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GENE KNOTT, NEWEST EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER



GENE KNOTT

The most recent member of the CIF-SS Executive Committee is Gene Knott, Vice Principal of Ramona High School in Riverside. Elected by the Council at its May 2 meeting, he is presently serving a four-year term. Along with Tony Balsamo of Apple Valley HS he represents schools in the Inyo, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial Counties.

Aside from his two years in the U.S. Army, Gene has never strayed far from the California environment. His schooling has included Wilson HS in Long Beach, Long Beach City College, California State Polytechnic College @ San Luis Obispo (B.A.), California State University @ Long Beach (M.A.), and Redlands University. Teaching experience following the service has included Long Beach Unified School District, C.S.U.L.B., and Ramona H.S.

After twelve years as an instructor at Ramona H.S. in Biology, Life Science, Driver Education, and Driver Training, Gene was promoted to his present position as Vice Principal/Athletic Director. His administrative duties over the past four years have included, among others, total responsibility for the 19 athletic teams fielded for boys and girls at the high school. This on-going experience is of great benefit in his present position on the Executive Committee.

While he enjoys a wide range of athletic activities, basketball and golf hold special interest for Knott. After starring in both sports at the high school and college levels, he coached

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AMATEUR RULE — FOR THE LOVE OF SPORT

(This is the fourth in a series of presentations designed to explain the purposes and rationale of CIF-SS rules. It is the intent that such information will bring greater understanding to school administrators and athletic staffs and assist them in their efforts to develop quality interscholastic athletic programs within guidelines structured by the CIF-SS Council—the legislative body representing all member schools.)

The word "amateur" is derived from the latin word "amare," meaning to love. An amateur in athletics is one who participates for the love of the sport rather than for material gain. The rules of the California Interscholastic Federation, as do those for similar school athletic associations, apply to amateur athletics and to amateur athletes. Those who breach the boundaries of amateurism, for whatever reason, do so without CIF sanction and therefore would be ruled ineligible for interscholastic athletics. This ineligibility would extend throughout the remainder of the season of the sport concerned and for one full year thereafter and further until reinstated as an amateur.

As in any extra-curricular activity, students who participate in interscholastic athletics are not paid. The athlete who has become a professional in any sport sanctioned by the CIF-Southern Section is denied eligibility for **all** interscholastic athletic competition in our sanctioned sports. Revenue, to be sure, is often obtained from athletic endeavors, but the beneficiary is the collective student body (and the Southern Section as well in playoff competition) rather than individual players. The income is used to cover athletic expenses of the high school, and the surplus, if any, goes into the student body fund for the benefit of all.

The primary purpose of any educational system is to prepare the student for his society. This is done by best utilizing the facilities, faculty, and time available. We in the CIF feel that many desirable qualities may be nurtured and strengthened through competitive athletics, making the latter a positive factor in the general education of the student. Therefore, it would follow that our interscholastic athletic program, as it is presently constituted, is contributing significantly to the purpose of education.

Recognizing the value of amateurism and the reason for its retention in the CIF-SS, schools and individuals should therefore review the guidelines offered in the State CIF and CIF-Southern Section, By-Laws regarding this subject.

An athlete would become ineligible if he or she accepts cash, salary, gift certificates, or merchandise for participation in CIF-SS competition or for coaching an individual or an athletic team. If there has been non-CIF-SS competition in a sport sanctioned by the Southern Section, the high school participants are governed by the rules of the amateur governing body for that sport. If the rules are violated, the offending students become ineligible for CIF-SS competition.

In order to retain amateur status for athletic eligibility, a high school student also may not receive, from any source, an athletic award of more than \$10.00 in value for interscholastic competition. These awards include medals, plaques, charms, patches, pen sets, or similar items. (The \$10 maximum is exclusive of the cost of engraving) Members of CIF-SS championship teams may be given individual awards of up to \$25 in value.

