

C. I. F., SOUTHERN SECTION MONTHLY BULLETIN

Vol. 13

MARCH, 1950

No. 7

CURRENT PROGRAMS

SWIMMING Swimming Relays held February 15 and 17 at Whittier High School is reported in this issue of the Bulletin. Invitational Swimming Meet to be held March 10, 15, and 17. 600 boys expected to compete in the preliminaries at Anaheim and El Segundo March 10. Semifinals will be held March 15 at 2:30 P. M. at El Segundo. Finals March 17 at 7:30 P. M. at El Segundo.

WRESTLING Four preliminaries were held February 25 at El Centro, Leuzinger, San Diego, and Whittier High Schools. Finals were held last weekend at Inglewood High School, with 96 boys competing. Results not available as we go to press.

BASKETBALL C. I. F., Southern Section basketball playoffs were held at Santa Barbara and Point Loma High Schools for Northern and Southern Groups March 3 and 4. The Central Group playoffs continue March 10 and 11 at Whittier College's gym, after four preliminary round games last weekend. Some fine league champions will battle it out for the titles.

C. I. F., SOUTHERN SECTION ADDRESS

Some of the member schools of the C. I. F. have not corrected our post office address. Send our mail to 8760 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles 34. We are no longer located in South Pasadena. Our telephone number is Texas 0-3161.

TEAM SPORTS & INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

A few weeks ago we finished a successful football season. We are just now bringing to a close what seems sure to be remembered as a well rounded basketball program. At this time we are just starting our season's baseball roundup.

Football, basketball, baseball . . . these are outstanding team games. They are played by hundreds and hundreds of our high school boys each season. We think no one questions the mental, social, and physical stimulus received by those who actually play the games. The boost in morale and school spirit is generally acknowledged as a result of team athletics. The student body follows the team games, and we encourage them to do so. We think the results are very well justified.

In our sports where the individual instead of the team is brought to the fore, the school in most cases does not accord the same enthusiastic

support. In track and field, tennis, swimming, wrestling, and golf, the part played by the individual is stressed, yet the average school gives much less heed to the feats of the individual winner than it does to the football or basketball hero, or the star baseball pitcher.

The carryover value of tennis, golf, swimming, and wrestling far exceeds anything that results from the team games. Men and women join together in golf, swimming and tennis. Those who have passed the half century mark are found on golf courses, tennis courts, and in swimming.

We have recited the above facts in regard to team games, and individual sports, in order to focus your attention on what we think is an important question. "Is our program of high school sports out of proper balance? Should we not give more attention to the individual sports?"

"Is not the Fullerton High School requirement that every pupil must show a certain proficiency in swimming before he may graduate a justifiable ultimatum? When additions are being made to the teaching staff, should not men and women be sought who can teach swimming, wrestling, tennis, and golf?"

BELT BUCKLES VS. MEDALS

In the early days of our high school athletics, we developed the practice of awarding ribbons and medals to the winners in our athletic contests. This practice has been followed until at the present time we give out several hundred medals each year to our high school athletes. This practice is most common in track, swimming, tennis, wrestling, gymnastics, and other sports where the individual performer is recognized.

It would be interesting to make a survey of just what the boys do with these medals. We feel pretty certain that a study of this subject would show that only a small per cent of the medals are worn for any length of time. We know from observation that a good many medals would be found attached to pennants or other decorations in the boys' rooms. They would seldom be found fulfilling any useful purpose. They would be used primarily as an ornament.

We have often wondered if some useful trophy could not be given to the boy. Recently one of our athletic program boosters suggested the idea of presenting our winning athletes with a properly engraved belt buckle instead of a medal.

It is our considered opinion that the average boy would be happy to use his athletic award for helping keep his trousers in proper adjustment.

