

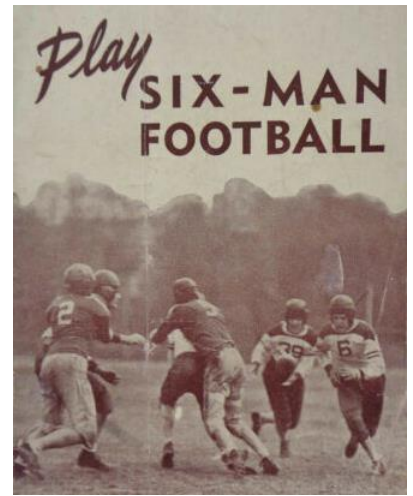


HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION SOUTHERN SECTION (CIF-SS)

117th historical “tidbit.”

Dr. John S. Dahlem

SIX (6) MAN FOOTBALL CIF-SS



TITLE TIME—Brethren High School football coach Phil Houseman happily leads the cheers of his team as the team leaves the Dave Boyd playing field after a 45-18 conquest of host Cuyama Valley for the 1970 CIF six-man football

championship. Brethren's Bruce Levert gained 147 yards in 29 carries and scored five touchdowns to lead the Warriors to the championship Friday night.

—Times photo by Jim Knowles.

The major reasons for the creation of 6-man football were small schools (mostly private) wanting to play and the cost. Some schools could not field an 11-man team or even an 8-man team. CIF-SS had football divisions beginning in 1913 with the big schools and what were called lower division schools which included games solely based on weight...110 pounders, also referred to as light-weight, etc.

Exponents were used for many years based on height, weight, age, class, etc., but it was always 11-man football. Divisional play outside of the big schools was geographically based (Northern, Central, Southern, etc.)

There was also a small school (SS) classification. Some schools in California played 6-man football in the early years after its creation nationally (Nebraska) in 1934.

The first 6-man football games in Southern California were between teams made up of former college players. Claremont High School played a 6-man game between their junior and senior classes in 1938.

Black Foxe Military School started their 6-man football team in 1960 moving from an 8-man model due to a decline in enrollment, etc. Black Foxe would win the first CIF-SS sanctioned 6-Man Football Championship on November 25, 1966 over Cayuma Valley by a score of 94-46. They represented the Prep League and at that time there were 25 teams playing 6-man football.

Six Man CIF-SS Football Champions

1966 Black Foxe
1967 Black Foxe
1968 Pacific Christian
1969 Ambassador
1970 Brethren
1971 Brethren
1972 Brethren
1973 Rio Hondo Prep

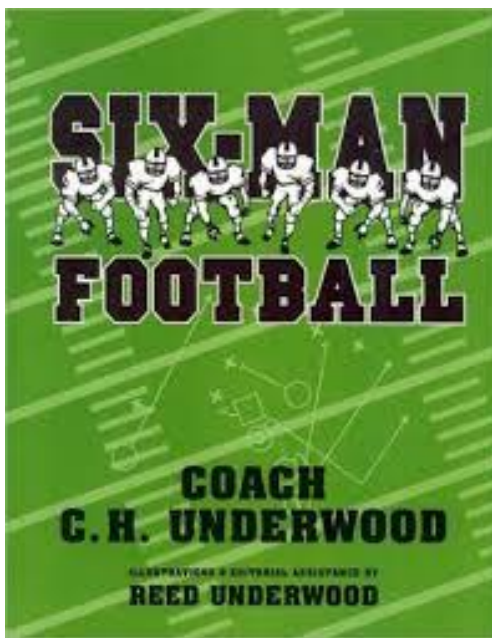
Black Foxe's first 6-man team - 1960



The CIF-SS then moved to an 8-man Championship configuration in 1974 until 1983 when they broke it into two divisions of 8-man Large (over 100 students) and 8-man Small (under 100 students). Schools felt that 8-man football was more like 11-man football, would entice more students to enroll and more sophisticated.

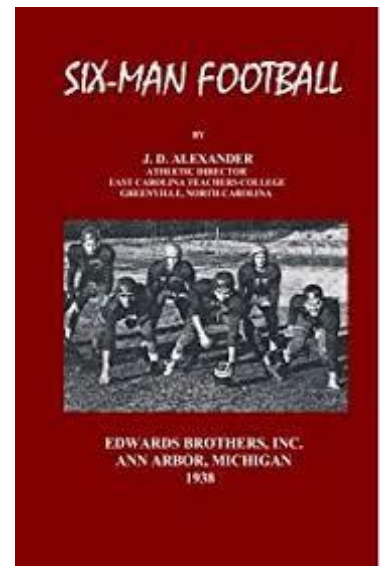
Key Points of 6-man football

- 80-yard field by 40 yards
- 15 yards to gain a first down
 - All six players eligible
- Must have three linemen on line of scrimmage
- Player the ball is snapped to cannot run, but can lateral
 - Pass to center must travel at least one yard
 - P.A.T. kick worth 2 points
 - P.A.T. run worth 1 point
 - Field Goal 4 points
- Mercy rule of 45 points or more at half time (sometimes called the "Slaughter Rule")

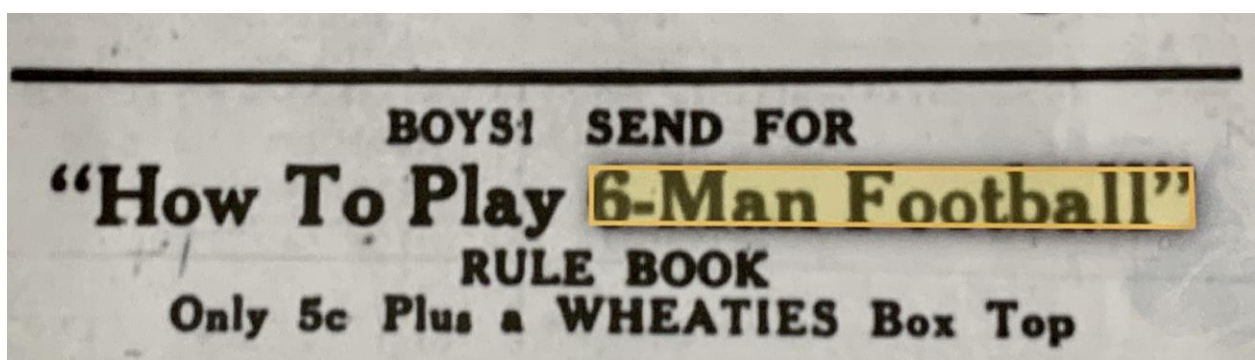


What coaches say:

- Fast game
- High scores
- 75% passing
- Reverses very popular
- Blocking is one on one
- You had better be a good tackler
- Most players go both ways
- Play books not very large



A six-man football team puts the ball in play.





EVERYBODY'S IN THE ACT—Well, almost everybody. Six-man football has only 12 players on the field and five of them are in action as

Rancho San Antonio (dark uniform) pulls down Village Christianer. And then there are cheerleaders, fans and statistician, (Times photos by Joel P. Lugavere and Al Ma



Los Angeles Prep League Champions (6-Man Football)

FLINTRIDGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR BOYS, LA CANADA, CALIFORNIA