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## CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION - SOUTHERN SECTION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **MEDIA RELEASE**

#### **CREAN LUTHERAN REMOVED FROM CIF-SS SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS**

LOS ALAMITOS - After a review of evidence it has been determined that Crean Lutheran High School is in violation of CIF Southern Section Softball Playoff Bylaws as they regard pregame batting practice prior to their quarterfinal round Division 7 contest versus Tahquitz High School.

Due to this violation Crean Lutheran will forfeit their win. Tahquitz, will now advance to the next round of the playoffs versus Ganesha High School on tomorrow.

This decision was based on the CIF-SS Bluebook Bylaw 2713.2 that states:

“2713.2 Teams entered in the softball playoffs will NOT be permitted to take batting practice on the day of a playoff game prior to the commencement of the contest or during the contest”

The CIF-SS Softball Playoff Bulletin defines pregame batting practice as the following:

- Includes bunting or slap hitting. Batting practice is construed as any type of pitching motion with ANY type of ball from in front of the batter (including pitching machines, underhand tossing, overhand throwing, or pepper). SIDE SOFT TOSS and BATTING TEES WILL BE ACCEPTABLE FOR PRE-GAME BATTING WARMUP. The player who tosses the ball must not be standing; they must be sitting or on a knee directly to the side facing the batter. The ball should be lifted, not pitched, to the batter. Coaches are responsible for instructing and alerting all players of this rule. Coaches 19 should also instruct players on the correct allowable position a person tossing ball should be in. At no time should the person tossing the ball be any place other than directly to the side of the “plate” and directly facing the batter.

THE PENALTY FOR BATTING PRACTICE WITH A WIFFLE BALL, SOFTBALL, BASEBALL, FRONT TOSS, ETC. MAY BE FORFEITURE OF THE GAME.

A potential batting practice violation is not a violation under NFHS rules that can be protested. If the situation occurs the coach must bring the issue to the attention of the home plate umpire at the pre-game meeting and ask that it be recorded. The umpire will then forward that information in a report to our office after the game is over. The game is not played under protest.

The CIF-SS will have no further comment.

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