

A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

A PREVIEW OF THE 2021 – 2022 SCHOOL YEAR



As July winds down and August beckons, a new school year is upon us. Therefore, I would like to give you a preview of the 2021-2022 school year by highlighting some of the topics below...

2021-2022 Sports Calendars in Place – Three seasons of sport, full regular seasons, Southern Section Championships and CIF Regional and State Championship opportunities are all on schedule to begin as originally planned. After all that we have been through, it is gratifying to be able to state that fact as we embark on the upcoming school year. Reminder, individual schools/school districts/private schools still have the sole responsibility for hosting athletic contests on their campuses following California Department of Public Health and local county health department guidelines for capacity limits, social distancing, mask wearing, etc.

In-Person Meetings Return – As of today, and we will continue to monitor developments as necessary, Executive Committee, Southern Section Council, Sports Advisory Committees, Fall Eligibility Workshops, etc., will all return to in-person meetings in 2021-2022. I will certainly update you immediately if circumstances dictate any changes going forward. I am sure we can agree that we learned many things through online meetings, and there will be some examples of those that will continue, but I know you join me in our desire to be together in the same room whenever possible and that is the plan at this time.

Beach Volleyball Begins – We are proud to welcome Beach Volleyball this year to the list of CIF-approved sports and are excited for the growth and development of that sport in the time ahead. Along that line, it will be very important to make sure you register your school for Beach Volleyball in 2021-2022. As you know, CIF-SS By-law 1200.1 states that we must have a minimum of 20% of our member schools fielding a sport for us to conduct a Southern Section Championship in that sport. Our goals for Year 1 are to make sure we reach that minimum threshold of schools offering Beach Volleyball and for schools/leagues to have League Finals in Beach Volleyball as we expect League Finals to be the qualifying mechanism for the eventual Southern Section Beach Volleyball Championships. If we can achieve those goals this year, we will be on track to hold a Southern Section Beach Volleyball Championship in the 2022-2023 school year.

Football Playoffs – Current Year Data – After a one-year delay, we are ready to debut our new Competitive Equity Football Playoff system which will utilize only current regular season results to formulate divisions for the 2021 Football Championships. Once the season starts, weekly power rankings will be available on www.calpreps.com, which will allow you to follow the progress of your team's ranking from Week 0 through Week 10. More information on this system is included in the 2021 Football Preview which is now available on our website.

Save the Date – The Athletic Administrators Summit is Back! – We are thrilled to be able to bring you our Athletic Administrators Summit on Monday, October 4, 2021 at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside. Be sure to get that date on your calendars as we are currently developing the program for athletic directors/administrators, as well as our Leadership Track for Principals/Superintendents/Private School Heads of Schools. More information will be coming soon on registration and the final program for the day, so stay tuned.

COMMISSIONERS MESSAGE #1 - JULY 27, 2021

2-2-2

MVP AD Program Returns – The MVP AD program is again in place, beginning with the Fall Eligibility Workshops that start next week. To become an MVP AD, you need to attend a Fall Eligibility Workshop and the Athletic Administrators Summit along with attending the California State Athletic Directors Conference April 21-24, 2022 in San Diego or submit an Action Plan for your athletic department prior to June 15, 2022. Those who fulfill the MVP AD requirements will receive their own 2022-2023 Courtesy Card as well as a certificate of recognition. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the professional growth that being an MVP AD provides.

Online Ticketing – With the variety of challenges we faced with the return to sports last year, one of our greatest accomplishments working together was having the entire ticketing process for Season 2 sports done entirely online through the GoFan platform. It was an unqualified success for our member schools and our office, and we are glad to continue to build upon what was achieved by having all tickets for all Southern Section Playoff events done electronically through GoFan.

Pixellot – Now is the Time – Over the past year, we saw a significant increase in the number of events livestreamed through the Pixellot system on the NFHS Network and this concept is something that our member schools have benefitted from tremendously. For those who have not installed Pixellot cameras on their campuses, there is no better time to do so than right now. The NFHS Network is offering our member schools two free cameras, valued at over \$5,000 each, as well as free installation of those cameras on your campus. In addition, by taking advantage of this opportunity, member schools will begin to immediately receive a percentage of your subscription fees through the revenue share program of the NFHS Network. The ability for schools to utilize this platform has never been more available and you need to act fast as this is a limited time offer. For more information on how to get Pixellot cameras at your school, be sure to contact Stephen Christensen, Western Sales Manager, at stephen.christensen@nfhsnetwork.com.

50th Anniversary of Title IX Celebration - This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the landmark legislation that created opportunities for female student-athletes in our high schools and colleges. During the 2021-2022 school year on a national level, state level and section level we will be celebrating the history of Title IX, but also focusing on what still needs to be done to promote participation of female student-athletes and ensure equality in all our athletic programs.

Those are just a few of the many things to expect in 2021-2022. As we begin this year together, I am excited to work with you in continuing to do the very best we can in service to young people.

As always, I sincerely thank you for your help and support, it is truly appreciated.

All the best,

Rob Wignol

