

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION



# FLAG FOOTBALL

2026-2027



PLAYOFF  
BULLETIN





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## **Determination of Playoff Divisions – Flag Football**

With the passage of the new competitive equity playoff system (CIFSS Council, January 2024), and changes to Bylaws 3519 and 3520, the way we group playoff divisions has changed. To summarize, playoff divisions will be created at the end of the regular season based on a team's current win/loss data.

It is imperative that coaches/athletic directors enter their full schedule and score results consistently throughout the season. Member schools who fail to accurately enter complete regular season results into the CIFSSHome system will not be placed into a playoff division and will be ineligible to participate in the Southern Section Championship Playoff Tournament.

Schools (via the coach and/or AD email) have been getting updates of missing scores throughout the season. Those vacancies must be filled. Schools tend to use "TBA" as opponent names in tournament situations as placeholders. Please review your results carefully, entering actual tournament opponents played and the game scores. Please look through your schedule and scores on CIFSSHome (not another platform) as all data retrieval will be from CIFSSHome.

Massey Ratings, the same power ranking system the CIFSS has used in various sports since 2014, will continue to be used. The only thing changing is the timeframe of data used to feed this system. Previously, the two most recent year's results would feed Massey Ratings for pre-season divisional placement. Now, only the current year will be used for in-season divisional placement. The benefit of this is being placed in a division based on the accolades of the team a school currently has, rather than the success of the team in the two previous years.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL SCHEDULES AND SCORES ARE COMPLETED BY WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 14<sup>th</sup> (8:00 PM PT) or sooner!**

Last League and Contest Date: Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> (NO GAMES MAY BE PLAYED AFTER THIS DATE, AT ANY LEVEL).

Score Reconciliation: Thursday and Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> (NO GAMES ARE BEING PLAYED, THE SEASON HAS ENDED FOR ALL LEVELS)

Playoff Bracket Release: Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m.

First Round Game: The week of Monday, October 20<sup>th</sup> (consult the schedule contained within for all divisional playoff contest dates).

TO: ATHLETIC DIRECTORS/ GIRLS' FLAG FOOTBALL COACHES

FROM: ALICIA SEEVERS, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

RE: **2026-2027 CIF SOUTHERN SECTION GIRLS' FLAG FOOTBALL PLAYOFFS**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 2026 (updated 9/1/26)

### **DIVISIONS**

The 2026-2027 CIF Southern Section Girls' Flag Football Playoffs will be conducted in seven divisions:  
(Open, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6)

### **PLAYOFF SCHEDULE**

All games will begin at 5:00 p.m. unless another time is reported, given host school restrictions (i.e., lights).  
**TIME AND LOCATION MUST BE REPORTED TO THE CIF SOUTHERN SECTION OFFICE.**

**ENTER YOUR SCORES\*\*** AT [WWW.CIFSSHOMES.ORG](http://WWW.CIFSSHOMES.ORG), using the "Teams" Tab IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING YOUR CONTEST.

### **PLAYOFF DATES - ALL DIVISIONS**

**Brackets for all divisions will be released on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 2:00 p.m.**

|               |                                                                                           |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ROUND 1       | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 <sup>TH</sup> – DIVISIONS 1-6<br>Open – TBD [Updated as of: 9/25/26]  |
| ROUND 2       | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 <sup>TH</sup> – DIVISIONS 1-6<br>Open – TBD [Updated as of: 9/25/26] |
| QUARTERFINAL  | TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27 <sup>TH</sup> - DIVISIONS 1-6<br>Open – TBD [Updated as of: 9/25/26]  |
| SEMIFINAL     | SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 <sup>ST</sup> – DIVISIONS 1-6<br>Open – TBD [Updated as of: 9/25/26] |
| CIF-SS FINALS | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup><br>Open – TBD [Updated as of: 9/25/26]                 |

**THERE WILL BE A FINALIST MEETING IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SEMI FINALS. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS.**

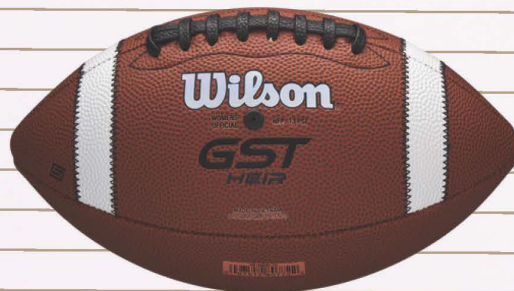
WIN OR LOSE, YOU MUST **ENTER YOUR SCORES IMMEDIATELY**  
AFTER YOUR CONTEST INTO YOUR SCHEDULE AT  
[WWW.CIFSSHOMES.ORG](http://WWW.CIFSSHOMES.ORG)



