

CIF SOUTHERN SECTION | BASEBALL



# PLAYOFF BULLETIN



2025 - 2026

# CIFSSHOME REQUIREMENTS

**CIF SOUTHERN SECTION BYLAW 3519 REQUIRES ALL SCHEDULES/SCORES TO BE UPDATED IN CIFSSHOME ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) FOR TEAMS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR SOUTHERN SECTION PLAYOFFS.**

**SCHEDULES & SCORES** Complete your schedule in CIFSSHome 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 "Baseball"

-To **Add a game**, click "Add Game" at the top right and fill out all of the required fields which are marked by a red (\*) to complete your schedule.

-To **Submit your score**, click on the "Teams", select "Baseball" Scroll through your schedule and click on the green "Post Result" button.

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

**Check out the Help video under the Help button on the bottom left, "Be CIF Prepared!"**

**VARSITY TEAM INFORMATION (ROSTER) DUE no later than WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2026**

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your entire Baseball Varsity roster into CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 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).

Once you are logged in:

-On the left panel, Click on the "Teams" tab, select "Baseball"

-Here are the instructions for using the 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. You can only upload an excel file (xls) 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 Baseball are: First Name, Last Name, Birth date, Year, Number, Position, Height, Bats, Throws & Eligibility.**

- Next - click Choose File, find your file, then click "Import Student".

- To confirm your roster has been uploaded, your roster will be uploaded in the roster section and all of the required columns are filled out.

**Check out the Help video under the Help tab on the bottom left, "Be CIF Prepared!"**

## **VARSITY COACHES**

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that you enter your Baseball coaches (Head & Assistants) into CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 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).

Once you are logged in:

-Click on the "Teams" tab on the left navigation bar. Click on the corresponding varsity team (Baseball).

-Click on "Add/Edit Coaches", select the information to add both your HEAD & ASSISTANT coaches

**Check out the Help video under the Help tab on the bottom left, "Be CIF Prepared!"**

**VARSITY TEAM PHOTO DUE no later than FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026.**

**Attention Athletic Directors/Coaches:** It is very important that your Baseball Varsity Team Photo is uploaded to CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) no later than **FRIDAY, MAY 8, 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).

on Home Campus

-On the left panel, click "Teams" tab on the left navigation bar. Click on the corresponding varsity team (Baseball).

- Under Team Picture, click Add/Edit picture, click Browse, find your file and click "Upload Picture" – Team Photo can be no larger than 672 pixels x 480 pixels (7"x5")

**Check out the Help video under the Help tab on the bottom left, "Be CIF Prepared!"**

## **AT LARGE APPLICATION – MUST HAVE .500 RECORD OR BETTER**

**Attention Athletic Directors/ Coaches:** Please follow the instructions below to enter your school as an At Large Entry for Baseball.

**The At Large Application is to be submitted by your school no later than Wednesday, May 6, 2026 @ 10:00 p.m.**

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 At Large Petition

-Select "Baseball" then click "Add"

Please be sure that your Schedule is updated in CIFSSHome as this is where the information for the At Large Petition will be created.

**Check out the Help video under the Help tab on the bottom left, "Be CIF Prepared!"**



TO: CIF-SS ATHLETIC DIRECTORS/  
HEAD BASEBALL COACHES

FROM: JOE HOGGATT, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

RE: **2026 CIF-SS BASEBALL PLAYOFF BULLETIN**

DATE: APRIL 2026

With the 2026 Southern Section CIF Baseball Championship Playoffs approaching, this bulletin is designed to assist you with your organizational plans. Please review this bulletin, and after reviewing its contents if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

### Table of Contents

CIFSSHOME REQUIREMENTS ..... 2

CALENDAR (PLAYOFF DATES) ..... 3

PLAYOFF INFORMATION/ENTRIES/DIVISIONS ..... 5

DIVISION 1 BRACKET INFORMATION ..... 8

REGIONAL OPT OUT INFORMATION ..... 9

PLAYOFF CONTEST INFORMATION ..... 9

PRE FLIP-SCHEDULE..... 10

PLAYOFF BALL REQUIREMENT/ BALL PROGRAM MEMO..... 13

BLUE BOOK BYLAWS/ NFHS RULES..... 14

RAINOUT POLICY..... 16

STATEWIDE SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY/EJECTION POLICY..... 18

