

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION



SPRING 2024

# Baseball



# PLAYOFF BULLETIN



TO: CIF-SS ATHLETIC DIRECTORS/HEAD BASEBALL COACHES  
 FROM: RICH SHEARER, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER  
 RE: **2024 CIF SOUTHERN SECTION BASEBALL PLAYOFF BULLETIN**  
 DATE: APRIL 2024

With the 2024 Southern Section CIF Baseball Championship Playoffs approaching, this bulletin is designed to assist you with your organizational plans. Please review this bulletin, and after reviewing its contents if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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**PLAYOFF DATES**

**Brackets for all divisions will be released on  
 Monday, April 29, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m. at [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org)**

Wild Card Round	Tuesday, April 30, 2024 – Divisions 2, 4, 6 and 8 Wednesday, May 1, 2024 – Divisions 1, 3, 5 and 7
First Round	Thursday, May 2, 2024 – Divisions 2, 4, 6 and 8 Friday, May 3, 2024 – Divisions 1, 3, 5 and 7
Second Round	Tuesday, May 7, 2024
Quarterfinals Round	Friday, May 10, 2024 – (Divisions 1-5, outfield fence required)
Semifinal Round	Tuesday, May 14, 2024 – (Divisions 1-5, outfield fence required)
<b>Championship Finals</b> <b>Lake Elsinore Diamond</b>	Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18, 2024 500 Diamond Drive, Lake Elsinore

**Specific date, time and location for each divisional final game will be announced on May 15.**

**Note: If a bracket exceeds 48 automatic qualifiers wild card dates may change.**

## **DIVISIONS**

The 2023-2024 CIF Southern Section Baseball Playoffs will be conducted in eight divisions:  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8

## **PLAYOFF ENTRIES**

All 4-team leagues will be guaranteed two entries into the playoffs.  
All 5-6 team leagues will be guaranteed three entries into the playoffs.  
All 7-8 team leagues will be guaranteed four entries into the playoffs.  
All 9 or more team leagues will be guaranteed five entries.

Under the playoff format in all sports, leagues have the responsibility of developing and identifying the priority for their representatives into the playoffs as so noted under Article 3500 (Playoffs) of the CIF Southern Section Blue Book. Please note that leagues may not conduct additional contests beyond the prescribed limits unless said contests are to determine ENTRY and not representative priority (leagues must have this as part of their constitution and must secure permission from the CIF-SS office before conducting such playoffs for entry). If a league includes such conditions in its constitution, it is still obligated to play said contest on or before the last specified allowable playing date (FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024).

## **AT LARGE ENTRIES**

**At Large entries must be submitted by the school no later than 10:00 p.m. on Friday, April 26 in CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)).** In all team sports other than basketball and wrestling, at-large selections will be considered from the next place beyond the guarantee if there are openings in the original draw (32) after all of the league's guaranteed entries are submitted. At-large teams **must have a .500 record or better** for their complete schedule to be considered. Ensure your varsity schedule is complete in [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org).

The At-Large Selection Committee will utilize the following criteria in its selection process.

1. Must have a .500 or better record for their completed schedule
  - a. A tie will count as a ½ win and a ½ loss.
2. Must be next place team from the leagues guaranteed entries in the division they're placed in.
3. Once a team beyond the guarantee is selected, subsequent eligible teams will be considered in order.
4. Head to head competition of teams under consideration
5. Overall strength of league from which the team is entered
6. Overall win-loss record Strength against common opponents
7. Strength of schedule of At-Large teams in consideration (including)
  - a. Teams within the same division
  - b. Teams in higher divisions
  - c. Teams in lower divisions

### **AT LARGE EXAMPLE (#2 & #3) Next place team**

A 4<sup>th</sup> place team from a 6 team league would be selected ahead of a 5<sup>th</sup> place team from a 6 team league.

## **FREELANCE**

Freelance schools are reminded that in order to be considered for post-season competition, they **must** complete a freelance petition in CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) prior to the start of the season. CIF Blue Book bylaw 3510: A freelance school must schedule 80% of the allowable contests at the varsity level. In order to be considered for the playoffs, the school must have a .500 or better record in all contests played and there must be openings in the bracket. Additionally, teams that win 80% of their contests played will be guaranteed entry. Freelance schools should use the At-Large Entry submission through [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) for consideration into the playoffs.

## **REPORTING SCORES**

For all rounds of the playoffs, both teams **must** post the game result into [cifsshome.org](http://cifsshome.org) under teams tab, schedules and scores. All game results should be entered as soon as possible after the completion of the contest so that the next round, in terms of host team assignments and officials, may be finalized. It is very important for winning teams to report their scores to the L.A. Times (213) 234-7151 or 1-800-528-4637, extension 77151 and The Register (714) 796-7804. The publishing of these scores creates interest and allows this office to complete pairings in each bracket.

## **PLAYOFF PAIRINGS**

The initial step in the pairing process is to place the top four seeded teams (identified by the sport specific Advisory Committee using the final "Top Ten Poll") into their assigned position within a playoff bracket. Provided no league-mates appear within the same quarter AND provided the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams from the same leagues are separated into opposite halves of the bracket, the seeding process can continue with teams being placed in their assigned positions. When possible, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> place automatic entries will receive "wild card" games prior to any 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams regardless of overall seed.