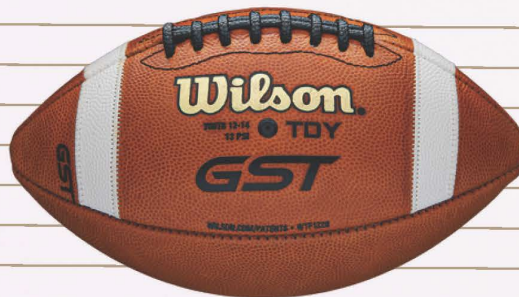
# Official Flag Football

**Wilson**

Contact: Craig Kalb - [craig.kalb@wilson.com](mailto:craig.kalb@wilson.com)



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GST SPEEDSKIN HEIR  
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OFFICIAL BALL  
GST TDY  
Leather  
Must be youth sizing  
Jr. & Pee wee sizing are not legal



APPROVED FOR PLAY  
GST SPEEDSKIN  
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\*The official ball rule is mandatory for all CIF-SS playoff rounds.

Contracted through: June 30, 2026

## Official Ball Rule:

Should a school fail to provide the correct game ball, the game will always be played. Teams/schools failing to utilize the correct official ball in CIF-SS playoffs will be reported by officials to CIF-SS and will not be allowed to host their next available home playoff game. Penalty will carry over to the next season if not enforceable this season due to elimination.

# CIFSSHOME REQUIREMENTS

## **SCHEDULES & SCORES** Complete your schedule in CIFSS Home prior to your season as well as update scores following each contest

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your entire season schedule into CIFSSHOME ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) as well as update the scores immediately following your contests.

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director). Once you are logged in:

- On the left panel, click on "Teams", select "Flag Football, Girls"

To Add a game:

- On the left panel, click on "Events", select "Add Event", choose Game under "Event Type", choose date of game under "Event Date", choose **Flag Football, Girls** under "Sport", choose Varsity under "Level", type the opposing school name in "Add Opponent", choose the type of game under "Select Game Type", click on Home, Away or Neutral under "Location", choose "Start Time"  
Click on "Save" to add one game or "Save & Duplicate" for multiple games.

- To Submit your score:

- On the left panel, click on "Teams", select "Teams Manager", scroll down to "**Flag Football, Girls**" and click on VR to add Varsity scores  
Click on "Post Result" button, enter your team's score, enter the opponent's score, result should auto populate with either "W", "L" or "T" based on the correct match score entered. If the game was a forfeit, click on the Yes box, enter the set scores in "Notes".

**Make sure that your overall and team records are correct on your team page**

## **VARSHY COACHES** no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026.**

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your Girls Flag Football coaches (Head & Assistants) into CIFSSHome – **ALL COACHES MUST BE ON THE ROSTER** ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026.**

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

- Click on the "**Users**" tab, click on "**User Manager**", click on the in the  upper right hand corner to add Coaches and Assistant Coaches. Enter the information requested on the "Add School User" page. Choose "Active" to provide the coach with access to CIFSSHome or "Inactive" for directory purposes only. Choose Yes or No to give the coach access to all sport, click **Submit**.

Choose the applicable options on the Assign Coach to Team page, click Save or Add Another to add additional coach(s).

## **VARSHY TEAM INFORMATION (TEAM PHOTO)** no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026.**

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

- Click on the "**Teams**" tab, click "**Teams Manager**", click on "**Flag Football, Girls**", click on the "**Team Photo**" tab,

Click on the  under "**TEAM PICTURE**", choose the file, click **Submit**.

## **AT LARGE APPLICATION – MUST HAVE .500 RECORD OR BETTER AND THERE MUST BE OPENINGS IN THE DRAW**

**Attention Athletic Directors/ Coaches:** Please follow the instructions below to enter your school as an At Large Entry for Girls Flag Football. The At Large Application is to be submitted by your school no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026 @ 8:00 p.m.**

## **VARSHY TEAM INFORMATION (ROSTERS)** no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026.**

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your entire Girls Flag Football Varsity roster into CIFSSHome - **ALL COACHES MUST BE ON THE ROSTER** NO EXCEPTIONS ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2026.**

Log in @ [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) (If you do not have a log in & password as a coach, check with your Athletic Director).