Other violations of the amateur rule would be:

1. Competing under an assumed name.
2. Signing a contract for services as an athlete.
3. Participation in a tryout for a professional or collegiate team prior to graduation (except under special conditions specified in the CIF-SS By-Laws).
4. Granting use of name or photograph to advertise, recommend, or promote the sale of goods or apparatus to any person, firm, manufacturer, or agent.
5. Acceptance of financial or material inducement to attend a school for the purpose of engaging in athletics.
6. Receiving payment for services as an official in any sport (except under special conditions specified in the CIF-SS By-Laws).

It should be noted that the receiving of cash or other prizes carries penalties of ineligibility for CIF-SS sanctioned sports only. In such non-sanctioned sports as motocross, surfing, rodeo contests, etc., the acceptance of cash or other prizes would not jeopardize a student's amateur standing.

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Commissioner's Corner "DOERS AND WATCHERS"

It takes more than money to run a tournament. It takes planning, organization, desire, and above all else — hard work. The CIF-Southern Section now conducts playoff competition in 13 sports for boys and 9 sports for girls. On-site management for championship competition in 4A and 3A baseball, boys' basketball, 4A football, boys' swimming & diving, boys' track & field (3A, 4A, & Masters Finals), and water polo is undertaken by the CIF-SS Office. However, there remains many other boys' sports and all those of the girls for which assistance is needed. This is one important area where member schools and personnel may contribute.

Any organization is only as strong as its membership. And the strength of the CIF-SS has been amply demonstrated over the years by the number of individuals who have volunteered their time and efforts to the management of one or more of our playoff events. But, as in any organization, there is a tendency for the "doers" to continue to shoulder the responsibility load, year after year, while the "watchers" continue to stand by and benefit.

While many schools and people have offered their facilities and services for playoff activities, it is felt that there is still the potential for ever greater participation within the Southern Section. We are blessed with scores of schools and hundreds of individuals who have the facilities, experience, and ability to host first-rate playoff events. Whether the activity is the Badminton Tournament, the 2A Track Finals, the Wrestling Tournament, the Girls' Gymnastics Championships, or any of the others, there is a tremendous amount of work that must be done. And all too often the recognition given for such volunteer efforts does not truly reflect the degree of effort expended.

There is an old saying, "Many hands make light work." Another one says, "Too many cooks spoil the broth." Both are applicable in staging a playoff event. What we need is one person, acting as manager, assisted by a number of supporting personnel. In this way, the lines of organization and authority are clearly defined, and the channels of communication can remain open. The work force will enable the manager to utilize his time and energy most efficiently.

What have you or your school done for your Southern Section organization lately? If a positive answer is difficult to formulate, then perhaps this office might be hearing from you during the school year. In the meantime, the athletic seasons come and go, and we continue to thank our "doers."

"NEVER MORE LENIENT"

Article II, Section 5, of the CIF-SS Constitution states that, "This Constitution and By-Laws are binding on all schools and leagues . . . The school or league may enact regulations which are more stringent than those adopted by higher authority." Similarly, the Southern Section, as well as any of the other nine sections, may write legislation that is more restrictive than provided in the State CIF Constitution.

The intent in both instances is to provide subordinate jurisdictions with enough flexibility to adopt rules that best meet their own needs. The Southern Section, for example, feels that summer school may not be used to regain scholastic eligibility lost due to poor grades at the end of the Spring Semester, and it has incorporated this ruling into its By-Laws. In this instance the Southern Section is more restrictive than the State which does permit scholastic deficiencies to be cleared during the summer.

In a like manner, individual schools, districts, or leagues may require a student to be passing in 25 units of new work for scholastic eligibility rather than the 20 stipulated by the Southern Section. Here, the school, district, or league is more restrictive than the Southern Section. The basic rule is that any subordinate jurisdiction may be more restrictive — but never more lenient.

