

**ARTICLE 310
WATER POLO**

3100. TIME CLOCKS

It is recommended, but not required, that clocks used in conducting water polo contests be visible to the participants.

#3100.1 A visible 30-second clock shall not be required.

3101. OFFICIAL NATIONAL FEDERATION AUTHENTICATION MARK

Only balls with the National Federation authentication mark shall be used in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball, volleyball and water polo (February 1999 Federated Council; revised to include lacrosse November 2000 Federated Council.)

3102. WATER POLO REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A regional boys and girls water polo championship will be held following the completion of Section playoffs. Water Polo Regional Championship entries will be placed into the appropriate region aligning with the "sections" current "season of sport" (Approved October 2016 Federated Council)

3103. RULES

All water polo games in the CIF Southern Section will be played under National Federation rules unless otherwise provided.

<>3104. SCRIMMAGES

An interscholastic scrimmage is a training session between a minimum of two and a maximum of three schools where no score is kept, free substitution and time-outs are permitted, spectators are not urged to attend, and officials are not paid. (See Q & A following Bylaw 220.8 for definition.) All allowable interscholastic scrimmages must be conducted prior to the team's first interscholastic contest (non-league, tournament or league).

<>3104.1 *Boys Teams* - Two interscholastic scrimmage may be conducted beginning August 20.

<>3104.2 *Girls Teams* - Two interscholastic scrimmage may be conducted beginning November 12.

<>3105 TOURNAMENTS

~~A team may not be entered in more than three tournaments.~~

~~3105.1 For each tournament a team will be charged two games toward the allowable maximum number of contests.~~

QUESTION: Can a school enter two teams in the same tournament at the same level (i.e. varsity "A" and varsity "B")?

ANSWER: If a school chooses to split a single team into two teams in the same tournament at the same level they will be charged one allotted tournament for each team entered. If a school enters a varsity "A" and a varsity "B" team, they will be charged for two (2) of the allowable three (3) tournaments for the season.

~~3105.2 All tournaments, regardless of the number of teams participating, are allowed a maximum of 5 games while still counting as 2 of your allowable contests.~~

~~3105.3 Tournament managers are responsible for notifying participating schools of the number of games and/or teams participating in the tournament.~~

3105.4 A student may not participate in more than three tournaments during the season.

NOTE: Two contests could be played on the same day in the SAME TOURNAMENT*, but not two games in two different tournaments (See

Bylaw 3112). EXCEPTION: Maximum of three contests could be played in the SAME TOURNAMENT on a non-school day.

<>3106. STARTING DATES FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTESTS

<>*Boys Teams* - No interscholastic contests (non-league, tournament or league) may be scheduled prior to August 21.

<>*Girls Teams* - No interscholastic contests (non-league, tournament or league) may be scheduled prior to November 20.

3107. MAXIMUM TEAM CONTESTS

A water polo team is permitted to play no more than 20 games during the season, including tournaments, but excluding CIF Southern Section playoffs.

#3106.1 FACULTY: Each team will be permitted to play one game with the faculty which will not count toward the allowable number of contests.

#3106.2 ALUMNI: Each team will be permitted to play one Alumni contest, which will not count toward the allowable number of contests.

<>3108. END OF COMPETITION

All league competition for entries must end on or before the Thursday prior to the first playoff date. For boys teams October 26 and for the girls teams February 8. Schools may compete until Saturday in non-league contests and/or tournament play. For the boys teams October 28 and for the girls teams February 10.

QUESTION: Will contest(s) played after the completion of league play and/or submission of league entries impact seeding or rankings?

ANSWER: No, once the league entries have been submitted a school will be seeded and ranked based on a team's results as of October 26 for boys and February 8 for girls.

<>3109. SUMMERTIME RULES/SUMMER DEAD PERIOD/SPORTS CAMPS

3109.1 With the exception of the summer dead period, until the beginning of the first official starting date for fall sports, there shall be no restriction on high school coaches working with high school students registered and/or attending their respective high school or entering them in summer competition, provided approval is received from the school principal.

QUESTION: Who may participate in high school summer athletic programs approved by the principal?

ANSWER: Only students registered for the upcoming school year in grades 9 through 12. Additionally, it would be a violation to allow elementary students (8th grade and below) to participate with the high school team. For students enrolled in more than one school, all summer practice and competition must be confined to one school.