- Click on the "**Teams**" tab, click on "**Teams Manager**", click on "**Flag Football, Girls**",  select

You can UPLOAD your roster using the instructions below (1) or you can enter each player one by one (2).

**Required roster information for Girls Flag Football is:**

**First Name, Last Name, Birth date, Year, Number, Position & Eligibility**

**(1) To ADD roster players one by one:**

- Click on  and complete fields required for Girls Flag Football.

**(2) To Import a Roster**

**using an Excel sample file:**

- Download the [sample](#)  [file](#) and delete the "contents only".

- Copy and paste or type your roster information into the file as the contents and save the file to your computer.

- Only an excel file ([xls](#)) can be uploaded that is the exact same format as the sample file.

- Columns for information not required for your sport may be left blank, but the HEADER INFORMATION MUST REMAIN EXACTLY AS THE SAMPLE.

- **Required Columns for Girls Flag Football are:**

**First Name, Last Name, Birth date, Year, Number, Position & Eligibility**

- Click on to find your file, then click on 

- To confirm the roster has been uploaded, your players' names will be uploaded in the "**Official Roster**" section.

- Click on the  next to the player's name to view each player's information.

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## **PLAYOFF FORMAT**

4- team leagues are guaranteed two entries into the 2026-2027 Girls' Flag Football Playoffs, 5-6 team leagues are guaranteed three entries and 7-8 team leagues are guaranteed four entries. Freelance teams may fill byes in each divisional draw, or teams submitted by leagues, who qualify for an At-Large entry. **See rule 3414.1 for rules regarding "At-Large" entries.**

**Note:** The 2026-2027 Girls' Flag Football At Large Form must be submitted by your school using the online CIFSSHome Application ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)), **no later than 8:00 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026.**

## **RULE 3510 - FREE LANCE PLAYOFF ENTRY VERIFICATION**

If a school does not have membership in a league or the school belongs to a league which does not offer students in a given sport an opportunity to qualify into CIF Southern Section championships, special conditions exist which must be followed in order to qualify for possible entry into a CIF Southern Section playoff activity.

**3510.1 Team Sports** - All free-lance schools desiring entry into the playoffs must submit schedules to the Commissioner for evaluation and approval of conditions under which the team may qualify. Schedules must be submitted prior to the start of each season for evaluation.

### ***Q & A - How can a freelance team qualify for CIF playoff consideration?***

*You must schedule 80% of allowable games per sport and they must be at the varsity level, and in order to be considered for the playoffs, the school must have a .500 or better record in all contests played and there must be openings in the bracket. Additionally, teams that win 80% of their contests played will be guaranteed entry. (Except football.)*

## **DATE OF LAST CONTEST**

By Southern Section Council action, **ALL** contests must be completed by **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026.**

## **DETERMINATION OF HOST TEAMS**

**FIRST-ROUND CONTESTS** - An asterisk (\*) on the draw sheet will indicate the host school for all first-round contests.

## **FACILITY REQUIREMENTS – ALL DIVISIONS AND ALL ROUNDS**

- Field – The field size for the CIF postseason and playoffs will be 40 yards wide by 80 yards long with two 10 yard endzones.
- Team Area: 2 yards from each sideline and between the 20-yard markers. The team box will be marked with either discs, cones or lines.
- The line to gain will be marked at the 20-yard line sideline, 40-yard sideline and 20-yard sideline with a disc or cone.
- The Goal Line and the End Line will be marked with Pylons.
- The restricted area is the area extending two yards outside the perimeter of the entire field (i.e., outside both sidelines and end lines). This restricted area is designated by the restraining line.
  - The restraining line is coned or lined mark on the field, at least 2 yards from the sideline.
  - The restraining line is the field sideline of the team box.
- The team box is the area immediately outside the restricted area between the 20-yard lines on each side of the field. With limited exceptions, nonplayers include coaches, team personnel, spectators, game administrators and members of the media.