One area where some school districts have enacted more stringent rules than those of the CIF is girls' eligibility for boys' teams. Whereas both the State CIF and Southern Section permit (but not encourage) such participation, any school may prohibit the practice. However, as in all instances of rulings more restrictive than that of a higher authority, the subordinate body, rather than the higher authority, is responsible for responding to any challenge of its ruling.

The higher the ruling body, the more general should be its rules. Specifics should be the tool of the local authority, to be used with discretion and common sense, to meet the needs of the local schools. As was mentioned previously, no subordinate authority is permitted to liberalize legislation. If a rule is deemed inappropriate for a significant proportion of the populace concerned, it should be modified or discarded for all — not for merely one school or for a few.

From time to time the comment is made that "The CIF should have a rule on this." In some instances the suggestion has merit, but more often than not the writing of such a rule would cause more problems than had previously existed. To watchdog and enforce a rule with many provisions and specifics for a large number of schools is much more difficult than to administer a rule with broader guidelines. It is far better when dealing with 450 schools, as we do in the Southern Section, to be able to deal with the "intent" of the rule should any school attempt to circumvent the regulation. If it is felt by a league, school district, or school that a CIF-SS rule is not appropriate in its present form, then that body is always free to enact more restrictive legislation — but never more lenient.

LETTERING: A NEW APPROACH

A Wisconsin school, Northland College of Ashland, has come up with an innovative method of awarding letters.

Athletic Director Ray Nelson of the college, in describing the idea recently, wrote:

"After years of coaching track and wrestling and now swimming, I have finally arrived at the conclusion that the awarding of letters might be more meaningful if we coaches take into consideration the individual goals . . . The young man who works hard and achieves no recognition is seldom awarded a letter until his senior year, and then it appears to be more an award for perseverance than performance."

"My approach with our swim team is to interview each boy as to his personal goals as well as his goals for the group. Out of this interview may come projected improvement in times based on the opening season's performance, dedication to a practice schedule, pushing the man ahead of the athlete to a better performance, or any one of many other goals set by the athlete to a better performance, or any one of many other goals set by the athlete and me as worthy of his dedication."

"These goals are then typed on a contract that the athlete and coach both sign. The

goals contract is then reviewed later in the season for revision, if necessary, (agreed upon by both parties) and then if the goals as stated are met at the end of the season, the athlete receives his letter."

"Our athletes like it so far, and I believe it is one answer to the problem of recognizing contributions other than point scoring in a meet or setting a new record."

California Interscholastic Federation, Southern Section

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1974 VOLLEYBALL PLAYOFFS EXPANDED TO 64 TEAMS

Because there are more leagues (37) participating in girls' volleyball this season than there are berths in a 32-team draw, it will be necessary to increase the number of playoff teams to 64. This will permit each league to send its champion and will also allow a maximum of 27 second-place, third-place, and free-lance schools to enter the competition.

The selection of playoff teams who finish below first place will be made by the 1974 Girls' Volleyball Committee. Among other criteria to be considered will be league and season records, strength of leagues, and previous playoff records.

The first round of playoff competition will be November 14. Redondo High School's Boys' Gym will be the site of the finals on Tuesday evening, November 26. Third-Place game is 7:00 p.m., and the Championship contest is scheduled for 8:30 p.m. The championship match will be videotaped and later featured on Channel 4's "Prep Sports World" from 1:00-2:30 p.m., Saturday, December 14. Ninja Jorgensen of Glendale H.S. will serve as commentator on the telecast.

EXPERIMENTAL RULES TO BE USED IN 1975 BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

The 1975 CIF-SS Girls' Basketball Playoffs will employ the NAGWS experimental rules as detailed on pp. 82-119 of the "NAGWS Basketball Guide, 1974-75." A recent poll, indicating that only two of the 37 girls' leagues were not in favor of the experimental rules, has mandated this change for playoff competition. Schools and leagues, however, may disregard the experimental rules for pre-playoff competition if they so desire.