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION, SOUTHERN SECTION

8760 Venice Blvd. Los Angeles 34, Calif.
Telephone TE 0-3161

Ed J. Laurenson, Muir College
President of the Council

Seth F. Van Patten, Commissioner of Athletics
S. Chester McIntosh, Principal, Puente High
School, Treasurer

Executive Committee
Kinter Hamilton, Principal Harvard School,
Chairman

B. L. Bergstrom, Principal El Monte High School
A. E. Konold, Principal Santa Monica High School
Harvey J. Holt, Principal Santa Barbara High
School

Floyd A. Johnson, Principal Herbert Hoover
San Diego

S. Chester McIntosh, Principal Puente High School

At the May meeting of our Council, we propose to offer as a subject of consideration, Belt Buckles vs. Medals.

SPECTACULAR

We were recently asked what high school athletic sport gave us the greatest thrill. Is it an end run or a perfect forward pass in football? Is it a perfect hook shot in basketball? Is it a lightning like double play in baseball? Is it the mile finishing only feet apart? Is it an extended rally in tennis? Is it a birdie or an eagle in golf?

No, it is none of the above. Rather, it is a pair of wrestlers who have the vitality and the will to go at each other the full length of the wrestling bout . . . where the advantage changes frequently, where the official is continually on the move and alert, where the partizans make the rafters ring with their shouts of enthusiasm and encouragement.

When the tempo is right, we can perspire in a cool room watching a good wrestling match.

BASKETBALL FRANKENSTEIN

Much has been written about the last few minutes of the current basketball game which threatens to become a Frankenstein. Under present rules, it is anti-climax to an otherwise enjoyable game. In any game in which the score is close, a stalling "keep-away" type of game is played, with the inevitable futile chasing of the ball resulting in a procession of fouls committed by a desperate defense . . . to be followed by a little action during the free throw period, and retention of the ball by the stalling team.

To our knowledge, no modification has yet been presented which is accepted by basketball men as a cure for the present situation. About the only thing they can agree on is that the present rule makes for ragged and unsatisfactory play.

Fundamentally, our observation is that the more severe the penalty against the defense for its foul, the more inviting is the invitation to play keep-away. If the defense does not make an effort to get the ball, they look foolish. Instead of stimulating clean play, this year's rule is actually an incentive to make the situation worse.

The problem is really this: Is it more desirable to retain the present keep-away games with the inevitable fouling, or is it desirable to attempt to force a team to keep trying to score during the last few minutes? It is impossible to encourage keep-away ball and not have the rough scramble. To eliminate one is to sacrifice the other. There are many arguments or contentions about this subject. However, if basketball leaders believe the keep-away strategy should be encouraged, it would seem logical to remove all special penalties for the last couple of minutes, and to have the penalty rule the same, whatever it may be throughout the game. If they believe it would be more desirable to discourage the keep-away game in the last few minutes, and to encourage a sporting game where each team is willing to trade shots even if the score is close, then there seems to be only one way to insure this, namely by limiting the time a team may retain continuous control during the last couple of minutes. If this were done, control in the front court during the last few minutes would be handled in practically the same way as control in the back court during the whole game.

The ten second back court rule is seldom invoked because players know they must get the ball into the front court, and they devise a style of play accordingly. It seems reasonable to assume that under a similar front-court continuous control time limit, teams could devise a type of play which would get them a reasonably good try-for-goal position within the allotted time. Failing this, they could settle for a jump ball which would break the control. Under such circumstances, the former thrills which were packed into the last few minutes of basketball would return to replace the chaos which now mars the game.

Unless a decision is made soon, the National Basketball Committee will find itself in the same position it was last year . . . with everyone demanding something be done, but with no unanimity of opinion on the solution.

GRADUATING SENIORS AND BASKETBALL ELIGIBILITY

Mr. Merrill Green, South Pasadena High School, offers the following suggestions in regard to basketball players who graduate in February, and whose team needs the boy's assistance for the rest of the season.

(1) Permit the boy to finish out the basketball season providing he enrolls in three subjects, as required by C. I. F. regulations; or (2) allow the boy to remain eligible for competition

so long as he is in good standing scholastically until the end of the basketball season.

Mr. Green's opinion is that suggestion number one is better. He suggests the boy be given credit for the quarter (ten week's work), and that the junior colleges be asked to admit the boy to quarter grades. Mr. Green believes "the boy should be made to follow the California school code even though he be a nine semester boy."