## **SECOND-ROUND CONTESTS**

The host school for these rounds will be determined in accordance with Section 3404, of the CIF-SS Blue Book. **In all divisions and in all rounds, the host school will be responsible for securing a field that meets the championship standards of 80x40.**

**All Championship Finals will be held at Huntington Beach High School and will be managed by the CIF Southern Section.**

## **PRE -FLIPS**

For ALL Rounds we will be conducting pre-flips to give schools immediate notice of their next game location. When the pairings are released on **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2026**, the draw will indicate home and away teams. That day we will also do pre-flips to determine the host school in the next round. Each morning following games played in your division, we will do pre-flips for the round following your next round.

Coin Flip results will be available @ [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org) after 10:00 a.m. the morning of the flip.

## **TEAM BENCHES – ALL DIVISIONS ALL ROUNDS**

Each school will get a max of 30 participant entry tickets (this is for your players, coaches, assistant coaches, trainers, etc.), anyone your school intends to be on the field in the bench area. Nonparticipants ARE NOT ON THE FIELD. For rounds with ticket sales, any additional ticket needs must be purchased. “Faculty Supervisors” are in the stands with parent, student, fan sections for supervision (they are not in the bench area). All 30 (or less) participants in the bench area MUST BE ROSTERED. The bench area IS NOT for Board Members, Faculty Supervisors (who we need in the stands supervising), JV and lower-level, non-playing athletes, etc.

## **PLAYING RULES**

All playoff games will be conducted according to the 2026-2027 National Federation Flag Football Rules (previously distributed to all CIF-SS Girls’ Flag Football coaches), except where superseded by the CIF-SS Blue Book, or this bulletin.

## **HOME/AWAYS TEAMS**

The home team will use the bench area as well as begin the competition to the left from the vantage point of the scorers’ table. The away team will use the bench area as well as begin the competition to the right from the vantage point of the press box.

## **OFFICIALS**

The CIF-SS Office will assign officials for semifinal and final rounds football playoff games. Fees for officials will be:  
Single Game (Playoff Rounds) -- \$83.00 each official, during all playoff rounds  
Championship Final -- \$92.00 each official

## **GAME BALLS**

Participating teams will furnish their own balls for pre-game warm-ups and practice sessions. It will be the responsibility of the host team to provide an official game ball (Wilson), as specified in the National Federation Rules, and per CIF Southern Section contract. **All playoff contests must be played using the Wilson ball.** The CIF Southern Section will furnish the Wilson ball for all Championship Final games.

## **JUNIOR FLAGS (ADULT FLAGS ARE PROHIBITED)**

- A one-piece flag belt without any knots.
- One flag on each hip (2 flags total)
- The minimum flag size is 1.5”x14”, maximum is 2”x16”.
- Flags MUST not be altered in such a way that influences the integrity of the flag or the player’s ability to grasp a flag.

An unaltered flag belt of the same single solid color, with two flags of the same single solid color and a minimum flag dimension of 1.5”x14” – 2”x16”. No article of clothing may cover the flag or belt. The belt must be worn in such a way that one flag is located on each hip. (Note: State associations may determine the style of flag used and flag measurements (may not be below minimum)). Flags **MUST** clearly contrast with short color.

## **PANTS, SHORTS OR SKIRT**

Pants, shorts or skirts which shall not have pockets of any type, exposed drawstrings, belts and/or belt loops. ***The color of the pants, shorts or skirts shall be the SAME SINGLE SOLID COLOR THAT CLEARLY CONTRASTS WITH THE COLOR OF THE FLAG AND FLAG BELT.***

***Note: Should a team be found in violation of using the official, mandated ball, in violation of any NFHS uniform requirements or facility requirements, that team will lose the ability to host a home game in the next round. They will, however, be charged with the home game. This will continue until uniforms and/or equipment comply. Any unserved sanctions will carry over to the next season for which the team qualifies.***

## **MERCY RULE**

There will be no running clock during the CIF Southern Section Championships.