1974 TENNIS SITES NAMED

The 1974 CIF-SS Girls' Individual Tennis Tournament Sectionals will be conducted Saturday, November 23, at the following high schools: Chaffey HS (Singles and Doubles) — Noreen Kistner, Meet Manager; Lowell HS (Singles & Doubles) — Sandy Wilson, Meet Manager; Pasadena HS (Singles and Doubles) — Diane Soldwedel, Meet Manager; Palos Verdes HS (Singles) and Rolling Hills (Doubles) — Trudy Keel, Meet Manager.

Each established girls' tennis league may enter two singles and two doubles teams into the tournament. Each sectional will have 16 singles and doubles entries competing in the four rounds of competition that narrows each field to two. The final three rounds of competition are scheduled to begin at

LEAGUE COORDINATORS NAMED

In order to provide an efficient two-way communication between the CIF-SS Office and the membership of the Girls' Interscholastic Athletic Program, one League Coordinator has been named by each of the 37 girls' leagues. This contact person will act as a liaison between the league schools and the CIF-SS Office and will relay information, questions, answers, suggestions, and complaints.

One of the prime responsibilities of the League Coordinator will be the forwarding of the league entries into the CIF-SS Playoffs in all 9 sanctioned sports. She or he will also be called upon periodically to provide current information on league standings in some of these sports. Another responsibility will be that of informing school personnel of recent modifications of State or Southern Section rules and apprising them of recent or potential changes in procedures or policies pertinent to girls' athletics.

School personnel are strongly urged to utilize their League Coordinators regarding matters of girls' athletics:

LEAGUE	COORDINATOR (SCHOOL)
Airport	Anne Corlett (St. Marys)
Arrowhead	Nancy Wright (Big Bear)
Bay	Dick Keller (Rolling Hills)
Beach Cities	Pauling Bachakes (Edison)
Century	Earline Skinner (Tustin)
Channel	Donald Seidler (Hueneme)
Citrus Belt	Jan Smith (Redlands)
De Anza	Ken Gordon (Perris)
Delphic	Rae Marie Obie (Buckely)
Desert Valleys	Bill Miller (Indio A.D.)
Foothill	Ardyce Stanford (Canyon)
Freeway-Orange	Sondra Virden (Lowell)
Frontier-Tri-Valley	Lou Cvijonovich (Santa Clara)
Garden Grove	Vicki Kopecky (Rancho Alamitos)
GESP	Mickele D'Ascanio (Arlington)
Golden	Barbara McKay (Quartz Hill)
Hacienda	Carlita Wehrli (Ontario)
Horizon	Mary Ellen Murchison (St. Paul)
Ivy	Sue Kouklis (North-Riverside)
Marmonte	Sandy Williams (Royal)
Metro	Father Foster (Bishop Conaty)
Mission	Nancy Graziano (Alemany)
Mission Valley	Betty Bogolin (Monrovia)
Montview	Sarah Gipson (Rowland)
Northern-Los Padres	Barbara Long (Santa Maria)
Ocean	Barbara Wilson (Beverly Hills)
Olympic	Ann Pell (Ontario Christian)
Pacific	Diane Soldwedel (Arcadia)
Pioneer	Diane Boyd (Lawndale)
Rio Hondo	Richard Harris (Temple City)
San Andreas	Art Van Matre (Norco)
San Antonio	Joanne Kirk (Ganessa)
San Gabriel	Lynette Waltner (Bellflower)
Sierra	Billie Oglesby (Glendora)
South Coast	Karen Hellyer (University)
Suburban	Jan Smith (Mayfair)
Sunrise	Pauline Pope (St. Joseph)

KNOW YOUR COMMITTEES

I. VOLLEYBALL

1. Barbara Bernlohr, El Segundo HS
2. Connie Burns, Palmdale HS
3. Anne Corlett, St. Marys HS
4. Ann Flora, Royal Oaks HS
5. Ninja Jorgensen, Glendale HS

9:00 a.m., Monday, November 25, at the Los Angeles Tennis Club. There will be eight singles and doubles teams entered in the final day's competition.