SWIMMING

Eight of the fifteen records in the C. I. F., Southern Section Swimming Relays were broken at the well-managed 1950 Relays held at Whittier High School Feb. 15 & 17. Relay team champions for 1950 are El Segundo in Classes A and B, and Whittier in Class C. Competition was keen in both the preliminary meet and the finals, with ideal warm and sunny weather contributing to enjoyable afternoons for both spectators and participants.

Class A scoring

El Segundo	42
Redlands	36
Black Foxe	24
Whittier	24
Fullerton	12
Beverly Hills	8
Anaheim	2
San Diego	2

Class B scoring

El Segundo	46
Whittier	44
Fullerton	20
Beverly Hills	16
Inglewood	12
Santa Ana	10
Huntington Beach	2

Class C scoring

Whittier	42
Beverly Hills	40
Inglewood	24
El Segundo	22
Fullerton	16
Santa Ana	2

Records for Southern Section C. I. F. Relays

Class A

6 x 100' free style: Whittier 1:34.7 in 1949
4 x 200' breast stroke: Fullerton 2:54.6 in 1948
4 x 200' back stroke: El Segundo 2:54.6 in 1950
4 x 200' free style: Redlands 2:21.3 in 1950
3 x 200' medley: Black Foxe 1:59.6 in 1949

Class B

6 x 100' free style: Whittier 1:39.8 in 1950
4 x 200' breast stroke: El Segundo 3:09.2 in 1950
4 x 200' back stroke: El Segundo 3:05 in 1950
4 x 200' free style: Whittier 2:30.4 in 1950
3 x 200' medley: El Segundo 2:04.7 in 1950

Class C

6 x 100' free style: Whittier 1:45.9 in 1949
4 x 100' breast stroke: Whittier 1:32.1 in 1949
4 x 100' back stroke: Whittier 1:28.3 in 1948
4 x 100' free style: Whittier 1:10.3 in 1949
3 x 100' medley: Whittier 1:00.6 in 1949

Coming Events in Swimming

March 10	Invitational Swimming Preliminaries Anaheim and El Segundo 1:30 P. M.
March 15	Invitational Semi-finals El Segundo 1:30 P. M.
March 17	Invitational Finals El Segundo 7:30 P. M.

All schools are invited to send three boys in the preliminaries in any event. Entry blanks and full information have been mailed in the last few days.

May 9, 10, and 12 are the dates for the C. I. F., Southern Section Final Swimming Meet. The meet will be at Beverly Hills High School.

TRACK CLINIC

Some 150 track and field coaches in Southern California are much the wiser this season as a result of attending a fine track and field clinic at Mt. San Antonio College February 6, 1950. Included on the panel of speakers were Track Coaches Elvin "Ducky" Drake of UCLA; Jesse Hill of USC; Jack Weirshauser of Stanford; Robert Strehle of Pomona; and Choc Sportsman of San Diego State.

All of the speakers pointed their talks at techniques to be mastered for certain events. Down to earth suggestions in easily understood terms augmented actual demonstrations. It was noted that all the speakers were unanimous on one opinion—that the track and field athlete is an individual who requires individual handling. Of particular interest was the question and answer period during which the how's and why's of coaching techniques were more fully brought out.

The audience seemed to thoroughly enjoy the motion pictures presented by Coach Drake featuring UCLA's nationally known hurdler, Craig Dixon. Including the warm up exercises as introduced, the pictures showed Dixon in his daily workout routine, and visually demonstrated his superb form that carried him to national honors.

Under the chairmanship of Larry Houston, 6 sports editors from southland newspapers contributed to a discussion on promoting, publicizing, and creating spectator interest.

Hilmer G. Lodge, track coach at the host college, is to be complimented for the arrangements made for this worthwhile event. Plans for a second clinic of a similar nature to be held next year at the same time, are already underway.

C. I. F. POLICY ON AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

In order that boys' high school eligibility will not be jeopardised, a reminder about American Legion baseball seems in order. Boy's may start Saturday and Sunday practice with American Legion teams not earlier than May first. A boy may start playing games with a Legion team as soon as the high school athletic program in which he is engaged is complete.