ALL CIF INFORMATION ..... 22

STATE REGIONAL QUALIFIER INFORMATION ..... 23

## **PLAYOFF DATES**

**Brackets for all divisions will be released on  
Saturday, May 9 @ 1:00 p.m. on the CIF website ([www.cifss.org](http://www.cifss.org)).**

First Round	Tuesday, May 12, 2026 (Division 1 only) Thursday, May 14, 2026 (Div. 2,4,6 and 8) Friday, May 15, 2026 (Div. 3,5,7 and 9)
Second Round	Friday, May 15, 2026 (Division 1 only) Tuesday, May 19, 2026 (Divisions 2-9)
Third Round	Tuesday, May 19, 2026 (Division 1 only)
Quarterfinal Round	Friday, May 22, 2026 (Divisions 1-6, outfield fence required)
Semifinal Round	Tuesday, May 26, 2026 (Divisions 1-6, outfield fence required)
<b>Championship Finals</b>	<b>Friday, May 29 and Saturday, May 30, 2026</b> <b>Championship Finals location TBD</b>

**Specific date, time and locations for each divisional final game will be posted**

# **PLAYOFF ENTRY INFORMATION**

## **DIVISIONS**

The 2025-2026 CIF Southern Section Baseball Playoffs will be conducted in the following divisions: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9

## **PLAYOFF ENTRIES**

All 4-team leagues will be guaranteed two entries into the playoffs.

All 5-6 team leagues will be guaranteed three entries into the playoffs.

All 7-8 team leagues will be guaranteed four entries into the playoffs.

All 9 or more team leagues will be guaranteed five entries.

Under the playoff format in all sports, leagues have the responsibility of developing and identifying the priority for their representatives into the playoffs as so noted under Article 3500 (Playoffs) of the CIF Southern Section Blue Book. Please note that leagues may not conduct additional contests beyond the prescribed limits unless said contests are to determine **ENTRY** and not representative priority (leagues must have this as part of their constitution and must secure permission from the CIF-SS office before conducting such playoffs for entry). If a league includes such conditions in its constitution, it is still obligated to play said contest on or before the last specified allowable playing date **(WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 2026)**.

Automatic entries will be posted on the CIF website, baseball page on Thursday morning, May 7 for review. No corrections will be accepted after 2:00pm on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **DETERMINATION OF PLAYOFF DIVISIONS/PAIRINGS**

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. 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 CIFSSHome will not be placed into a playoff division and **will be ineligible** to participate in the Southern Section Championship Playoff Tournament. Please review your results carefully, entering actual tournament opponents played, correct dates the contest was 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 be used.

PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL SCHEDULES AND SCORES ARE COMPLETED BY **WEDNESDAY, MAY 6<sup>th</sup>**.

**Last League and Contest Date: Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>**. NO GAMES MAY BE PLAYED AFTER THIS DATE.

It will be the responsibility of the Commissioner, and his staff to establish the pairings in each first round game for all divisions. After 16 teams have been placed into division one, the next available automatic qualifier and remaining divisions will be created using an average number of remaining automatic qualifiers to form divisions 2-9. **Each division will start with an automatic qualifier** and include all teams until an automatic qualifier begins the next division. Once Automatic Qualifiers have been placed into a division, any remaining spots will go to the highest ranked, .500 or better at large teams in that grouping that have submitted an At Large application. The ranking of each team will be determined by a school's rating at a designated time determined by the Commissioner.



The  
Chosen  
\* ONE



FEATURING  
**ANTHONY MURPHY**



Everyone dreams of being great, only a select few can be iconic, but only one is CHOSEN. Introducing the Chosen One from Rawlings - the all-new, ONE-PIECE COMPOSITE iteration of the top-rated and established Icon BBOR bat.



