

# C. I. F., SOUTHERN SECTION MONTHLY BULLETIN

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## COUNCIL MEETING—FEBRUARY 4, 1939

The first Council meeting of the year will occur Saturday, February 4 at 9:30 A. M. at the C. I. F. Office in the South Pasadena High School. The chief business of the Council on this occasion will be the arrangement of the leagues for the year 1939-40. The recommendations of Mr. Hayhurst's Committee on relegating were published in the December Bulletin. The meeting of the Council will probably continue into the afternoon. A luncheon will be arranged for Council members.

The meetings of the Council are all open to school men interested in the work of the C. I. F., Southern Section. Principals, Vice-Principals, Directors of Physical Education and Coaches may address the meeting but may not vote on questions before the Council.

## WE SHOULD KEEP THE PLAY-OFFS

JOHN E. ALMAN

Principal, South Pasadena High School

All my life I have been an ardent fan for and believer in amateur sports for high school boys. I have often said that I would not care to be the principal of a high school that did not encourage athletics for boys. I thoroughly believe they should be given every encouragement even to the extent of our Boards of Education seeing to it that all teams are well equipped and if the income for games does not meet the expense, then the District should meet the deficit.

Our annual play-offs, especially in football, gives these schools an opportunity to replenish their treasury. It also gives the C. I. F. funds for carrying on its work. Our play-offs pay us financially, but outside of the financial consideration are they worth while? Do they serve a purpose in creating good sportsmanship between schools? Do they help to build into the conscience of our boys and girls, the elements of fair play? Do they help create better relations between schools? Do they bring the C. I. F. into the picture in such a way that we appreciate its services and its value to all of us?

To all the above questions I would answer, emphatically, yes. I have missed very few play-offs in Southern California for the past twenty years. I have seen a continuous improvement in good relationships; in the conduct of large groups of high school students as they attend these play-offs. I have seen a better understanding built up between principals and coaches as

a result of experiences met in our play-offs which are directly under the control of the C. I. F. To drop our play-offs would be a decided backward step to our C. I. F. Athletic program.

Eight thousand people at Covina saw a splendid game of football between their team and Santa Barbara. The splendid control of the crowd, the fine sportsmanship evidenced and the many courtesies extended by both sides made the game worth-while from every angle. This has been true, too, of all our play-offs. Through them our boys and girls are learning valuable lessons in "give-and-take", in courtesy, in fair play and self control. Let's keep our play-offs in all sports.

For the above reasons, I would regret, exceedingly, to see the play-offs discontinued.

## WHY WE SHOULD ABOLISH PLAY-OFFS

EARL H. CHAPMAN

Director of Boys' Activities

Whittier Union High School

Having been asked to write a short resumé for the Bulletin setting forth reasons which prompted me to recommend to the representatives of schools from the Coast, Bay and Foothill Leagues assembled at Long Beach last November 16th, that the C. I. F., S. S. be petitioned to abolish Southern California championship play-offs in all sports except track, here goes:

In the first place, the three leagues as organized prior to the meeting represented very strong competition. One needs only to turn to the list of Southern California championship winners in the various sports over a period of years to recognize this fact. With the proposed reorganization, Fullerton and South Pasadena transferring out of the Foothill League, Woodrow Wilson and Alhambra coming in, and the two leagues, Bay and Foothill, accepting for further competition the two San Diego schools as well as Long Beach Poly, with all due respect to the competition furnished by the two withdrawing Foothill League teams, the schedules of teams comprising the Bay, Coast and Foothill Leagues will be "PLENTY TOUGH". It has been our observation in the past years that when the league season, especially in football and basketball, has ended our boys have had enough. To continue in a Southern California play-off has meant added physical demand upon the boys with its noticeable exhausting effect. In the face of future stronger competition during the league schedule we should ease up somehow on



## CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION SOUTHERN SECTION

SOUTH PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL  
South Pasadena, California PYramid 1-1707

### Executive Committee

Normal Hayhurst, Principal Herbert Hoover  
High School, President.