3109.2 High schools may sponsor sport camps and/or allow non-school sponsored sport camps to use their facilities.

- * High school students and individuals from the general community can attend.
- * The high school name, nickname and identifying marks can be used in the title and/or promotion of the camp.
- * The principal of the high school must give permission for the camp to take place; non-school sponsored camps must secure a facility permit for use of any facilities and equipment.
- * The camp must comply with all CIF rules, including those pertaining to undue influence and dead period.
- * Non-school sponsored camps should provide required liability insurance for the use of any school facilities.

3109.3 A summer dead period must be declared by the school principal for all sports. The dates of the dead period must be forwarded to the Southern Section Commissioner. The dead period must be the same for all levels and must be three (3) consecutive weeks between the end of school or the last Friday in May, whichever is first, and the last Monday in August. No class could be offered which could circumvent the rule. There are no exceptions to the summer dead period.

During the dead period, weight lifting ONLY would be permitted. No running or other type of conditioning would be allowed.

Special nationally recognized programs in various sports that require a national or regional championship format, such as Bobby Sox Softball, American Legion or Mickey Mantle Baseball, etc., would be allowed to continue, until completion, during the dead period.

3110. OUTSIDE COMPETITION BY AN INDIVIDUAL

During Individual's Season of Sport - A member of a high school water polo team may not, during his or her season of sport, compete for an outside team in the sport of water polo. A season of sport (See Bylaw 504) is defined as that period which begins with a student's first interscholastic competition (non-league, tournament or league game) and ends with that student's last interscholastic contest (tournament, non-league or CIF Southern Section playoff).

3111. LEVEL OF COMPETITION

No student shall participate in more than one level of competition in the same sport in the same day.

3112. MAXIMUM ATHLETIC CONTESTS IN ONE DAY

All interscholastic contests are to be arranged in such a way that no student shall take part in more than two athletic contests in any one day.

3112.1 See Rule 3105 (NOTE) for tournament exception.

3113. SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Standards for school attendance are determined by local school governing boards.

3114. LENGTH OF QUARTERS

The length of quarters for water polo games shall be seven minutes for varsity games and six minutes for non-varsity games

3115. COUNTING A TIE GAME

A regulation *called* game with a tie score shall be counted as ½ game won and ½ game lost for each team. This rule will apply to all contests and leagues may not waive this rule.

3116. SUNDAY RESTRICTION

A school may not play a water polo game nor conduct a scrimmage or water polo practice of any type on Sunday during the season of sport.

QUESTION: May a team be assembled on Sunday for a "skill session" or review a game film?

ANSWER: Neither of these activities would be permitted.

QUESTION: Does a meeting on Sunday of a single student with a coach constitute a violation of Bylaw 3116?

ANSWER: Yes, the intent of Bylaw 3116 is to allow no contact with student athletes on Sundays.

QUESTION: What constitutes a scrimmage or practice on Sunday?

ANSWER: Any preparation of an upcoming water polo game in which a player or players meet with the coach(es) on a Sunday is prohibited.

QUESTION: If my club/travel team coach is also my high school coach can we meet on Sundays under the guidelines/ parameters of the club/ travel program?

ANSWER: No, the relationship of the club/ travel team does not release the student and/or coach from the Sunday Contact Rule during the season of sport.

3117. PLAYER CONDUCT

Any player who is ejected for any reason shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of the game and will be ineligible for the team's next contest and may not attend. A second ejection will constitute a two contest suspension and a third ejection will cause suspension for the remainder of the season. A player who was ejected from the previous contest, who knowingly, or unknowingly, participates in or is in attendance at the next contest, will result in the forfeiture of that contest.

Any player whose conduct merits ejection from a game by an official for fighting or assaultive behavior shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of the game and will be ineligible for the team's next contest. After the suspension from play, the student may only return after certification by the school principal that the student(s) has completed a conference with a school administrator. The appropriate form (post-ejection return to competition form) indicating the completion of the conference must be uploaded to the CIFSSHome misconduct manager for that specific misconduct. The School must also indicate the date(s) of the contest in which the player will not be in attendance in the "School Action" portion of the misconduct.

A second ejection from a game or contest for fighting or assaultive behavior will cause suspension for the remainder of the season.

A player who was ejected from the previous contest, who knowingly, or unknowingly, participates in or is in attendance at the next contest, will result in the forfeiture of every contest until the suspension is completely served.

Any player who leaves the confines of the bench or team area during a fight that has broken out or may break out will be ineligible for the team's next contest. After the suspension from play, the student may return only after certification by the school principal that the student(s) has completed a conference with a school administrator. The appropriate form indicating the completion of the conference must be filed with the Section office prior to rejoining the team. The School must also indicate the date(s) of the contest in which the player will not be in attendance in the "School Action" portion of the misconduct.