ICON



THE OFFICIAL BASEBALL OF



EXAMPLE 2026 DIVISION 1 - 16 TEAMS

TEAM - OVERALL RANK

DIVISION 1 Team	Record	Rating	Designation (16)	Seed
1 A	26-2	9.189	Automatic Qualifier	1
2 B	24-4	9.146	Automatic Qualifier	2
3 C	25-3	9.068	Automatic Qualifier	3
4 D	27-1	8.983	Automatic Qualifier	4
5 E	24-3	8.913	Automatic Qualifier	5
6 F	23-4	8.906	Automatic Qualifier	6
7 G	25-3	8.82	Automatic Qualifier	7
8 H	23-5	8.686	Automatic Qualifier	8
9 I	22-6	8.681	Automatic Qualifier	9
10 J	23-5	8.661	Automatic Qualifier	10
11 K	24-4	8.603	Automatic Qualifier	11
12 L	20-8	8.591	At-Large	12
13 M	21-7	8.583	Automatic Qualifier	13
14 N	16-12	8.565	Automatic Qualifier	14
15 O	19-8	8.541	Automatic Qualifier	15
16 P	20-8	8.532	At-Large	16

DIVISION 2 - 32 TEAMS

TEAM - OVERALL RANK

DIVISION 2 Team	Record	Rating	Designation (32)	Seed
17 Q	19-8	8.509	Automatic Qualifier	1
18 R	20-7	8.495	Automatic Qualifier	2
19 S	17-11	8.486	Automatic Qualifier	3
20 T	19-7	8.47	At-Large	4
21 U	18-9	8.44	Automatic Qualifier	5
22 V	18-8	8.424	Automatic Qualifier	6
23 W	20-8	8.379	Automatic Qualifier	7
24 X	17-10	8.361	At-Large	8
25 Y	16-12	8.36	Automatic Qualifier	9
26 Z	18-10	8.319	Automatic Qualifier	10
27 AA	21-6	8.306	Automatic Qualifier	11
28 AB	13-15	8.3		
29 AC	14-14	8.26	Automatic Qualifier	12
30 AD	19-9	8.253	Automatic Qualifier	13
31 AE	15-13	8.231	Automatic Qualifier	14
32 AF	17-11	8.218	Automatic Qualifier	15
33 AG	20-8	8.207	Automatic Qualifier	16
34 AH	16-12	8.186	At-Large	17
35 AI	13-14	8.174		
36 AJ	17-11	8.155	Automatic Qualifier	18
37 AK	16-12	8.149	Automatic Qualifier	19
38 AL	18-10	8.118	Automatic Qualifier	20

Division 2 continued on next page

39 AM	19-9	8.048	Automatic Qualifier	21
40 AN	19-9	8.042	Automatic Qualifier	22
41 AO	19-10	8.034	Automatic Qualifier	23
42 AP	20-8	8.016	Automatic Qualifier	24
43 AQ	17-11	8	Automatic Qualifier	25
44 AR	17-11	7.987	Automatic Qualifier	26
45 AS	16-12	7.986	Automatic Qualifier	27
46 AT	15-13	7.975	Automatic Qualifier	28
47 AU	14-14	7.974	Automatic Qualifier	29
48 AV	17-11	7.968	Automatic Qualifier	30
49 AW	18-10	7.965	Automatic Qualifier	31
50 AX	16-12	7.948	Automatic Qualifier	32

The Example above was based on a CIF-SS automatic qualifier total of 248, which after the 16 team Division 1 is determined. Leaves an average of 29 for Divisions 2-9.

In the example, Division 1 was created with the top 16 rated teams including at-large qualifiers

Divisions 2-9 there will be 29 automatic qualifiers in each division. Each division will have up to 3 at-large entries as well. The teams will be seeded based on their rating. Team AH was selected over Team AB who cannot be selected at sub .500. Once each bracket has been filled the next bracket will begin with the next automatic qualifier.