As an illustration, a boy competing on the tennis or track team may not play baseball games on a Legion team until his track or tennis schedule, including C. I. F. playoff or championship meets is completed. However, the boy could practice with the Legion baseball team without jeopardising his eligibility.

REPORT OF THE C. I. F. SO. SECTION WRESTLING MEETING HELD AT SAN DIEGO HIGH SCHOOL JANUARY 14, 1950

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Seth F. Van Patten, C. I. F., So. Section Commissioner of Athletics, and conducted by Mr. Frank Crosby of San Diego High School. Meeting was called to order at 11:45, and the thirty-one men present stood and introduced themselves. In addition to the wrestling coaches and officials present were Mr. Van Patten, Mr. Lawrence Carr, Vice Principal at the San Diego High School, and Dr. Robert Bergstrom, Director of Physical Education for the San Diego City Schools.

Wrestling in Southern California is divided into four districts, and the status of wrestling in each district was reported as follows: West Los Angeles by M. C. Burley of Redondo, East Los Angeles by Morris Padia of Whittier, San Diego by Frank Crosby of San Diego High School, and the representatives from Imperial Valley were not present. The State Highway Patrol had declared the roads over Laguna Mountains dangerous because of ice. Wrestling conditions in West Los Angeles and San Diego are most encouraging.

Mr. Burley reported that there are complaints from his area that wrestling carries over too late into the spring and consequently interferes with spring sports. After considerable discussion it was unanimously decided to make wrestling parallel basketball by starting wrestling immediately at the end of the football season, and close it the first week in March. Mr. Crosby announced that efforts would be made to hold the C. I. F., So. Section Meeting and Novice Wrestling Tournament one week before the close of school for Christmas Vacation in an effort to get the wrestling season started earlier. Dr. Bergstrom agreed to permit a change in the Athletic Insurance dates to make such a shift possible in the San Diego City Schools.

Mr. Crosby announced that in accordance with

the plan adopted three years ago of rotating the C. I. F., So. Section Finals among the four Districts, the meet should be held in the West Los Angeles or Bay League area in 1950. Dave Hengstellar of Inglewood announced that the meet could be held at Inglewood High School, and that he would announce the specific date to Mr. Van Patten as soon as he could confer with his Principal. (That date has since been set as March 4, 1950.)

It was agreed that all Sectional or District Tournaments must be finished one week before March 4, namely February 25 so that the names of all boys who qualify for the Finals can be sent to Dave Hengstellar, the Manager of the Finals, in time to give the event the necessary publicity.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association Wrestling Rules including High School Section were approved, except that we will continue to eliminate points for "tap-time", and give three points for "near falls" instead of two. It was also unanimously approved to give Mr. Crosby authority to appoint a committee of San Diego Wrestling Coaches to make recommendations to this meeting next year regarding additional rules to cover all problems of High School Wrestling in Southern California including such problems of excessive weight reduction, and modifications designed to make wrestling more popular.

The C. I. F., So. Section Wrestling Entry Blank for 1949 was read by Mr. Crosby, and the form was approved for use in 1950 with corrected dates, names and places.

This C. I. F., So. Section Wrestling Meeting was held in conjunction with the First Annual San Diego Invitational Novice Wrestling Tournament, in which 124 contestants from twelve High Schools, wrestled 111 exciting bouts in one afternoon and a short evening. The boys were weighed in before the meeting, and Mr. Ivan Olsen of San Diego Junior College made the drawings and pairings while the C. I. F., So. Section Meeting was in progress. All wrestling Coaches, Officials and guests were served a luncheon paid for by the Amateur Wrestling Association of San Diego County, and prepared by Mrs. Frank Crosby. Meeting adjourned at 1:45 just in time for start of the wrestling matches.

This combination of events limits the time for business, but advance preparations can be made and the business part of the meeting streamlined to cover a great deal more during the same length of time. The enlarged attendance, greater enthusiasm, and good response generally seems to justify continuing the combination of a novice Tournament and the C. I. F., So. Section Meeting on the same day.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Crosby