



TO: FOOTBALL COACH

**FROM: JERRY SCHNIEPP, COMMISSIONER
JOHN LABETA, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**

DATE: JUNE 24, 2015

RE: 2015 FOOTBALL PRESEASON BULLETIN

1. **PRESEASON ADVISORY MEETING**
July 29, 2015 - 4:00 p.m., Hall of Champions, CIFSDS Office.
2. **POST-SEASON ADVISORY MEETING**
December 9, 2015 - 4:30 p.m., Hall of Champions, Board Room.
3. **OFFICIAL PLAYOFF FOOTBALL**
Rawlings has graciously agreed to provide all the section playoff footballs and will be the official football for the **2015 5CIF-San Diego Section Football Playoffs**.
Reminder: The **Rawlings** football will be mandatory for all rounds of the playoffs.
4. **2015 RULES BOOK**
A copy of the **2015** National Federation Football Rules Book is being mailed to schools for varsity coach. It is the official rules book for the CIF and governs all interscholastic football competition in the San Diego Section unless otherwise provided in the Green Book or bulletins. Please note carefully the rule changes from those by which the CIF operated during the **2014** season. **NOTE: Any football used in CIF competition, must have the NFHS authentication mark on the ball.**
5. **GREEN BOOK**
Coaches are advised to review general eligibility rules as well as special Football rules listed in the **2015-16** Green Book. Copies of this book are made available to school administrators in August. For more information contact your school administration or the CIFSDS website @ www.cifsd.org, click on Green Book.
Consent information for 14 year old student to participate in Varsity Football Practices and or Games:

- The **Consent for 14-Year-Old Student to Participate in Varsity Football** form must be submitted and approved via CIFSDS Home by **Wednesday, November 4, 2015** at the close of

the business day to be eligible to compete. The form may also be found on the CIFSDS website under Football and Misc. Forms.

The **Parent/Guardian Consent for 14-Year-Old Student to Participate in Varsity Football** form must be submitted and approved via your school site to be eligible to compete. Parents may find the conditions for participation along with the copy of the parent/guardian consent form and the-principal’s verification form that the student has satisfied all requirements in order to request participation of a 14 year old in football contests or scrimmages. The form may be found on the CIFSDS website under Football and Misc. Forms.

- Please be advised that State CIF rule 1900 allows athletes less than 15 years of age to participate in varsity football provided the proper documentation is provided.
- Letters from the doctor and the football coach as well as parent consent form are to be kept on file at your school site. **A copy of the principal’s verification form must be sent to the CIFSDS office prior to the first contest or scrimmage athlete is to compete in.**
- Due dates for this consent form have changed please make sure and note the date these are due as the playoffs approach.

6. **RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES FOR GAME MANAGEMENT**

The form titled Recommended Guidelines for Game Management is available online at www.cifsd.org, click on Forms, Miscellaneous.

7. **CONDITIONING WEEK**

Number of Practice Days; No Sunday Practice

- There shall be no football games until the squad has had 14 days of practice before the first game. Each individual student on the team must have had at least 10 days of practice before being allowed to compete in a game. (The opening date of football practice may be determined by each Section.) No Sunday practice is permitted (See Bylaw 310 for exception).

Scrimmage Limitations

- No individual student shall participate in an interscholastic scrimmage before his/her 10th day of practice for that particular school. Scrimmage is defined as practice where the teams alternate in carrying the ball, downs are not counted, no score is kept and the coaches are on the field directing play.

8. **ORGANIZED TEAM PRACTICE**

Practice will begin on that date which allows for 28 practices prior to the first football game.

9. **MAXIMUM CONTESTS**

San Diego CIF Football teams will be permitted to compete in a season maximum of 10 contests in addition to one scrimmage or carnival and any post-regular season CIFSDS competition. Should a total of two scrimmages and/or carnivals be desired, a maximum of nine contests may be played.

10. **COMPETITION DATES**

August 20, 2015- First possible scrimmage
August 28, 2015 - First possible interscholastic contest
November 6, 2015 - Last possible pre-playoff competition

11. **ETHICS IN SPORTS” POLICY**

Coaches are reminded of the “ETHICS IN SPORTS” Policy:

EJECTION POLICY:

Any player whose conduct merits ejection from a game by an official for acts of *gross unsportsmanlike conduct* shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of the game and will be subject to the following penalties:

In all sports with the exception of football, the penalty will be ejection from that contest and a 6 or 3 game/match suspension; in the sport of football, the penalty will be ejection from that contest and a 3 game suspension.