### **Important information to be considered regarding the formation of the 2026 playoff divisions:**

1. Rankings will be taken using the Massey Reporting system. Rankings for all teams will be determined at a designated time. As the rankings are dynamic, only these rankings, from that moment will be used. Massey rounds to the nearest 10<sup>th</sup> in posting their rankings, however teams that are tied in rating, will be taken in the order they appear in the rankings.
2. After 16 teams have been placed into division one, the next available automatic qualifier and all remaining teams after that will make brackets to form divisions 2-9. Each division will begin with an automatic qualifier.
3. After 16 teams have been placed into division one, an average number of automatic qualifiers will be used to place teams into divisions 2-9. It is an average, with some divisions having more, and some less than the average depending on the order of automatic qualifiers and number of at-large teams in a grouping of teams. There are currently **248** automatic qualifiers for the 2026 season. (This number is subject to change based on participation of all teams during the league portion of our season).
4. Once automatic qualifiers have been placed into a division, and pending space, any remaining spots will go to the highest ranked, .500 overall record or better at-large teams in that grouping. **Per bylaw 3514 an at large team MUST be .500 or better to qualify for the playoffs regardless of their power ranking.**



## Division 1- Baseball Playoffs

### Pool Play Stage (Group Stage)

**4 Pools (A to D), each with 4 teams**

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
Team #1	Team #2	Team #3	Team #4
Team #8	Team #7	Team #6	Team #5
Team #9	Team #10	Team #11	Team #12
Team #16	Team #15	Team #14	Team #13

In each pool, winners of Round 1 will face each other. Losers of Round 1 will face each other. The 2-0 teams advance to the knockout stage. The 0-2 teams are eliminated. The 1-1 teams will play each other with the winner advancing to the knockout stage and the loser being eliminated.

**Top 2 teams** from each pool advance to the **knockout stage**.

### Knockout Stage (Quarterfinals → Semifinals → Final)

#### Quarterfinals (8 teams):

- QF1: Winner Pool A vs Runner-up Pool D
- QF2: Winner Pool B vs Runner-up Pool C
- QF3: Winner Pool C vs Runner-up Pool B
- QF4: Winner Pool D vs Runner-up Pool A

#### Semifinals (4 teams):

- SF1: Winner QF1 vs Winner QF4
- SF2: Winner QF2 vs Winner QF3

#### Final:

- Winner SF1 vs Winner SF2

### DIVISION 1 PLAYOFF DATES

<b>First Round</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 12, 2026 (Division 1 only)</b>
<b>Second Round</b>	<b>Friday, May 15, 2026</b>
<b>Third Round</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 19, 2026</b>
<b>Quarterfinals</b>	<b>Friday, May 22, 2026</b>
<b>Semi Finals</b>	<b>Tuesday, May 26, 2026</b>
<b>Championship Finals</b>	<b>Friday or Saturday, May 29/30, 2026</b>

## **CIF STATE REGIONAL OPT OUT - MANDATORY REQUIREMENT**

If a school elects to opt out of participation in the Regional Playoffs, the Principal is REQUIRED to provide written notification to the Section Commissioner prior to the school's Section Semi-Final contest (**Opt Out Form is due no later than Saturday, May 23, 2026**). Failure to comply will result in an automatic \$1,000 fine and may trigger additional sanctions as determined by CIF. Click Below to Print the form. **Complete and email to Brenda Bomgaars** ([brendab@cifss.org](mailto:brendab@cifss.org)) **by May 23, 2026**. [https://cifstate.org/sports/Intent\\_To\\_NOT\\_Participate\\_Declaration.pdf](https://cifstate.org/sports/Intent_To_NOT_Participate_Declaration.pdf)

## **AT LARGE ENTRIES**

At Large entries **must** be submitted by the school no later than **10:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 6** in CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)).

## **FREELANCE**

Freelance schools are reminded that in order to be considered for post-season competition, they **must** complete a freelance petition in CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org)) prior to the start of the season. CIF Blue Book bylaw 3510: A freelance school must schedule 80% of the allowable contests at the varsity level. 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. Freelance schools should use the At-Large Entry submission through [www.cifsshome.org](http://www.cifsshome.org) for consideration into the playoffs.

## **OFFICIAL GAME BALL**

DURING THE 2026 CIF SOUTHERN SECTION BASEBALL PLAYOFFS, THE RAWLINGS RCIFSS BASEBALL (SEE PICTURE BELOW) WILL BE THE MANDATORY BASEBALL FOR ALL PLAYOFF GAMES. THE SOUTHERN SECTION OFFICE WILL FURNISH THESE BASEBALLS FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS.