## **DETERMINATION OF SITES**

To decide who shall be the host team AFTER the first round of competition will be the sole responsibility of the Commissioner. In cases where two teams are paired after the first round of the playoffs, the team having the fewest number of host games in playoff competition shall be designated as the host team. When both teams have had an equal number of host playoff contests, the Commissioner shall toss a coin to decide the host team. When a school has been designated as the host school for a playoff contest it shall (1) act in that capacity unless excused by the Commissioner, and (2) be considered the host team regardless of where the game is being played. **SPECIAL NOTE: Teams receiving a bye in the first round shall automatically be the host team in the next round of the playoffs.**

## **TIME OF GAME**

All games (other than the Championship Finals) are scheduled to begin at 3:15 p.m. on the designated date. A school may play at other times, or on other days, if it is **mutually agreeable to both competing schools and approved by the CIF office**. In the event of a change of time or date, the host school **MUST** notify the CIF-SS office well in advance. **Please note:** Make certain to notify the CIF-SS for a change in game time **BEFORE** notifying your assignor.

## **PRE-FLIPS**

In an effort to give schools as much time as possible to prepare for baseball playoff contests, we will be conducting coin flips for home teams for the Second Round, Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals according to the following schedule:

Second Round	All Divisions	Thursday, May 2 – 9:00 a.m.
Quarterfinals	All Divisions	Saturday, May 4 – 9:00 a.m.
Semifinals	All Divisions	Wednesday, May 8 – 10:00 a.m.
Finals	All Divisions	Monday, May 13 – 9:00 a.m.

## **LOCATION OF GAMES**

The host school is charged with the responsibility of securing an adequate facility for the holding of a playoff contest. The Commissioner must approve such facilities. Approval will be based upon size of playing field, adequacy of seating to handle the anticipated crowd, condition of diamond, etc. The diamond of the host school may be used, provided it meets CIF-SS standards as determined by the Commissioner. It is recommended that, when possible, schools use enclosed facilities with an outfield fence for playoff game. Crowd control, supervision and the playing facility should be discussed ahead of time by the schools.

## **OUTFIELD FENCE – Required for quarterfinals and semi finals**

Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 must be played at a field with outfield fences. If your home site does not have an outfield fence, you must secure a site that does for **quarterfinal** and **semifinal** games. Additionally, it is strongly suggested that Divisions 6, 7 and 8 games be played at a site with an outfield fence.

# CIFSSHOME REQUIREMENTS

**SCHEDULES & SCORES** Complete your schedule in CIFSSHome prior to your season as well as update scores following each contest Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches: It is very important that you enter your entire season schedule into CIFSSHOME ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) as well as update the scores immediately following your contests.

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director). Once you are logged in:

- On the left panel, click on "Teams", select "Baseball" To Add a game:

- On the left panel, click on "Events", select "Add Event", choose Game under "Event Type", choose date of game under "Event Date", choose **Baseball** under "Sport", choose Varsity under "Level", type the opposing school name in "Add Opponent", choose the type of game under "Select Game Type", click on Home, Away or Neutral under "Location", choose "Start Time" Click on "Save" to add one game or "Save & Duplicate" for multiple games.

- To Submit your score:


- On the left panel, click on "Teams", select "Teams Manager", scroll down to **Baseball** and click on VR to add Varsity scores Click on "Post Result" button, enter your team's score, enter the opponent's score, result should auto populate with either "W", "L" or "T" based on the correct match score entered. If the game was a forfeit, click on the Yes box, enter the set scores in "Notes".

**Make sure that your overall and team records are correct on your team page**

## VARSITY COACHES

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your Baseball coaches (Head & Assistants) into CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024**.


Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

- Click on the "Users" tab, click on "User Manager", click on the  in the upper right hand corner to add Coaches and Assistant Coaches. Enter the information requested on the "Add School User" page. Choose "Active" to provide the coach with access to CIFSSHome or "Inactive" for directory purposes only. Choose Yes or No to give the coach access to all sport, click **Submit**.

Choose the applicable options on the Assign Coach to Team page, click Save or Add Another to add additional coach(s).

## VARSITY TEAM INFORMATION (TEAM PHOTO) due no later than **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024**.

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

- Click on the "Teams" tab, click "Teams Manager", click on "Baseball", click on the "Team Photo" tab, Click on the  under "TEAM PICTURE", choose the file, click **Submit**.

## VARSITY TEAM INFORMATION (ROSTERS)

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your entire Baseball Varsity roster into CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024**.

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

- Click on the "Teams" tab, click on "Teams Manager", click on "Baseball", select 

You can UPLOAD your roster using the instructions below (1) or you can enter each player one by one (2).

**Required roster information for Baseball is:**

**First Name, Last Name, Birth date, Year, Number, Position, Height, Weight & Eligibility**

(1) To ADD roster players one by one:

- Click on  and complete fields required for Baseball.