## **FLAG FOOTBALL OVERTIME PROCEDURE**

- 1) In the event the 2nd half ends in a tie, overtime will commence.
- 2) A coin toss shall decide which team puts first. The visiting team will call the toss.
- 3) The winner of the coin toss can choose to be on offense or defense for the first overtime period. The loser of the toss shall determine the end of the field that will be used for all overtime periods/ There is no option to defer.
- 4) Each team will receive one (1) timeout per extra period (offensive and defensive possession). Unused extra-period timeouts may not be carried over to other extra periods. Timeouts between periods shall be charged to the succeeding period.
- 5) The ball will be placed on the chosen 10-yard line, centered between the hash marks. The offensive team will run a possession series, beginning with a first down. The possession series continues until a touchdown is scored or a change of possession occurs. Following the series, the scoring team will attempt a try (Choice of 1 or 2). After Team A completes its series and try, Team B will be given an opportunity to match or exceed the score using the same procedure. If Team A scores during its possession, any turnover or failure to score by Team B during its possession will immediately end the game. The team with the greater number of points at the conclusion of both possessions and tries will be declared the winner.
- 6) Possession series: Beginning with the second overtime period, each team will attempt a single try from the 3-yard line. There will be no additional coin toss. The team that was on offense first in the first overtime period will be on defense first in the second overtime period. This alternating order will continue in each subsequent overtime period until a winner is determined.
- 7) Teams will alternate attempts. If one team scores and the opposing team does not score in the same round, the scoring team is declared the winner.
- 8) Teams may attempt either a 1- or 2-point try after a touchdown is scored, in accordance with regulation play procedures.
- 9) The game clock is not needed during extra periods. The 25-second play clock will remain in effect in accordance with regulation play procedures.
- 10) The ball is live after a turnover in overtime. Team B may return the ball for a touchdown.
- 11) All overtime periods will be played at the same end of the field as determined by the coin toss.

Officials must clearly communicate possession order, down and distance, and try status prior to each series or attempt. The first overtime periods are live-ball periods. The defense may score.

- 12) Fouls During a Try or in Overtime After a Change of Team Possession:
  - a. A score by a team committing a foul during the down is canceled. Exception: Live-ball fouls are treated as dead-ball fouls.
  - b. If both teams foul during the down and the defensive team had not fouled before the change of possession, the fouls cancel, and the down is not repeated.
  - c. Penalties against either team are declined by rule.

*\*Exception: Penalties for flagrant personal fouls, unsportsmanlike conduct fouls, dead-ball personal fouls, and live-ball fouls treated as dead-ball fouls are enforced from the succeeding spot (20-yard line)*

## **ADMISSION CHARGES**

- A. Preliminary Rounds -- As per Article 1, Section 143 of the CIF-SS Blue Book, there will be no admission charged for games, except upon petition to the Commissioner's Office, by the principals of the schools involved. If written permission is granted, the prices are to be \$12.00 for Adults/Students without high school I.D., \$6.00 for Children/Students with proper high school I.D., and \$6.00 for children 13 & under.
- B. Championship Finals – Game schedule and admission prices for the finals will be as follows:

## **Huntington Beach HS Stadium –Saturday, November 7**

*Divisions will be assigned specific game times on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> no later than 12:00 p.m.*

### **Ticket Prices**

\$14.00 Adults

\$7.00 High School Students (w/HS ID)

\$7.00 Children (13 & under)

**Through the CIF-SS partnership with GoFan, all championship tickets will be made available online for digital purchase and presented electronically at the event gate for entry.**

All seating at Huntington Beach High School Stadium will be general admission (first come, first served). This will allow the fans of competing schools to have an equal opportunity for seats. Schools are responsible for securing their own valuables. Valuables should not be left unattended. Each team should designate someone to secure those valuables and keep them in their possession at all times.

### **AWARDS**

The following awards will be given during the playoffs:

- A. Championship Plaques - All first place teams.
- B. Runner-up Plaques - All second place teams.
- C. Championship Patches - 18 individual patches for members of all championship teams.
- D. Championship T-shirts - 18 t-shirts for members of all championship teams.
- E. Medals - 18 individual medals for members of all runner-up teams.
- F. Certificates - Individual participation certificates for members of each team participating in the playoffs are available at CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)), under the Forms tab.

Each member of a team participating in the CIF Southern Section playoffs can receive a CIF SOUTHERN SECTION PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE. These certificates will be printed by your school. The document is in a "type-in" PDF format and can be found on CIFSSHOMe.

### **CHEERING SECTIONS**

Fan/Student cheering sections are encouraged to cheer and support their own team and should display proper sportsmanship with respect to the opposing team and the game officials. They are expected to follow the following guidelines and failure to do so may lead to removal from the contest and/or forfeiture of the contest.