**Playoff Required  
Baseball**



## **PLAYOFF CONTEST INFORMATION**

### **DETERMINATION OF SITES**

Deciding who will be the host team AFTER the first round of competition will be the sole responsibility of the Commissioner. In cases where two teams are paired after the first round of the playoffs, the team having the fewest number of host games in playoff competition shall be designated as the host team. When both teams have had an equal number of host playoff contests, the Commissioner shall toss a coin to decide the host team. When a school has been designated as the host school for a playoff contest it shall (1) act in that capacity unless excused by the Commissioner, and (2) be considered the host team regardless of where the game is being played. **SPECIAL NOTE: Teams receiving a bye in the first round shall automatically be the host team in the next round of the playoffs.**

## **PRE-FLIPS**

In an effort to give schools as much time as possible to prepare for baseball playoff contests, we will be posting coin flips for home teams for the Second Round, Quarterfinals, Semifinals and Finals according to the following schedule:

Second Round	All Divisions	Monday, May 11 – 9:00 a.m.
Third Round	Division 1	Wednesday, May 13 – 9:00 a.m.
Quarterfinals	All Divisions	Monday, May 18 – 9:00 a.m.
Semifinals	All Divisions	Wednesday, May 20 – 9:00 a.m.
Finals	All Divisions	Tuesday, May 26 – 10:00 a.m.

## **LOCATION OF GAMES**

The host school is charged with the responsibility of securing an adequate facility for the holding of a playoff contest. The Commissioner must approve of such facilities. Approval will be based upon size of playing field, adequacy of seating to handle the anticipated crowd, condition of diamond, etc. The diamond of the host school may be used, provided it meets CIF-SS standards as determined by the Commissioner. It is recommended that, when possible, schools use enclosed facilities with an outfield fence for playoff games. Crowd control, supervision and the playing facilities should be discussed ahead of time by the schools.

## **OUTFIELD FENCE** – Required for quarterfinals and semi finals

**Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 must be played at a field with outfield fences.** If your home site does not have an outfield fence, you must secure a site that does for **quarterfinal** and **semifinal** games. Additionally, it is strongly suggested that division 7, 8 and 9 games be played at a site with an outfield fence.

## **TIME OF GAME**

All games (other than the Championship Finals) are scheduled to begin at 3:15 p.m. on the designated date. A school may play at other times, or on other days, if it is **mutually agreeable to by both competing schools and approved by the CIF office**. In the event of a change of time or date, the host school **MUST** notify the CIF-SS office well in advance. **Please note:** Make certain to notify the CIF-SS for a change in game time **BEFORE** notifying your assignor.

## **REPORTING SCORES**

For all rounds of the playoffs, both teams **must** post the game result into cifsshome.org under teams tab, schedules and scores. All game results should be entered as soon as possible after the completion of the contest so that the next round, in terms of host team assignments and officials, may be finalized. It is very important for winning teams to report their scores to the L.A. Times (213) 234-7151 or 1-800-528-4637, extension 77151 and The Register (714) 796-7804. The publishing of these scores creates interest and allows this office to complete pairings in each bracket.

## **UMPIRES**

The Commissioner, based on merit for the official's work during the regular season, will appoint umpires for all playoff contests. Each non-final game will be assigned three officials. Umpire's fees shall be charged to game expenses if there is an admission charge. In all playoff games, for all divisions prior to the Semifinals, there shall be 3 umpires, and each umpire shall receive \$117.00 each. Semi-final contests will be made up of 4 umpires, who shall receive \$117.00 each. In all Championship Games (Finals), all 4 umpires shall receive \$122.00 each. Any official entitled to mileage will be compensated according to the formula in the CIF-SS Blue Book and this bulletin.

## **Payment of officials will be the responsibility of the host school.**

**MILEAGE FOR OFFICIALS** - C.I.F. Southern Section Blue Book Rule 1212 mileage for officials in the playoffs and has been adopted by the C.I.F. Southern Section in all sports.

1. The point of origination for mileage will be determined by the location of the meeting place for that official's association.
2. A flat fee will be used to compensate officials for travel during the playoffs, based on the following scale... (All mileage is round trip).