The finals of both singles and doubles will be videotaped for delayed television viewing on Sunday, November 30, from noon to 2:00 p.m. Assisting on the commentary for Channel 4's "Prep Sports World" presentation will be Susan Stevens of Beverly Hills High School.

II. TENNIS

1. Trudy Keel, Palos Verdes HS
2. Noreen Kistner, Chaffey HS
3. Margaret Ramondetti, Tustin HS
4. Diane Soldwedel, Arcadia HS
5. Sandy Wilson, Lowell HS
6. Nancy Hooker, Marlborough HS

III. TRACK & FIELD

1. Richard Ede, Claremont HS
2. Joan Stewart, Esperanza HS
3. Marty Young, Nordhoff HS
4. Sandy Williams, Royal HS

IV. FIELD HOCKEY

1. Janet Green, Lowell HS
2. Ellie Minor, Garden Grove HS
3. Lori Sherrill, E. Whittier Intermediate School
4. Allene Shore, Colton HS

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330 YD. LOW HURDLES

The 330 yard low hurdle event will replace the 180 yard low hurdles at the 1975 State and Southern Section Championship Track & Field Meets. Schools who wish to survey their track for this new event will find the following information useful:

1. The race will be run around **one** turn. It may not start or finish on a curve.
2. The recommended start of the race is at the beginning of one straightaway with the finish of the race at the end of the other straightaway.
3. A one-turn (220) stagger is to be used for lanes 2-9.
4. The distances for hurdles in each lane are:
Start to 1st hurdle: State — 49.213 yards S.S. — 147'9"*
Between hurdles: State — 38.272 yards S.S. — 114'9"*
8th hurdle to finish: State — 12.883 yards S.S. — 39'*
5. The hurdles shall be of low hurdle height (30").
6. The 330 yard low hurdles will also become the low hurdle event in the JV and Frosh-Soph Divisions.

*NOTE: The Southern Section measurements follow those of the NCAA and will be used in order to facilitate surveying. The variance between the latter and the State measurements is approximately $2\frac{1}{4}$ " to first hurdle, $\frac{3}{4}$ " between hurdles, and $4\frac{1}{4}$ " after the last hurdle.

GENE KNOTT

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both until his administrative duties made it necessary to end his coaching career. As a post graduate participant he continued in basketball for a few years at the AAU level and has spent the intervening years in a slowly losing battle to maintain his golf handicap.

Another interest of Gene Knott is officiating. He has been quite active in officials' circles having worked football, basketball, and baseball games in the CIF-SS, C.C.A.A., W.C.A.C., and P.C.C.C. His wide range of experience in athletics, officiating, and school administration hold him in good stead when he is called upon frequently for speaking engagements at colleges and universities.

The Knott family includes two teenage daughters, Gina and Gigi, and wife Georgeanne. The later serves in the Riverside Unified School District as a curriculum consultant.

Athletics have always been important to Gene Knott, and he feels that there is great value to be derived from interscholastic athletics, both for the athlete and for all those who are otherwise associated. He believes that this is especially true in the Southern Section, and he seeks in the next four

AMATEUR RULE (Continued from Page One)

It stands uncontradicted that professionalism should not be a part of interscholastic athletics. Interscholastic competition is a wholly justifiable and important aspect of the total educational program. To reward an individual or a team for athletic accomplishments by other than a banquet and/or a trophy, medal, charm, etc., cannot be defended educationally. In this day of increasing commercialism and materialism, we in secondary education might well be thankful that there yet remains opportunities for our youth to develop a love of sport.

"MORE IMPORTANT THAN WINNING"

(Reprinted from a bimonthly newsletter printed by the Chicago Athletic Institute, in the March, 1973 issue of "Sportscope")

"I recently saw a high school basketball game which brought tears to my eyes, gave me a bigger thrill than I've had in years and reinforced my belief that participation in sports can be a great influence in molding the character of our youth."