1. No noisemakers (horns, bells, victory bells, sirens, chimes, wooden blocks, balloons, thunder sticks, etc.). Megaphones may only be used by the school's uniformed cheer squads.
2. Cheering devices such as rally towels, pom poms and pennants are acceptable when used within the bounds of good sportsmanship.
3. It is the expectation that cheering section behavior will be monitored by the assigned school staff of the school that they represent. All improper behavior/language should be addressed and corrected immediately by school staff supervisors.
4. Face painting is acceptable from the neck up only and will not include any inappropriate letters or symbols. Assigned school staff shall monitor their cheering sections in regard to face painting.

### **CONTEST FINANCES**

- A. If permission is granted to charge admission, the gross profit will be split equally between the schools, with the visitor paying its own travel expense and the host team paying the game expense.
- B. Concessions and Programs -- In all games except the finals, the host school reserves the right to handle programs and concessions as a separate venture, and need not share the profit, or expect the visiting school or CIF-SS, to share in any loss.
- C. Championship Finals -- When managed by the CIF-SS, all receipts will revert to the CIF-SS, who will pay game, facility, and award expenses.

### **PROTESTS OF PLAYOFF CONTESTS**

By action of the CIF-SS Council at its March 1983 meeting, protests of playoff contests involving CIF State Flag Football rules will no longer be entertained following the conclusion of the contest.

Coaches may direct questions to the game officials as they pertain to a possible misapplication of the rules in accordance with the CIF State Flag Football rules governing that sport. No protest may be carried forth once the contest is completed.

Coaches are encouraged to carry CIF State Flag Football rulebooks with them for all playoff contests. Schools will still have the opportunity to protest a contest, in accordance with Southern Section Rule 1111, as it pertains to use of an ineligible player, or violations of any CIF-Southern Section rule in connection with the contest.



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**GATORADE**





## CIF SOUTHERN SECTION PLAYOFF/CHAMPIONSHIP REQUIREMENTS - ALL TEAMS AND HOST SITES 2025-2026



### Rosters & Scores:

- Complete schedules are to be submitted to CIFSSHOME prior to each season.
  - Update scores following every contest direct to CIFSSHOME
- Additional directions on accessing CIFSSHOME are included in this document.

### TV/Web/Radio Rights:

Any TV or streaming webcast (video or audio) or radio transmission of a CIF-SS playoff or championship event requires a contract and rights fees through the CIF-SS office prior to the contest. The only 'exceptions' are: Games broadcast via The NFHS Network, Spectrum Sports Net, Spectrum.

### 'Official' Championship Souvenirs:

The exclusive vendor for CIF Southern Section Championship souvenirs (t-shirts, scarfs, pins, beanies, hats, etc...) is our long-time partner *CIF T-shirts*. These are the official items sold each year per sport. You are likely familiar with their annual shirts at the finals. You can order team and individual items through them at [www.ciftshirts.com](http://www.ciftshirts.com).

### Official Ball Required:

Only the approved official ball in each ball sport may be played by either school during CIF-SS playoff contests. Violation of this rule will result in loss of your next home playoff game. The current Official Ball list for each sport is included and available at [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org) in the "Resources" drop down. This policy has been in effect since 2002.

### Gatorade Only:

Only Gatorade jugs, cups, bottles, ice chests may be used or visible during any CIF-SS playoff contest. (No Powerade, Body Armor, etc). The only acceptable alternative is a plain-wrap or Igloo labeled products. This rule does not apply to the actual liquid distributed to athletes. This policy has been in effect since 1995.

### CIF-SS on Souvenirs:

The 'CIF Southern Section', 'CIF-SS', 'Southern Section' and 'CIF' marks and logos are registered trademarks with the State of California. Schools may only use the CIF Southern Section marks on rings, patches and banners, by doing business with a CIF-SS licensed vendor. **Schools may only use the CIF Southern Section marks on apparel and other souvenir items exclusively through [ciftshirts.com](http://ciftshirts.com). Schools creating items with CIF-SS registered marks from a non-licensed vendor will face sanction and/or will be required to purchase any unsold shirts/items at the Championship Final.** A list of the currently licensed vendors for these products is included and regularly updated on [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org).

Please note: The use of only "CIF" is strictly prohibited per the State CIF registered trademark. The "CIF", is not just the CIF Southern Section. Only those teams in State regionals, bowl games and individual sport finals actually qualify to use CIF without Southern Section attached. Any such use must be approved in advance by the CIF State office.