In the case of any suspension from play, the next contest may not be a forfeited, postponed or canceled game.

QUESTION:	What must be submitted to the Section office before a student can be cleared to rejoin his/her team?
ANSWER:	The Section office will provide a form on their website that must be uploaded to CIFSSHome or directly emailed to the CIF Office. The School must also indicate the date(s) of the contest in which the player will not be in attendance in the "School Action" portion of the misconduct.
QUESTION:	What is meant by attendance at a contest?
ANSWER:	Attendance is defined as being present at the location/site of the contest, which includes at the team bench/area, in the stands/spectator area, any location where the contest can be observed at any time, inside a gymnasium, stadium or playing area. The intent of this rule is that the ejected person is not present at the location/ site of the next contest.
QUESTION:	What happens when a student engages in Fighting/Assaultive Behavior during an athletic contest that is not observed by game officials?
ANSWER:	In cases when a student engages in Fighting/Assaultive Behavior that is not observed by game officials, it is the expectation of the CIF Southern Section Executive Committee that the building principal of the school involved will impose a minimum one-game suspension for the students who commit such offenses.
QUESTION:	What happens if a student is ejected from the first contest at a tournament when there are two contests on that day?
ANSWER:	When a game ejection of any kind occurs, the student should not be present at the next contest except in situations where supervision is necessary (i.e.: in a tournament). In tournament situations, it is understandable that the student remain in an area where they can be monitored (i.e.: bleachers, stands, etc.) however, they are still ineligible to compete or participate in any way. It is not the expectation that the student leave the facility unsupervised.
QUESTION:	What happens if a student receives a red card, misconduct of any kind, or an ejection during the last game of the season?
ANSWER:	The game suspension(s) carry over to the first game(s) at the beginning of the subsequent season. For example, a sophomore soccer player receives a red card the last game of the 2017 season. He/she will serve a game suspension the first game of 2018 season. Suspensions carry over and must be served before the athlete becomes eligible to compete in that sport. See next Q&A for answers regarding seniors.
QUESTION:	What if a senior (12 th grader) student receives a red card, misconduct of any kind or an ejection during the last game of the season?
ANSWER:	If a senior (12 th grade) student receives a red card or misconduct during the last game of the season, he/she must serve the penalty in the NEXT sport in which he/she participates. If the student does not participate in any other sports, the CIF Office WILL need a letter from the principal indicating the corrective action taken with that student. This letter will be uploaded to the ejection report in CIF-SS Home.

3118. COACH EJECTION

Upon ejection, the head or assistant coach shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of the game and will be ineligible for the team's next contest. The next contest may not be a forfeited, postponed or canceled game. A second ejection will constitute a two contest suspension and a third ejection will cause suspension for the remainder of the season. A coach who was ejected from the previous contest who, knowingly or unknowingly, participates in or is in attendance at the next contest, will result in the forfeiture of every contest until the suspension is completely served.

QUESTION: What is meant by attendance at a contest?

ANSWER: Attendance is defined as being present at the location/site of the contest, which includes at the team bench/area, in the stands/spectator area, any location where the contest can be observed at any time, inside a gymnasium, stadium or playing area. The intent of this rule is that the ejected person is not present at the location/ site of the next contest.

QUESTION: How does the Accountability Rule affect a coach who coaches more than one level of a particular sport?

ANSWER: A coach who has been ejected from a contest may not be in attendance at ANY contest prior to serving his/her mandatory suspension at the level in which the coach was ejected. (i.e.: An ejected JV coach who is also a varsity assistant may NOT be in attendance at any contest until his/her mandatory JV suspension has been completed.)

3119. NOISEMAKERS PROHIBITED

No noisemakers (horns, bells, victory bells, sirens, chimes, musical instruments other than those in the band, etc.) will be permitted inside the gymnasium, stadium or playing fields at any CIF Southern Section contest (non-league, league, tournament or playoff). Cheering devices such as wooden blocks, or other similar objects, are prohibited. Megaphones shall be used only by uniformed cheerleaders for the purpose of directing and controlling rooting sections. The improper use of any of the above listed devices by supporters of a team would subject that team to possible forfeiture of the contest.

3120. PLAYOFFS

Refer to Article 33 (Playoffs) for details regarding playoff information. (Specific information will be contained in playoff information bulletins.)