

Thom Simmons
Director of Communications
thoms@cifss.org



Anita Fopma
Assistant to the Director
anitaf@cifss.org

CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION - SOUTHERN SECTION

10932 Pine St., Los Alamitos, CA 90720

(562) 493-9500

(562) 493-6266 - Fax

www.cifss.org



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CONTACT: THOM SIMMONS

MEDIA RELEASE

BISHOP CONATY-LORETTO FORFEITS FIRST-ROUND WIN

LOS ALAMITOS - After a review of the facts presented involving Bishop Conaty-Loretto High School in the Division 7 softball playoffs a batting practice rule was found to be violated. Bishop Conaty-Loretto's first-round opponent, Cornelia Connelly High School, will now advance to the next round of the playoffs.

Bishop Conaty-Loretto's violation was based on the CIF-SS Bluebook Bylaw 2522.2 that states:

"Teams entered in the softball playoffs will not be permitted to take batting practice on the day of a playoff game prior to the commencement of the contest or during the contest (See playoff bulletin for definition of batting practice).

The CIF-SS Softball Playoff Bulletin states the following: "**PRE-GAME BATTING PRACTICE ONLY – Includes bunting or slap hitting. Teams entered in the softball playoffs WILL NOT be permitted to take batting practice on the day of the scheduled 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, underhand tossing, overhand throwing or pepper). **SIDE SOFT TOSS and *BATTING TEES WILL BE ACCEPTABLE FOR PREGAME BATTING WARMUP.**

The player who tosses the ball must not be standing; they must be sitting or on a knee directly to the side facing the batter. The ball should be lifted, not pitched, to the batter.

***Effective in the 2017 playoffs the use of a Batting "T" is acceptable.**

THE PENALTY FOR BATTING PRACTICE WITH WIFFLE BALL, SOFTBALL, BASEBALL, ETC. MAY BE FORFEITURE OF THE GAME.

Cornelia Connelly will now host St. Mary's Academy on Tuesday in a second-round contest. The CIF Southern Section-Ford Division 7 Softball Championship playoffs culminate with title game action at Deanna Manning Stadium at Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine.

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