"I would like to tell you about that game . . . not only because I am certain you will be interested in hearing the story of its ending, but also because I am greatly disturbed by the growing trend in this country to dismiss the redeeming assets of athletics, with its stress on individual and team achievement, pride in oneself and the team or group to which one belongs, and the hard-to-define feeling of caring for others who share with you the ecstasy and agony of victory and defeat."

"The game was played in a small town in California, which has a high school basketball team that is young and inexperienced . . . yet enthusiastic . . . and, but for its height in the front court, had been written off as a contender by the local paper, by the community and judging by the attendance at the games by the student body and faculty as well. They have a mediocre pre-season record, but that doesn't matter. What does matter is that the boys on the team, with the guidance of their fine coach and their own concept of the true riches of life, have discovered at a very early age that there is an inner satisfaction derived from sharing with others . . . in this case, sharing the joy of a two-point basket."

"These boys, at the beginning of the season, voted to accept as a member of their team a mentally handicapped classmate, who was given a team uniform and numeral. He worked out daily at practice and was fairly good at shooting baskets, but was unable to remember all the plays or remember where he was supposed to position himself on the court. He tried his best to succeed, and they admired him for his efforts. They gave him encouragement on and off the field and always arranged rides for him to team meetings and games. He seldom played in any games, yet always participated in warm-up drills, joined the handclaps at the huddle and rooted loudly for his team from the bench."

"The other night, their team had a commanding lead in the game and with 52 seconds left to play he was sent in as a substitute. There was only one hope in the minds of those who were aware of his presence in the line-up . . . that he would

years to contribute to the perpetuation of the quality program presently offered.

GIRLS' COMMITTEES

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V. GIRLS' RELEAGUING

1. Alex Alexander, Desert Sands HS
2. Otto Guli, Tustin HS
3. Robert Jacob, Simi Valley HS
4. Nancy Welborn, Norwalk HS
5. Barbara Wilson, Beverly Hills HS
6. Dr. Joan Wilson, Santa Ana HS

score. With four seconds to go, there was a jump-ball called . . . the entire bench and all the fans were on their feet . . . the boys were yelling at him, telling him where to stand and what to do. The ball was tipped to a teammate, who quickly and deliberately passed it to him and from 25 feet out he sank the best swisher I've ever seen just before the bell sounded ending the game."

"With that, the entire team erupted onto the court, throwing towels in the air slapped him on the back and carried him off the floor on their shoulders to the locker room. The few fans in the stands stood cheering and clapping for several minutes."

"That was when I started crying. I wept not only because the boy had scored the only two points of his varsity career, but also because I'd seen a beautiful thing happen. I regret I had no camera to record the event, but I will never forget it . . . nor will I be swayed from my belief, which was reinforced that night . . . that there is a goodness in all of us which, if properly directed, can have a beneficial effect on our lives and the lives of our associates. I also believe that participation in sports can provide that guidance."

"Do organized sports always live up to their potential in building character in our young people? Of course not . . . but they should. Whether we are athletic directors, parents, educators, politicians, little-league coaches or concerned citizens, our goal should be to utilize that potential and capitalize on the lessons it can teach about life to the youth of this country."

"I have never felt more strongly about the merits of sports than I did that night, when I wept as a young man of limited intellectual capacity felt the glow of receiving an ovation, and his teammates the excitement of sharing happiness with another human being."

"My son is a member of that team . . . he is the varsity captain. He didn't play his best game that night and was discouraged with what he felt was a bad performance. I tried to cheer him up with little success. Then I told him that 20 years from now he probably won't remember the name of the school they played against, the final score or how many points he scored . . . but he'll always remember how he felt when the last shot of the game went sailing through the air and into the hoop, and though he won't admit it now, the tears he choked back."