(2) To Import a Roster using an Excel sample file:

- Download the [sample file](#) and delete the "contents only".



- Copy and paste or type your roster information into the file as the contents and save the file to your computer.

- Only an excel file ([xls](#)) can be uploaded that is the exact same format as the sample file.


- Columns for information not required for your sport may be left blank, but the HEADER INFORMATION MUST REMAIN EXACTLY AS THE SAMPLE.

- **Required Columns for Baseball are:**

**First Name, Last Name, Birth date, Year, Number, Position, Height, Weight & Eligibility**

- Click on to find your file,  then click  on

- To confirm the roster has been uploaded, your players' names will be uploaded in the "Official Roster" section.

- Click on the  next to the player's name to view each player's information.

## AT LARGE APPLICATION – MUST HAVE .500 RECORD OR BETTER

**Attention Athletic Directors/ Coaches:** Please follow the instructions below to enter your school as an At Large Entry for Baseball. The At Large Application is to be submitted by your school no later than **FRIDAY, APRIL 26, 2024 NO LATER THAN 10:00 P.M.**

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

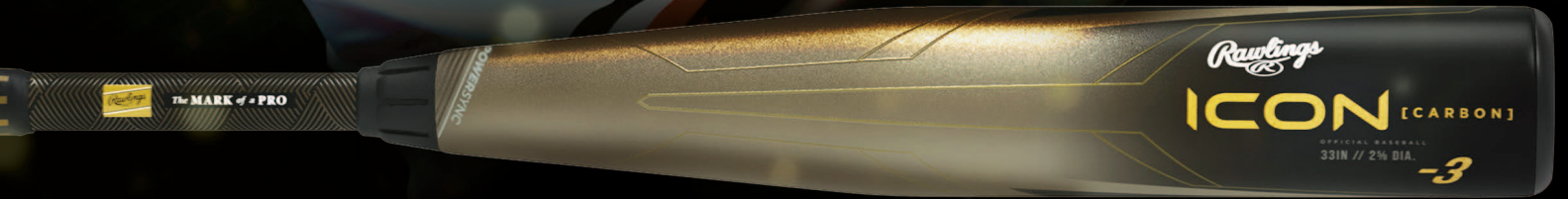
Once you are logged in:

-On the left panel, click on the "Forms" tab, select "At Large Petition"

-Select "Baseball" from the drop down menu, then click "Add"

**Please be sure that your Schedule is updated in CIFSSHome as this is where the information for the At Large Petition will be created.**

# BE ICONIC



**THE OFFICIAL BASEBALL  
OF THE CIF SOUTHERN SECTION**





## OFFICIAL BALL PROGRAM 2023-2024

### Official Ball per sport:

Baseball:	Rawlings RCIF-SS	Must be CIFSS/ <b>NOCSAE</b> stamped ball
Boys Basketball:	Wilson NCAA EVO NXT GAME BALL Size 7 ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> ) Wilson EVO NXT Game Basketball Size 7	
Girls Basketball:	Wilson NCAA EVO NXT GAME BALL Size 6 ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> ) Wilson EVO NXT Game Basketball Size 6	
Football:	Wilson GTS GAME BALL Wilson GST Prime GAME BALL	
Lacrosse:	Champion Sports NOCSAE Balls	(White LBWNOCSAE, Yellow LBYNOCSAE, Orange LBO, Lime Green LBG)
Soccer:	Wilson NCAA Vivido Match Ball ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> ) Wilson NCAA Veza Match Ball Wilson Forte Fybrid II NCAA Match Soccer Ball ( <i>discontinued</i> )	
Softball:	Rawlings FPCIF-SS ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> )	
Tennis:	Penn ATP World Tour ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> ) Pro Penn Marathon	
Volleyball, Indoor:	Mikasa VFC1000 Series ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> ) Mikasa VQ2000 Series	
Volleyball, Beach:	Wilson NCAA OPTX Game Ball ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> )	
Boys Water Polo:	KAP7 model 105 with NFHS stamp ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> )	
Girls Water Polo:	KAP7 model 104 with NFHS stamp ( <b>Used in CIF-SS Championship</b> )	

### Mandatory Playoff Use Requirement:

The mandatory “official” ball rule for all playoff rounds, excluding golf. The rule applies throughout the conduct of **all** CIF-SS **playoff** contests.

**\*Items in red are used in the final game for the CIF-SS Championships. Any model listed is compliant in CIF-SS post season play.**

### Playoff Ball Use Rule Enforcement:

Should a school fail to provide the correct game ball, the game will always be played. Teams/schools failing to utilize the correct official ball in CIF-SS playoffs will be reported by officials to CIF-SS and will not be allowed to host their next available home playoff game. Penalty will carry over to the next season if not enforceable this season due to elimination.

**Note: NFHS stamp is required in all sports *except in golf, tennis and beach volleyball.***

## 1. RULES

All playoff games will be conducted using the National Federation Baseball rules, **except** where Blue Book rulings or **this bulletin supersede**. All playoff games will be of 7 (seven) innings duration.