H. J. Moore, Principal Woodrow Wilson High  
School.

S. Chester McIntosh, Principal Puente High school  
Kinter Hamilton, Principal Harvard School.  
John E. Alman, Principal South Pasadena High  
School.

Seth F. Van Patten, Commissioner of Athletics  
O. P. Hornaday, Principal Elsinore High School,  
President of the Council.

the physical strain placed upon our high school boys. This is the first reason which prompted the recommendation that Southern California play-offs should be abandoned.

Secondly, whenever a team becomes championship caliber there comes the pressure from the public and the "Sunday morning quarterbacks". The team members, the coach and the school administration are placed on the spot. Due to this pressure school officials and coaches are at times forced to bicker for advantages during play-offs in a manner they would probably never dream of under normal circumstances. In addition we at times find columnists not in tune with our aims of pedagogy who feel duty bound to print glaring words which place coaches and administrators in embarrassing situations, causing the latter to make abnormal gestures. Again, the pressure is added to the coach. He is a fine fellow if he wins and a "heel" if he loses. All of which is transmitted to the students and our normal school equilibrium for a period is an unbalanced jumble. The petty bickering which takes place, the pressure from without and the effort expended to bring ourselves back to normal after all is over is not worth what little gain a championship brings.

Financially a Southern California championship does not mean a large profit. After all expenses are deducted and the net profit divided three ways one finds that as much or more could have been made by playing one good post season game or a special game during the season.

Track was excepted from the recommendation because of its state wide set up. We felt that before including track in the category of other play-offs the Southern Section should consult with the C. I. F. sections in other parts of the state to the end that a mutual understanding might be reached.

We hope we haven't appeared too brief or too pessimistic in the above, but after years of participation in Southern California play-offs, some-

times with grand champion success, we feel that when a league season has ended the team members, the school and the public have had enough.

## A PRACTICAL SUBSTITUTE FOR THE C. I. F. FOOTBALL PLAY-OFF

DICK SPAULDING

Head Football Coach

Newport Harbor Union High School

The plan is not original with me, but has for its author, Dick Klein of Jordan High of Long Beach. It is suggestive of what can be done.

At the end of the football season, arrange to pick an all-Conference team of, say, 22 men, immediately. The coaches might meet during the week end and choose the squad. This squad would then meet on a centrally located field for practice, for one week. The coaches of the squad might be the coach of the championship team, and another chosen by him, or might be picked as the team is picked.

Probably no school would place more than five men on this squad, and for one week, a faculty man could take these boys to practice, leaving school by 2:00 o'clock so practice could start not later than 3:00.

By the end of the week, this team would be ready to play a similar team from another league. A squad could not learn assignments for many plays, but this might be handled by having an extra man follow the offensive team, with a set of flash cards with plays diagrammed on them, for use by the quarterbacks.

Receipts from this game could be used to cover all expenses, possibly to purchase some sort of individual award for the performers, and split any profit between the two leagues for various league expenses.

I believe this plan would have numerous advantages.

1. Educationally, it would bring together athletic leaders from all member schools of a league, as teammates rather than competitors. This should have a valuable carry-over into other sports for the rest of each year.
2. It would bring a contact among athletes of different leagues, sections, etc.
3. If each school were allowed only one post season week of football next year, this would take care of that week and yet get all equipment checked in, and basketball started a week sooner by a majority of all squads.
4. It would be another incentive for members of losing teams to still play their best in order to make the honorary team.
5. It would actually give some value to so-called all-conference teams.

Such a plan would obviously have its shortcomings and might need adjustment to fit various leagues. At least two leagues would have to take it up in order to try it. Personally I think it would do a great deal to cut down fric-



tion among players of different schools, during the whole year, and build up interschool friendship.

I am on a committee to look into this matter for the Sunset League, and I would like to hear any comment of any kind on the plan.

