

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

SEASONS GREETINGS AND A GIFT THAT LASTS A LIFETIME



As we reach the end of 2017, I would like to send Seasons Greetings from all of us at the CIF Southern Section to all of you. As we look back at what has transpired over the last year, I am reminded of the gift that our CIF Southern Section member schools have given to themselves and to all of us. That gift is the competitive equity playoff system that we unwrapped last school year. That gift continues to be enjoyed today and serves as the foundation for the lifetime memories that will endure for so many of our student-athletes, coaches, parents, fans and communities from their high school athletic experiences. Since we began, I have provided you with a great deal of evidence related to closer games and smaller margins of victory across a wide variety of sports. However, there is another aspect of this system that has resulted in giving schools an opportunity to compete for Section Championships that they have never had before. I offer the following examples of championships won in 2017 that were won by schools who had never won a CIF Southern Section Championship in that sport in their school's history...

Fall 2017

- 4 of the 5 Girls Tennis Champions = 80%
- 7 of the 10 Girls Volleyball Champions = 70%
- 4 of the 7 Boys Water Polo Champions = 57%
- Also, this year we crowned 2 Football Champions for the first time, and had another school win a Football Championship for the first time since 1929 = 88 years!

Spring 2017

- 3 of the 7 Baseball Champions = 43%
- 5 of the 7 Softball Champions = 71%
- 3 of the 5 Boys Tennis Champions = 60%
- 4 of the 5 Boys Volleyball Champions = 80%

Winter 2017

- 4 of the 12 Boys Basketball Champions = 33%
- 5 of the 12 Girls Basketball Champions = 42%
- 3 of the 7 Boys Soccer Champions = 43%
- 5 of the 7 Girls Soccer Champions = 71%
- 5 of the 7 Girls Water Polo Champions = 71%

We had plenty of schools who won championships in the past year who had won them before, which creates lifetime memories for those schools as well. I think we would all agree that there is something very special about winning a championship for the very first time, or in the case of Orange High School Football, for a very long time. Certainly, these are meaningful gifts to all involved, especially because they are not given, they are earned. As a result, this gift will be enjoyed forever.

Thank you very much for your help and support and good luck always.

All the best to you and yours for a joyous holiday season,

Rob Wignel