## 2. BATTING PRACTICE

**Blue Book Rule 1515.2 states, "Teams entered in the baseball playoffs will not be permitted to take batting practice on the day of a playoff game prior to the commencement of the contest."**

Batting practice will be construed as **ANY** type of pitching motion with **ANY** type of ball from in front of the batter (including pitching machines and overhand throwing). **THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE BATTING WARMUP WILL BE SIDE SOFT TOSS OR BATTING TEE WORK. This should be done with only non-hard balls such as whiffle, smush, or reduced flight balls.**

- A) For side soft toss, the guidelines are as follows: the tosser should be on a knee, to the side of the batter and the ball should be lifted, not pitched, to the batter. **NO PEPPER IS ALLOWED AT ANY DISTANCE.**
- B) To clarify any questions that may arise. "Tracking", the idea that hitters will stand in a batter's position, while pitchers throw overhand to a catcher, and "track" pitches as they come toward the plate, is not considered batting practice by definition and is allowable prior to playoff contests. Batters who swing, or attempt to swing or bunt in any fashion, will be in violation of this rule and may face the consequences of that action. Coaches should be very careful to monitor any and all pre-game activities.
- C) No batting practice of any type may take place in batting cages.  
**THE PENALTY FOR BATTING PRACTICE MAY BE FORFEITURE OF THE GAME.** Games will start at the scheduled time and each team will be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes for infield practice.

Question: If a coach, during the homeplate pre-game meeting, does not announce to the umpire and their opponent that a possible violation of the batting practice rule has occurred, could that violation be considered at any time after?

Answer: No, any perceived batting practice violation must be noted by the plate umpire prior to the end of the pregame meeting to be report to the CIF-SS Office.

## 3. PITCHING LIMITATION RULE

A reminder that both Pitching Limitation Rule 1500 (30 Outs per week) and 1501 Pitch Count will be in effect for all CIF Southern Section Baseball Playoff games. Please make sure that coaches are verifying pitch count after each half inning or a visible pitch count mechanism (i.e. scoreboard add-on, flip chart behind home plate, etc.) can be seen by both teams. Coaches may use this as verification of the pitch count. Please review the specific rules for pitching limitations below.

### **1500. PITCHING LIMITATION RULE – 30 OUTS**

Sections shall adopt the following baseball pitching limitation rule: 30 outs and/or three (3) appearances in a calendar week through the season.

- A. The calendar week begins on Monday.
- B. Innings pitched in a no game (i.e., rainout, power failure, etc.) shall count toward the total.
- C. If the 30<sup>th</sup> out involves a double or triple play, the team will not be penalized.
- D. An appearance is defined as a pitcher pitching at least one (1) pitch. If a pitcher is removed from the mound to another position or to the dugout and later returns to pitch in the same game, the pitcher will be charged with a second appearance.
- E. Any violation constitutes a forfeit of the contest.



## 1501. PITCHING LIMITATION RULE – PITCH COUNT

In addition to 1500 above, Sections shall adopt the following baseball pitching limitation rule with respect to pitch count and required days of rest:

### Pitch count limits and required rest:

Level	Maximum Contest Pitch Limit	0 Days Rest Required	1 Day Rest Required	2 Days Rest Required	3 Days Rest Required
Varsity	110 Pitches	1-30 Pitches	31-50 Pitches	51-75 Pitches	76+ Pitches
Freshman; F/S; JV	90 Pitches	1-30 Pitches	31-50 Pitches	51-75 Pitches	76+ Pitches

- A. A pitcher may finish the current batter if the Maximum Contest Pitch Limit is reached during that at-bat.
- B. Pitches thrown and appearances made in a no game (i.e., rainout, power failure, etc.) shall count toward the totals.
- C. At the end of each half inning, the head coaches will confirm and both team score books will record the pitch count for all pitchers who threw a pitch in that half inning. In the case of a discrepancy, the home book is considered the official score book.
- D. It is the expectation of the CIF Southern Section that coaches will discuss any discrepancies **before** a potential violation occurs.
- D. Each school must keep a record of all pitches thrown by each of their players in each game and make this available to their respective Section Office upon request.
- E. Any violation constitutes a forfeit of the contest

### Questions & Answers:

Q: If a pitch count mechanism is used that is visible to both teams, do the coaches still need to confirm the pitch count every half inning?

A: No. If the mechanism (i.e. scoreboard add-on, flip chart behind home plate, etc.) can be seen by both teams, the coaches may use that as verification of the pitch count.

Q: How is a day of rest defined?

A: A day of rest is defined as a calendar day. For example, if a pitcher throws 76 or more pitches in a Monday game thus requiring three-days rest before being allowed to pitch again, those days of rest would be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday allowing that pitcher to pitch again on Friday.

Q: If a pitcher exceeds the maximum number of allowable pitches with respect to the required days of rest while finishing a batter, how are the required number of rest days calculated?

A: The required days of rest is determined by the actual number of pitches thrown. For example, if a pitcher starts a batter with 48 pitches, finishes the batter with 53 pitches and is then removed from the game, that pitcher would be required to rest for two days before making another appearance.

Q: What, if any role, do the umpires play in the confirmation and recording of the pitch count after each half inning?