### THE QUESTION OF PLAY-OFFS

When the C. I. F. was organized in 1914 one of the provisions enacted by the State Council to give it effective control of athletics was the play-off games among the four sections of the C. I. F. for the championship of the State.

After about ten years the four sections of the C. I. F. had grown in numbers of competitors and scope of athletic program to a point where it was deemed wise to discontinue all State Championships except that in track. The State Council felt that the Sectional Championships were of such magnitude that each section of the C. I. F. would be able to control and regulate its activities under the State rules without a State Championship under the State Council's control.

The State Track Meet has been continued to justify the existence of the State Council and to maintain a contact among the Principals, coaches, and athletes of the five sections of the State.

When the C. I. F., Southern Section was organized there were about forty schools in six leagues in our organization. It was accepted almost without discussion that play-offs among the leagues were necessary to develop and maintain an organization strong enough to enforce discipline within any league as well as among the leagues. It was evident that any school in any league could defy a league ruling and go free lance if there was no higher authority to keep it in line.

The most effective pressure that the C. I. F., Southern Section, has been able to exert during all its existence, to compel observance of its rules, has been the threat of exclusion from a chance at some of its championships. If we do away with the play-offs we abandon this most effective means of maintaining discipline.

Since the C. I. F., Southern Section has grown until it contains one hundred and thirty-one schools in nineteen leagues together with a large group of Free Lance schools, a Southern California championship in any sport except, possibly track and swimming, seems to many to be unwise. The question which will be presented to the Council when it meets February 4 is whether or not to do away with the play-offs.

In the C. I. F. Office we believe changes in our set-up for the C. I. F., Southern Section, are necessary and that when the necessary adjustments are made the play-off question may be solved.

We recommended last year that the Leagues

of the C. I. F., Southern Section, be arranged in four groups for administrative purposes. The groupings we recommended were:

GROUP I. Inyo League, San Luis Obispo League, Ventura Major League, Ventura Minor League.

GROUP II. Desert League, Orange League, Riverside League, Tri-County League.

GROUP III. Imperial League, Metropolitan League, Southern League.

GROUP IV. Bay League, Citrus League, Coast League, Foothill League, San Gabriel League, Sunset League.

We believe that in football no team should have more than two play-off games. Such a rule would make it necessary to subdivide Group IV.

In baseball a championship for each group might well be carried to a finish.

In basketball the tournament idea we believe is growing in popularity and efficiency. We recommend four preliminary tournaments in place of play-offs. The preliminary tournaments to be set-up by counties as follows:

I. Inyo, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura.

II. Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino.

III. Los Angeles.

IV: Imperial, San Diego.

We could have these preliminary tournaments over two week ends if necessary and bring either the four winners or the two best from each tournament together for a final championship. This would, we believe, ultimately work into a fine finish for the basketball season.

In track we have now with the Divisional and Final Meets a workable program which with a few modifications from time to time should continue to bring out the best track athletes to be found anywhere.

In swimming and water polo our present program seems adequate until more schools take up the sport.

The set-up in golf and tennis which has been followed for the past ten years we believe has proved very satisfactory. If however four groups of league are set up within the C. I. F., Southern Section, it may be found advisable to make use of these groups to further the development of these sports.

The administration of the business of the four groups and of the C. I. F., Southern Section, as a whole, can be set up with an Executive Committee for each group, a Council for the C. I. F., Southern Section, as a whole, and a central Office to coordinate the work of the four groups and to manage the final track meet, the suggested basketball tournament, and the championships among the leagues in each group in the other sports.

We believe such a plan is workable, is demo-



cratic, will allow for growth and expansion and will take care of the play-off problem.

### COLORED FILM OF SPRING SPORTS

The C. I. F., Southern Section, now has in its possession two sixteen millimeter rolls of film which are available for use by schools and by schoolmen for showing before student assemblies, service clubs, etc.

