219	1A
Mason City	1,321	3A

Recommended Action:

I recommend the board move to approve membership in the North Central Athletic Conference for the purposes of girls' and boys' soccer only.