A: The umpires are asked to ensure that the teams are exchanging the required information but the actual recording of the pitch count is up to the head coach from each school.

Q: If an intentional walk is issued to the batter and no pitches are delivered to home plate, are those pitches counted towards the pitcher's total number?

A: No. Those pitches would not count towards the pitcher's total number

Q: In the case of balk, when does a pitch count towards the pitcher's total number?

A: A pitch would only count if the ball is delivered to the batter.

Q: If a batter is awarded timeout by the umpire but the pitcher still delivers the ball to the batter, does that pitch count towards the pitcher's total number?

A: No. That pitch would not count towards the pitcher's total number.

Q: Does the Pitch Count reset each Monday like the 30 Out Rule?

A: No. While the 30 Out Rule will reset each Monday, the Pitch Count Rule will not. For example, if a pitcher throws 76+ pitches in a game on Saturday, they would have to rest on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday before being eligible to pitch again on Wednesday.

Q: May the same pitcher appear in two different games on the same day?

A: Yes. However, they may only do so if they threw 30 pitches or less in the first game and are not required to rest. Also, they may not throw more than 110 pitches total for the day.

#### **4. UMPIRES**

The Commissioner, on the basis of merit for the particular official's work during the regular season, will appoint umpires for all playoff contests. Each non-final game will be assigned three officials. Umpire's fees shall be charged to game expenses if there is an admission charge. In all playoff games, for all divisions prior to the Semifinals, there shall be 3 umpires and each umpire shall receive \$100.00 each. Semi-final contests will be made up of 4 umpires, who shall receive \$100.00 each. In all Championship Games (Finals), all 4 umpires shall receive \$106.00 each. (Any official entitled to mileage will be compensated according to the formula in the CIF-SS Blue Book and this bulletin). Payment of officials will be the responsibility of the host school.

#### **5. COACHES**

Coaches of the host team are responsible for typing the ground rules on cards and presenting copies to umpires and the opposing coach prior to the game. No player or adult may coach from the first or third base box that is not in uniform. Any player in a coaching box must be listed on the certified eligibility list submitted to the CIF-SS office.

Reminder, NFHS Baseball Rules 3-3-1-a and 3-3-1-i, which deal with the following issues, will be enforced for all playoff games.

3-3-1-a – “A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not: (a) leave the dugout during a live ball for an unauthorized purpose.”

3-3-1-i – “A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not: (i) be outside the designated dugout, (bench) or bullpen area if not a batter, runner, on-deck batter, in the coach's box or one of the nine players on defense.”

#### **6. SPORTSMANSHIP**

There should be a great deal of concern about security for officials. It is strongly suggested that the home team have a representative to escort the officials to the playing field and back to your locker room and/or their car at the end of the contest. A responsible adult who can guarantee the security of the official should do this task.

##### Cheering Section

Fan/Student cheering sections are encouraged to cheer and support their own team and should display proper sportsmanship with respect to the opposing team and the game officials. They are expected to follow the following guidelines and failure to do so may lead to removal from the contest and/or forfeiture of the contest.

1. No noisemakers (horns, bells, victory bells, sirens, chimes, wooden blocks, buckets, thunder sticks, etc.) Megaphones may only be used by the school's uniformed cheer squads.
2. Cheering devices such as rally towels, pom poms and pennants are acceptable. when used within the bounds of good sportsmanship.
3. It is the expectation that cheering section behavior will be monitored by the assigned school staff of the school that they represent. All improper behavior/language should be addressed and corrected immediately by school staff supervisors.
4. Face paint is acceptable from the neck up only and shall not include any inappropriate letters or symbols. Assigned school staff shall monitor their cheering sections regarding face painting.

#### **7. PLAYER CONDUCT**

##### **503.M Statewide Sportsmanship and Ejection Policy**

PLAYER: A player who is ejected from a contest (for reasons other than fighting or leaving the bench area during a fight) shall be ineligible to participate in the remainder of that contest (event) and his or her team's future contest (s) as outlined below:

- 1) First Ejection: Player is ineligible to participate in the team's next contest. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's next contest. If the ejection

- occurs in the last game of the season, the player would be ineligible for the team's first contest the following season. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for the first contest of their next season of sport.
- 2) Second Ejection: Player is ineligible to participate in the team's next three (3) contests. If the season concludes prior to the player serving the three (3) contests suspension, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for their next season of sport.
  - 3) Third Ejection: Player is ineligible to participate for the remainder of that season. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's remaining contest that season. If there are six (6) or fewer contests remaining in the season, the player would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for the next season of sport as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

A player who is ejected from a contest for fighting or leaving the bench during a fight\* shall be ineligible to participate in the remainder of that contest and his or her team's future contests as outlined below:

- 4) First Ejection: Player (Fighting/Assaultive Behavior/Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct) is ineligible to participate in the team's next three to six contests as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the duration of the suspension. If the season concludes prior to the player serving the full suspension, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for the team's following season. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for their next season of sport. \*NFHS Rule indicates automatic one game suspension for leaving the bench.
- 5) Second Ejection: Player is ineligible to participate for the remainder of that season. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's remaining contests that season. If there are six (6) or fewer contest remaining in the season, the player would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for up to six (6) contest for their next season of sport as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

Before a player may return to participate in a contest following a multiple game suspension for any of the above infractions, the school principal must inform the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter that they have met with the student-athlete, his or her parent/guardian/caregiver and coach to discuss future behavioral expectations.