One roll of films shows portions of the final games in the Pomona Baseball Tournament of last Spring, some of the Dudley Cup Tennis Tournament at Santa Monica last April, some of the Southern California Tennis Finals at Fullerton last June, and a few views of the Championship Gymnastic Team of Beverly Hills High School in action. The second roll is a complete showing of the finish of all the events in the Southern California Track Meet at the Los Angeles Coliseum last May.

These films are Kodachrome and were taken by Mr. H. Lee Hansen, instructor in photography in the Los Angeles Polytechnical High School.

We are certain that the pictures will prove very entertaining and instructive to any high school student body assembly.

There is no charge for the use of the films. Bookings will be made as received, first come, first served.

### BASKETBALL TOURNAMENTS

The Third Annual Bonita High School Basketball Tournament was held December 8, 9 and 10.

The Tustin High School won in the group of schools with an enrollment of less than six hundred. Bonita and Tustin played the final game in this group. Tustin won by a score of 31 to 17.

Huntington Beach won in the larger group. In the final game Huntington Beach beat San Bernardino by a score of 31 to 24.

Chino High School sponsored a tournament at its gymnasium on December 22, 23 and 24. Sixteen teams were entered. A championship and a consolation round were played. Tustin won the championship round and Long Beach Poly the consolation round.

In its final game Tustin beat Burbank 37 to 31. In the final game of the consolation round Long Beach won from Colton 34 to 26.

The evening of Thursday, December 23, Chino gave a banquet for the visiting teams. Business men and citizens of Chino assisted in staging the party. Mr. Julie Bescos, Freshman Basketball Coach at U.S.C., was the chief speaker of the evening. The affair was thoroughly enjoyed by all those present. Chino High School is to be congratulated upon the outstanding success of this first annual vacation tournament.

At this writing we have not received a report on the tournament held at Huntington Beach on December 15, 16 and 17.

### TUSTIN MAKES FINE RECORD—HOW DO THEY GET THAT WAY?

Two years ago Tustin won the basketball championship of Southern California. Last year they won the championship of their League and gave Whittier, the Southern California champion, its closest game in its play-off series. They have another fine team coming up. Their latest show of power was to win the championship of the Chino Tournament on December 23. Such high powered teams as Long Beach Polytechnic, Herbert Hoover of San Diego, Huntington Beach and Burbank took part in the Chino Tournament.

Last year Tustin won the championship of the Orange League in football. They repeated again in the season just closed. In the play-off game against Jordan, although beaten, they played a fast snappy game.

Tustin is famous for its alfalfa, its beans, its beets and its oranges. We wonder if these products from the ranches in and about Tustin are charged with some special vitamin which gives the boys of that vicinity extra athletic prowess. Maybe its just Principal Means and his Coaches that are responsible for all this fine showing. We expect to pay Tustin a visit in the near future and try to find out what it is all about and pass the word on to the other schools of Southern California.

### INVITATIONAL TRACK MEETS

The following dates have been announced for some of the annual invitational track and field meets to be held this season:

- Brea-Olinda Relays—March 3.
- Southern Counties Invitational Meet at Huntington Beach—March 18.
- Long Beach Relays—March 18.
- Chaffey Invitational—April 1.
- Russell Cup at Carpinteria—April 1.

The Long Beach Relays have been moved from the first to the third Saturday in March to avoid a conflict with the horse racing at Santa Anita. This is just another reason why horse racing should be abolished.

### ENCLOSURE

A copy of the minutes of the meeting of the State Council held on Treasure Island, December 10, 1938 is enclosed with this Bulletin.

- Points of importance to all schools are:
- (1) The football throw is eliminated as an event in the State Track Meet.
  - (2) Principals are being polled to see whether or not they wish American football continued in high schools.
  - (3) The 19 year age limit is unchanged.
  - (4) A boy may now play Class A football on and after his fifteenth birthday.
  - (5) The State Track Meet will be held in the Los Angeles Coliseum on May 27, 1939.