

(DRAFT)

**Ball Runners Coordinator
Job Description**

Purpose: To provide ball retrieval personnel (girls or boys) for each Portage Northern High School soccer match, both Junior Varsity and Varsity contests.

Background: There is a misconception generally concerning the ball retrieval boys and girls. They are usually viewed as some ‘kids’ chasing and retrieving errant soccer balls, but in essence, they are an essential element of the soccer match; second only to the referees and other game officials. The tasks they perform insure the smooth, continuous flow of the game. If there is any doubt in anyone’s mind about what a ball runner contributes to a soccer match, just ask any referee, coach or player.

It is Portage Northern high school’s responsibility to provide ball runners for **ALL** home matches; including tournaments as well as post season: state districts and regionals. *(If we host state districts and/or state districts, we are still obligated to provide ball runners even if Portage Northern’s team has been eliminated).*

Note: We have had and currently have girls and boys on the JV and Varsity teams who have been ball runners for us.

To reduce the burden it is strongly recommended that there should be a coordinator for the JV team and another coordinator for the Varsity team. *(They should consider backing each other up).*

Coordinators responsibility:

- 1) To recruit ball runners. Prior ball runner experience and soccer knowledge ability is extremely helpful, but not essential (announcer booth staff will train).**
- 2) Insure the following requirement is satisfied. A minimum of two to a maximum of six; ideal staffing is four for each soccer match; JV and Varsity.**
- 3) Have the recruited ball runners report to announcer's booth 10 minutes before the scheduled start time. (Exception is ANY championship match, than its 15 minutes).**
- 4) The announcer booth staff will log them in, provide a jersey, assess their experience, provide instructions and make specific assignments. New people will receive specific job instructions (their performance will be monitored during the match by the booth staff and helpful mentoring will be provided). They will then be introduced to the referee and his staff for final instructions.**
- 5) The ball runners who were allocated a ball have the added responsibility to insure that the ball is in a safe/secure place during the half time of the match. The balls are an expensive and desirable commodity.**
- 6) During half time of the match all assigned ball runners will be entitled to whatever treat(s) deemed appropriate by the concession stand staff. The coordinator should monitor them during this time to insure they have returned to their duty assignments 1-2 minutes prior to start of the second half of the match.**
- 7) At the completion of the match, they must return the jersey and ball (if they were allocated one) to the announcer's booth.**