#### Appeals Process for All Multi-Game Ejections:

The school principal may appeal the penalties listed above in writing to the League Commissioner/President (for regular season contest not including the final contest prior to Section playoffs) or CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter (for final contest prior to the Section playoffs and all playoff contest). The appeal must be received by the Section with 48 hours of the date of the ejection. Reason for the appeal may only include misidentification of the ejected player or a misapplication of the rule. There will be no appeal regarding the judgement of an official.

Note: there is no appeal process for single game ejections

### **8. COACH EJECTION**

A coach who is ejected from a contest (for reasons other than fighting) shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of that contest and his or her team's future contest (s) as outlined below:

- 6) First Ejection: Coach is disqualified from participating in the team's next contest. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for the team's next contest. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season, the coach would be ineligible for the team's first contest the following season.
- 7) Second Ejection: Coach is disqualified from participating in the team's next three (3) to six (6) contests as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for the team's next (3) to six (6) contest. If the ejections occur in the last game of the season, the coach would be ineligible for the team's first three (3) to six (6) contests the following season.
- 8) Third Ejection: Coach is disqualified from participating in the remaining contest of that season. Coach must

immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for the remaining contests of that season. If there are six(6) or fewer contest remaining in the season, the coach would be disqualified from participating for up to six (6) contest for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

A coach who is ejected from a contest for (Fighting/Assaultive Behavior/Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct) shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of that contest and his or her team's future contests as outlined below:

- 9) Ejection for (Fighting/Assaultive Behavior/Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct): Coach is disqualified from participating or the remainder of that season. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for all the team's remaining contest that season. If there are fewer than six (6) contest remaining in the season, the coach would be disqualified from participating for up to six(6) contest for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

Before a coach may return to participate in a contest following a multiple contest disqualification, for any of the above infractions, the school principal must inform the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter that they have met with the coach to discuss future behavioral expectations.

#### Appeal Process for All Multi-Game Ejections:

The school principal may appeal the penalties listed above in writing to the League Commissioner/President (for regular season contest not including the final contest prior to Section playoffs) of CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter (for the final contest prior to Section playoffs and all playoff contests) The appeal must be received by the Section withing 48 hours of the date of the ejection. Reasons for the appeal may only include misidentification of the ejection coach or a misapplication of the rule. There will be no appeal regarding the judgement of an official.

Note: There is no appeal process for a single game ejection.

#### **9. SPECTATOR:**

If a spectator is ejected from a contest, it is the responsibility of the school to ensure that person does not attend that team's next contest. If the same spectator is ejected a second time, it is the responsibility of the school to ensure that person does not attend any of the remaining contest for that season.

#### **10. TEAM ROSTER**

A team roster must be completed in [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (Teams, Varsity) **no later than April 17, 2024**. This list will suffice for all remaining baseball playoff contests unless there are changes and/or additions. If a player(s) needs to be added to the roster list, please revise your roster before this student is allowed to compete in a playoff contest.

**DURING THE 2024 CIF SOUTHERN SECTION BASEBALL PLAYOFFS, THE RAWLINGS RCIF-SS BASEBALL (SEE PICTURE BELOW) WILL BE THE MANDATORY BASEBALL FOR ALL PLAYOFF GAMES. THE SOUTHERN SECTION OFFICE WILL FURNISH THESE BASEBALLS FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS.**

## **Playoff Required Baseball**



#### **11. BASEBALL GAMES – RAINOUT POLICY**

1. In instances where games cannot be started due to inclement weather, teams will postpone that day's scheduled games until the next available date. Weekday games will be postponed until the next day; Saturday games will be postponed until the following Monday.
2. If games are started and then must be called due to inclement weather, the following NFHS rules apply:

- a. If a game has reached 4 and one-half completed innings, with the Home team ahead, then it is an official game and the result will stand. In other words, the Visiting team has had 5 completed innings at bat and the Home team is ahead in the contest.
- b. If the game has reached 5 completed innings, with the Visiting team ahead, then it is an official game and the result will stand. In other words, if both teams have had 5 completed innings at bat and the Visiting team is ahead in the contest.
- c. If a contest has not reached the required number of innings to be an official contest, and the game is called due to inclement weather, then the game is ended at that point when the teams resume play on their next available date, the game starts over with no score. Also, no statistics from a game that ends before it is an official contest will be recorded.
- d. If a contest is tied and is stopped due to inclement weather, if it is less than an official game (has not reached the 4 and one-half completed innings or 5 completed innings), then the game would start over with no score. If it is an official game (5 completed innings or more), then it will resume from the point it was called. For Baseball, all pitching innings and pitch count would count regardless.