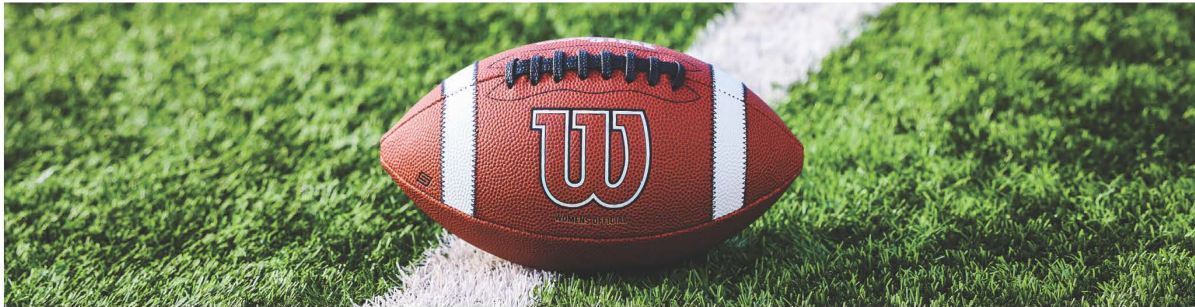
## **Host Site Requirements:**

- Playoff Tickets:** (This pertains to revenue sports of basketball, football and volleyball): It is mandatory to sell tickets for admission to all CIF-SS playoffs and championship contests. Through the CIF-SS partnership with GoFan, all playoff tickets will be made available online for digital purchase and presented electronically at the event gate for entry. Patrons can purchase in advance via [gofan.co](http://gofan.co), via private links made available by the participating schools or via QR code at the entry gate of the playoff event. All playoff revenue will be sent directly to CIF-SS. Both the host and visiting schools will be required to submit a financial/expense report following each playoff game in an effort to receive reimbursement for game expenses and revenue share split in the case of a profit game.
- CIF-SS/FORD Banner:** It is a requirement of each host school (including off-site) that the CIF-SS/Ford Championship banner be displayed at every playoff home game in football and the gymnasium sports post football season (or on the electronic signage where schools/venues do not display banners). If you need a banner please contact [jackieg@cifss.org](mailto:jackieg@cifss.org)
- Gatorade:** It is a requirement of each school use only Gatorade product/jugs/cups/squeeze bottles during CIF-SS championship events. No other competitive product shall be used. Water can be placed in Gatorade merchandise.
- PA Announcements:** As a host of a CIF-SS playoff contest, the CIF-SS announcements take precedence over the host school's messaging and must be read in entirety at each playoff contest. Home schools are the host of a CIF-SS event in the playoffs. For contractual requirements, please read all the provided PA's each contest. PA's for each sport can be found on [cifss.org](http://cifss.org) under the designated sports page.
- Media Credential Access:** Accredited working media should be given admission to all playoff games by showing their CIF-SS Media credential.

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**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION PLAYOFF/CHAMPIONSHIP  
ADDITIONAL/CUSTOM POST SEASON AWARDS  
2025-2026**



**PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATES:** Each member of a team participating in the CIF-SS playoffs can receive a Participation Certificate. These certificates will be downloaded and printed solely by your school. The certificate is in a 'Type-In' format and may be downloaded from the CIFSSHOME website under **AWARDS**.

**NEED ADDITIONAL AWARDS:** Feel free to order directly.

**Plaques:** If your team won or was a finalist in a CIF-SS championship and you need to purchase any additional champion/finalist plaques contact **All American Trophy** by contacting at **(323) 725-1962**.

**“Champion”, “Finalist”  
“ALL-CIF” Patches** Champion, Finalist and ALL-CIF patches must be exclusively ordered through **JL Custom Jackets and Patches** at **www.jlcustomjackets.com**, **(951) 867-3200**

**CUSTOM AWARDS/ RINGS/BANNERS/APPAREL SOUVENIRS USING CIF-SS:**

Schools often seek to create custom patches, gym banners and championship rings that include both the school and CIF-SS marks/logos/names. Example: ‘ACME BOYS BASKETBALL 2022 CIF-SS CHAMPIONS’. Schools may create these items using CIF-SS marks only through a CIF-SS licensed vendor.