<b>51 – 75 miles =</b>	<b>\$18.00</b>
<b>76 – 125 miles =</b>	<b>\$27.00</b>
<b>126 – 175 miles =</b>	<b>\$44.00</b>
<b>176 – 250 miles =</b>	<b>\$62.00</b>
<b>251 – 350 miles =</b>	<b>\$88.00</b>
<b>351 – 450 miles =</b>	<b>\$123.00</b>

For distances beyond 450 miles, the following formula will be utilized:

Begin with \$123.00, which represents 450 miles round trip.

Add \$4.50 for every additional 15 miles traveled round trip.

Example: 525 miles round trip = \$123.00 – First 450 miles

Additional 75 miles = \$12.00 – 75 divided by 15 = 5,

multiply by \$4.50

Total Mileage Reimbursement = \$145.00

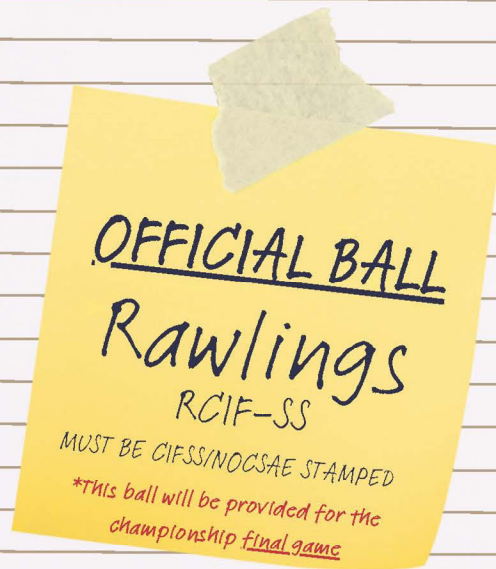
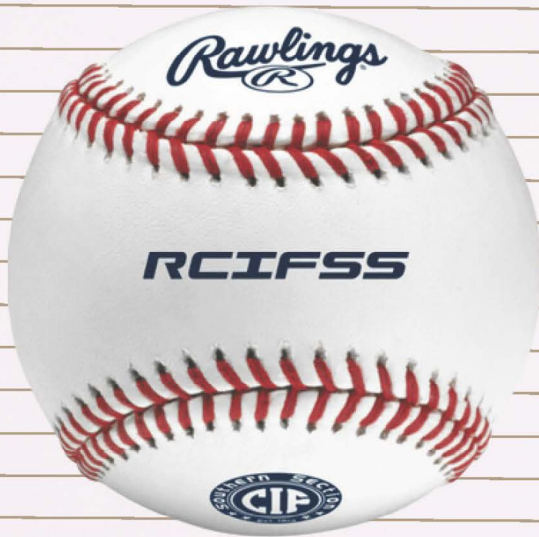
3. The mileage stipend will be paid to the Head Official of all officiating crews in all sports.

## **AWARDS**

The Southern Section will present awards to the champion and finalist teams in all NINE divisions of the playoffs. CIF-SS patches and t-shirts will be awarded to the 20 members of the championship team in all divisions. Individual patches will be provided for 20 members of the finalist team in all nine divisions.



# Official Baseball



*\*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.

# BASEBALL 2025-2026 LEAGUES/SCHOOLS

## LEAGUE 605

Artesia  
Cerritos  
Glenn  
Oxford Academy  
Pioneer  
Whitney

## AGAPE

Academy Aca/ Exc  
Academy Car/Exp  
Cobalt Institute  
Lucerne Valley  
Silver Valley  
Victor Valley Chr

## ALMONT

Alhambra  
Bell Gardens  
Mark Keppel  
Montebello  
San Gabriel  
Schurr

## AMBASSADOR

Aquinas  
Arrowhead Chr  
Linfield Christian  
Ontario Christian  
Woodcrest Chr

## ARROWHEAD

California Lutheran  
Hamilton  
Sherman Indian  
United Chr Acad

## BASELINE

Chino Hills  
Damien  
Etiwanda  
Los Osos  
Rancho Cucamonga  
Upland

## LEAGUE BAY

Mira Costa  
Palos Verdes  
Redondo Union  
Torrance  
West Torrance

## BIG VIII

Centennial/Cor  
Corona  
King, ML  
Norco  
Roosevelt, Eleanor  
Santiago/Corona

## CAMINO REAL

Bishop Montgomery  
Cantwell Sac Heart  
Cathedral  
Don Bosco Tech  
Paraclete  
St. Anthony  
St. Monica Prep