**Note: The outs recorded by any pitcher in a game that is ended before it is an official contest, DO count toward the 30 outs maximum during the current week, Monday through Saturday. All pitches thrown in game that is ended before it is an official contest do count in the pitch count limitation rule.**

We ask that you please communicate with our office immediately on any changes to your scheduled games.

## **12. PROTESTS OF PLAYOFF CONTESTS**

Coaches are encouraged to carry National Federation baseball rulebooks with them for all playoff contests. Coaches **must** resolve questions pertaining to possible misapplication of the rules in accordance with the National Federation baseball rules. **No protest may be carried forth once the contest is completed, with the following exception.** Schools will still have the opportunity to protest a contest in accordance with Southern Section rules, Rule 1111, as it pertains to use of ineligible player, or violations of any CIF-SS rule in connection with the contest.

## **13. ADMISSION REGULATIONS FOR PLAYOFF CONTESTS**

### **For Playoff Rounds other than the Divisional Championships**

Generally, due to the inability to obtain playing sites that are enclosed, admission is not charged for baseball playoff contests. However, if agreed upon by both schools and permission is received from the CIF-SS office **in advance**, admission may be charged. If it is agreed upon to charge admission, the following financial regulations will be in effect:

(A) ADMISSION PRICES (Playoff Rounds) -- The admission prices shall be \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students with valid high school ID cards and \$5.00 for children 13 and under.

(B) HOST SCHOOL (Playoff Rounds) -- The designated host school is responsible for all costs incurred in hosting the contest. These would include officials, supervision, stadium rental, etc.

(C) VISITING SCHOOL (Playoff Rounds) -- The designated visiting school is responsible for all costs incurred in traveling, such as bus, meals, etc.

(D) GATE SPLIT (Playoff Rounds) -- When admission is charged, the gate is to be handled as a gross gate and split 50-50 between the competing schools (please refer to Article 1, Section 143, page 49, of the Blue Book).

(E) ADMISSION PRICES (Championship Finals) -- The admission prices shall be \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for students with valid high school ID cards and \$5.00 for children 13 and under.

## **14. RULE 526 - TOBACCO PRODUCTS PROHIBITED**

The use of tobacco products in conjunction with any CIF Southern Section athletic contest is prohibited. That is to include all those involved in the contest including players, coaches, and officials.

## 15. **TEN RUN RULE**

National Federation Rule 4-2-2 states that the 10 run rule is optional, not mandatory. **All C.I.F. playoff games will be played without the 10-run rule**

## 16. **AWARDS**

The Southern Section will present awards to the champions and runner-up teams in all eight divisions of the playoffs. CIF-SS patches and t-shirts will be awarded to the 20 members of the championship team in all divisions. Individual medals will be provided for 20 members of the runner-up teams in all seven divisions.

## **PLAYOFF/CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS AND SOUVENIRS**

The CIF Southern Section name and logo are registered trademarks with the State of California. It is illegal to use the name (CIF Southern Section, Southern Section or CIF-SS) on any awards, souvenirs or other materials except through licensed vendors or with prior CIF-SS approval. Likewise, 'CIF' without Southern Section or 'SS' is a licensed mark of the State CIF with similar restrictions.

Do not make independent items with CIF, CIF-SS or Southern Section: Please note that schools, including their booster clubs and parents, are subject to sanction and will be held financially accountable for unsold product at playoff events involving their school should they create items using the CIF-SS trademark without authorization. Example: School X creates team playoff t-shirt that includes 'CIF-SS Football Finals' in the design and upon reaching Finals the CIF-SS on-site vendor is unable to sell similar product created for that event; the violating school would be required to purchase all unsold shirts.

## **BASEBALL REMINDERS**

**SPORTSMANSHIP-CELEBRATIONS AROUND OR NEAR HOME PLATE**--Any walk-off game winning base hit or home run generates immediate excitement. Everyone on the winning team wants to congratulate the successful batter. However, the problem is that the umpire has to verify that the runner touches home plate. Additionally, umpires must be alert for bad sportsmanship, taunting and other boorish behavior. Therefore, umpires are instructed to keep players out of the home plate circle or the area around home plate until all runners have scored.

**LINE UP CARDS**—Please do not separate lineup cards. Just hand everything to the plate umpire. It is acceptable to provide a lineup card to the opposing team scorekeeper before the pregame meeting at home plate. Umpires are instructed to take the home lineup card first, then the visiting lineup card before inspecting either of the lineup cards.

**LINEUP CARDS II**—If you are using a designated hitter, please list the DH either directly below or directly across from the player for whom he is hitting. Please do not list the DH at the bottom of the lineup card, unless of course, he is batting for the player ninth in the order.

**PREGAME MEETING**—It has been noted that during the pregame meeting at home plate, members of the visiting team have often been observed outside their dugout warming up with bats. Rule 2-10-2 provides that BOTH teams must remain in the dugout during the pregame meeting. Please remind your teams.

## CIF POINTS OF EMPHASIS

**GAME MANAGEMENT:** Teams are doing a much better job of correctly lining the field. The most notable problems are the lack of markings for the three-foot running lane and the coaching boxes.