*CIF-SS ‘registered’ trademark:* The “CIF Southern Section”, “CIF-SS”, “Southern Section” and “CIF” marks and logos are registered trademarks with the State of California. Schools may only use the CIF Southern Section marks on rings, patches and banners by doing business with a CIF-SS licensed vendor. Schools creating items with CIF-SS registered marks from a non-licensed vendor will face sanction and/or will be required to purchase any unsold shirts/items at the Championship final if similar non-licensed items appear at the contest. A list of the currently licensed vendors for these products is included and regularly updated on [www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org).

Please note: The use of only “CIF” is strictly prohibited per the State CIF registered trademarks. Only those teams in State regionals, bowl games and individual sport finals actually qualify to use CIF without Southern Section attached. Any such use must be approved in advance by the CIF State office.

**CIF-SS vendors who are licensed to create custom items for schools that include CIF-SS:**

Championship Patches (circle shape) Playoffs or Prelims, Finals Patches (shape of a shield) for participation in Cross Country, Track & Field or Swimming Finals, Masters Patches (oval shaped) for participation in a Masters Track & Field or Wrestling event and Wrestling Dual Meet (rectangle shaped) are sold “ON-SITE” by the CIF-SS vendor. Additional patches post event can be ordered through any of the licensed CIF-SS patch vendors:

### •**Chenille Patches**

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                           |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| JL Varsity Jackets & Patches | <a href="http://www.jlcustomjackets.com">www.jlcustomjackets.com</a>                                                                                                | (951) 867-3200                                                                            |
| CIF Tshirts                  | <a href="http://www.cifsstshirts.com">www.cifsstshirts.com</a>                                                                                                      | (951) 789-5858                                                                            |
| C&L Custom Jackets           | <a href="http://www.cljackets.com">www.cljackets.com</a>                                                                                                            | (714) 828-6900                                                                            |
| Embroidery & More            | <a href="http://www.embroideryandmoredesign.com">www.embroideryandmoredesign.com</a>                                                                                | (951) 471-5200                                                                            |
| PC & C Embroidery            | <a href="https://pccembroidery.com/">https://pccembroidery.com/</a>                                                                                                 | (909) 403-4558                                                                            |
| The Advertising Specialists  | <a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider</a> | (626) 966-4770                                                                            |
| We Got Em Tees               | <a href="https://wegotemtees.com/">https://wegotemtees.com/</a>                                                                                                     | <a href="tel:760-983-6087">760-983-6087</a>   <a href="tel:909-727-7699">909-727-7699</a> |

- **Custom Banners/Souvenirs** Your school may now create custom items that include the CIF-SS mark or logo (championship banner, banners for your gym, etc...) through a licensed CIF-SS vendor (and their specialty).

|                             |                                                                                                                                                                     |                |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Integrity Design            | <a href="http://www.IntegrityDesignUSA.com">www.IntegrityDesignUSA.com</a>                                                                                          | (855) 341-8817 |
| C&L Custom Jackets          | <a href="http://www.cljackets.com">www.cljackets.com</a>                                                                                                            | (714) 828-6900 |
| The Advertising Specialists | <a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider</a> | (626) 966-4770 |

- **Rings**

|                          |                                                                                     |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Herff Jones              | <a href="https://highschool.herffjones.com/">https://highschool.herffjones.com/</a> |
| J. Lewis Small           | <a href="http://www.jlewissmall.com">www.jlewissmall.com</a>                        |
| Jostens                  | <a href="http://www.jostens.com">www.jostens.com</a>                                |
| Signature Style Jewelry  | <a href="http://www.signaturestylejewelry.com">www.signaturestylejewelry.com</a>    |
| Baron Championship Rings | <a href="https://baronrings.com/">https://baronrings.com/</a>                       |

**PROTECT YOUR SCHOOL TRADEMARKS:** The CIF Southern Section strongly suggests you double-check the status of *your school* licensed/registered marks and logos now. Some schools have permanently lost control of others selling their merchandise with no royalty or approvals because the proper State of California licensing/registering process had not previously occurred or been enforced.

For additional vendors licensing information, please contact CIF Southern Section, Director of Marketing & Corporate Partnerships, Jacquelyn Gibson at [jackieg@cifss.org](mailto:jackieg@cifss.org) or 562-493-9500.

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