Any athlete ejected for act of this nature is required to meet with the CIFSDS Commissioner or Assistant Commissioner at an agreed upon time prior to returning to play.

Ejections for reasons other than “gross unsportsmanlike conduct” will result in a penalty of ejection from that contest and a one (1) game/match suspension. A one game suspension may not be appealed.

After the suspension from play, the student may only return after certification by the school principal or his/her designee that the student(s) has completed a conference with a school administrator. The appropriate form indicating the completion of the conference must be filed with the San Diego Section office prior to “rejoining the team” (“rejoining the team” is in reference to competition, not practice).

A second ejection from a game or contest will cause the student to be suspended for the remainder of the season. Participation of a player who was ejected from a previous contest, who knowingly or unknowingly participates in the next contest, will result in the forfeiture of that contest.

Players are permitted to practice with the team and attend contests, but not in game uniform, during the period of suspension.

A copy of the revised policy must be signed by each coach, athlete and parent/guardian before attending or participating in a contest. The signed copies are to be filed at each school site, and each Principal is to forward a compliance form to the CIFSDS Office.

NOTE: Compliance form due dates are as follows:

Fall Sports = September 1, 2015; Winter Sports = November 23, 2015; Spring Sports = March 1, 2016.

12. **COACHING CERTIFICATION**

Reminder that all coaches (paid or unpaid) must be certified in coaching. Coaches may become certified online for a fee of \$52.00 or in a classroom setting by one of California’s instructors. For information, go to State CIF website www.cifstate.org and click on one of the following links:

- About CIF Coaching Education Program
- CIF/NFHS Online Coaching Education Course (\$52.00 per coach)

13. **REMINDER - COACHING COMPENSATION (CIF STATE BYLAW 507)**
 A coach shall not be reimbursed for coaching services from any source other than the school funds without the approval of the school's governing board, nor be subject to any bonus arrangement dependent upon the success of the school's team.
14. **PLAYOFF FORMAT**
 2015 CIFSDS 11-man playoffs will be conducted in six (6) divisions based upon divisional placement done thru the CIFSDS office
15. **PLAYOFF DATES – PROPOSED (STATE PLAYOFF INFORMATION TO FOLLOW)**
- Regular season-ending games - **Friday, November 6 2015.**
 - Pairing Meeting on **Saturday, November 7** – pairings will be announced.
 - First Round (Division I-V) at home site of higher seed – **November 13.**
 - Quarterfinals (Division I-V), Open Division at home of higher seed – **Friday, November 20.**
 - Semifinals (Division I-V), Open Division at **TBA – Friday November 27.**

 - **Championship Site- Southwestern College- Friday December 4, Saturday December 5**
16. **OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION--RULES INTERPRETATIONS—ASSIGNMENT SECRETARY**
San Diego County Football Officials Association:
 President – Earl Totty – 951-970-5086 or earltotty@verizon.net
 Rules Interpreter/CIFSDS Liaison - Steve Coover - 619-921-3006 or cooversteve@gmail.com
 Assigner - Tom Ables - 619-997-7684 or AssignSDCFOA@aol.com
Imperial Valley Football Association:
 President - Stan Armstrong - 760-562-7348 or swarmstrong@cityofimperial.org
 Assigner - Alan Phillips - 760-353-8180 or alanp@icoe.k12.ca.us
17. **HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM**
 The CIF-San Diego Section is beginning its **20th year** of a High School Sports Sponsorship Program to help offset the ever-increasing costs of conducting section championships in all sports. The purpose of the program is to seek and solicit support (financial, products, or services) from individuals, organizations, and businesses desiring to sponsor CIFSDS activities; the CIFSDS provides specific sponsorship acknowledgment for that support. The goal of the High School Sports Sponsorship Program is to have each of the 22 section-approved sports sponsored by a wide range of the San Diego community. For an application or more information on the sports sponsorship program, please contact the CIF-San Diego Section office or visit our web site at www.cifsd.org.

Email Distribution:
 Varsity Football Coach
 Athletic Director
 Conference Presidents/Schedulers
 Roger Blake, Ron Nocetti - State CIF
 Earl Totty, Tom Ables, Steve Coover – SDCFOA
 Stan Armstrong, Alan Phillips – IVFOA
 Gary Chapman, Mike Dolan – Co-Tournament Director

(football/preseason-fb-2015)

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