**PREGAME EQUIPMENT/BAT INSPECTION:** Along with asking if players are properly and legally equipped, umpires will now verify with coaches that all of their equipment (bats, batting helmets and catcher's helmets) are legal.

The specific language in rule 4-1-3b reads "equipped with bats that are unaltered from the original manufacturer's design and production and helmets that meet NFHS and NOCSAE standards and free of cracks or damage."

The result of that rule change means that umpires will no longer be required to do pregame equipment checks.

The penalty for using an illegal bat now also affects the coaches, since they have certified the legality of their equipment at the pregame meeting.

**POST GAME BEHAVIOR:** NFHS rules only cover the conduct of players and coaches during a game. There is no coverage of a penalty for coach or player conduct after a game. As a result, there have been instances of coaches and/or players, knowing there is no penalty, acting with non-sporting behavior toward umpires after a game.

In the event of post-game behavior by a coach or player that would result in an ejection during a game, the coach or player will be informed by the umpires that his behavior will be reported to the area liaison as an ejection. This policy is in effect until the umpires leave the game site.

Please note that the above has the full support of the CIF-SS.

## MILEAGE FOR OFFICIALS

C.I.F. Southern Section Blue Book Rule 1212 mileage for officials in the playoffs and has been adopted by the C.I.F. Southern Section in all sports.

1. The point of origination for mileage will be determined by the location of the meeting place for that officials association.
2. A flat fee will be used to compensate officials for travel during the playoffs, based on the following scale... (All mileage is round trip).

<b>51 – 75 miles =</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>
<b>76 – 125 miles =</b>	<b>\$27.00</b>
<b>126 – 175 miles =</b>	<b>\$44.00</b>
<b>176 – 250 miles =</b>	<b>\$62.00</b>
<b>251 – 350 miles =</b>	<b>\$88.00</b>
<b>351 – 450 miles =</b>	<b>\$123.00</b>

451 miles and above = For distances beyond 450 miles, the following formula will be utilized:

Begin with \$123.00, which represents 450 miles round trip.  
Add \$4.50 for every additional 15 miles traveled round trip.

Example: 525 miles round trip = \$123.00 – First 450 miles  
Additional 75 miles = \$12.00 – 75 divided by 15 = 5, multiply by \$4.50  
Total Mileage Reimbursement = \$145.00

3. The mileage stipend will be paid to the Head Official of all officiating crews in all sports.



## 2023-2024 ALL CIF SS BASEBALL SELECTION PROCESS GUIDELINES

### **NEW FORMAT FOR 2024:**

All coaches within their respective division will be eligible to vote for their division's All CIF team. A link to the ballot form will be emailed to each head coaches email address listed in CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshhome.org](http://www.cifsshhome.org)). Please be certain that your email address is accurate.

All teams competing in the CIF Southern Section Baseball season are eligible to nominate players.

League champions may nominate up to three players, other playoff teams (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, At Large in league) may nominate up to two players and teams that did not qualify for the playoffs are limited to one player nomination.

In addition, if your team reaches the finals of the playoffs, an additional player (up to 4 maximum per team) may be nominated after the final game.

A separate form is required for each player that you are nominating. You must submit full final season stats including southern section playoffs for each player. Coaches will nominate players (in the order they would have them considered).

A player and coach of the year will be selected for each respective division. There is a total of 22 players that will receive "All CIF" honors. If you have a player who you deem worthy of being part of the top 22 players in your division, please nominate your player(s).

### **ALL CIF NOMINATION LINK**

Once your season has ended, you may submit nominations.

The deadline to submit nominations will be **Monday, May 20, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.**

Questions or inquiries regarding ALL-CIF Baseball contact Iran Novick at [allcifssbaseball@aol.com](mailto:allcifssbaseball@aol.com).

**This information will be released to the media via the CIF office and should NOT be shared with recipients, parents, or media prior to the CIF press release.**



# MEMO



**To:** CIF STATE REGIONAL QUALIFIERS

**From:** Richard Shearer, CIF-SS Assistant Commissioner, Baseball Administrator

**Date:** April 2024

**Subject:** CIF STATE BASEBALL REGIONAL CRITERIA

The CIF Southern Section will be granted 20 entries into the CIF State Regional Championships. Teams may be moved to a different State Regional Division than the one in which they competed in during the Southern Section playoffs. There are no enrollment parameters in any division. The CIF State Seeding Committee has the authority to adjust when necessary due to travel considerations or when a repeat match-up of a final or semi-final occurs, but every effort is made to keep the schools in the order they are submitted. If one of the teams elects not to compete in the regional event a school will be selected from the previous rounds. The highest seeded team that did not advance to the semi-final, or the final, will be invited followed by the next highest seeded team followed by the next, etc. until the entries are filled. The entrants will be as follows:

- 4 Semifinalists from Southern Section Division 1
- 4 Semifinalists from Southern Section Division 2
- 2 Semifinalists from Southern Section Division 3
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 4
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 5
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 6
- 2 Champion from Southern Section Division 7
- 2 Champion from Southern Section Division 8

For additional information visit the CIF State website  
[www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org)



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