## CHANNEL

Buena  
Dos Pueblos  
Oxnard  
Pacifica/ Oxnard  
Rio Mesa  
San Marcos  
Santa Barbara  
Ventura

## CITRUS BELT

Beaumont  
Cajon  
Citrus Valley  
Redlands  
Redlands East Vly  
Yucaipa

## LEAGUE CITRUS COAST

Carpinteria  
Channel Islands  
Fillmore  
Hueneme  
Malibu  
Nordhoff  
Santa Paula

## COAST

Century  
Estancia  
La Quinta/ W  
Loara  
Savanna

## COAST VALLEY

Coast Union  
Coastal Chr.  
San Luis Obispo Class Aca  
Shandon  
Valley Chr./SM

## COASTAL

Hawthorne MSA  
Lennox Academy  
New Roads  
Rolling Hills Prep

## COASTAL CANYON

Camarillo  
Moorpark  
Oak Park  
Royal  
Simi Valley

## CRESTVIEW

Cypress  
El Dorado  
Foothill  
La Habra  
Villa Park

**LEAGUE  
CROSS VALLEY**

Big Bear  
Excelsior Charter  
Hesperia Christian  
Riverside Prep  
University Prep

**DEL REY**

Bishop Amat  
La Salle  
Serra  
St. Bernard  
St. Paul

**DEL RIO**

California  
El Rancho  
La Serna  
Santa Fe  
Whittier

**DESERT EMPIRE**

La Quinta/ LQ  
Palm Desert  
Palm Springs  
Rancho Mirage  
Shadow Hills  
Xavier Prep

**DESERT SKY**

Adelanto  
Barstow  
Granite Hills  
Silverado  
Victor Valley

**DESERT VALLEY**

Coachella VALley  
Indio  
Twentynine Palms  
Yucca Valley

**LEAGUE  
EMPIRE**

Costa Mesa  
Fullerton  
Katella  
Laguna Hills  
Ocean View

**FOOTHILL**

Canyon/CC  
Castaic  
Golden Valley  
Hart  
Saugus  
Valencia/Valencia  
West Ranch

**FREEWAY**

Brea Olinda  
Canyon/ Anaheim  
Crean Lutheran  
El Modena  
Pacifica/ GG

**FRONTIER**

Bishop Diego  
Dunn  
Santa Clara  
Villanova Prep

**GATEWAY**

Bellflower  
Downey  
Gahr  
La Mirada  
Warren

**GOLD COAST**

Brentwood  
Campbell Hall  
Crossroads  
Viewpoint  
Windward

**LEAGUE  
GOLDEN**

Antelope Valley  
Eastside  
Highland  
Knight  
Lancaster  
Littlerock  
Palmdale  
Quartz Hill

**GOLDEN WEST**

Buena Park  
Calvary Chapel/SA  
Kennedy  
Segerstrom  
Tustin

**GROVE**

Anaheim  
Bolsa Grande  
Orange  
Rancho Alamitos  
Saddleback

**HACIENDA**

Alta Loma  
Colony  
Los Altos  
San Dimas  
South Hills

**HERITAGE**

Desert Chr./L  
Faith Baptist  
Palmdale Acad Ch  
Santa Clarita Chr.  
St. Monica Acad  
Trinity Classical  
Valley Torah  
Vasquez

**LEAGUE**  
**INLAND VALLEY**

Canyon Springs  
Hemet  
North, J.W.  
Perris  
Rancho Verde  
Vista Del Lago

**IVY**

Arlington  
Heritage  
Liberty  
Moreno Valley  
Paloma Valley  
Poly/ Riverside

**LIBERTY**

Buckley  
deToledo  
Milken Community  
Oakwood  
Pacifica Chr/ SM  
Providence/ Bur  
Yula

**MAJESTIC**

Bethel Christian/R  
Calvary Baptist  
Cornerstone Chr/W  
Crossroads Chr  
Grove  
Norton Sci Acad  
Packinghouse Chr

**MARMONTE**

Agoura  
Calabasas  
Newbury Park  
Oaks Christian  
Thousand Oaks  
Westlake

**MID-CITIES**

Dominguez  
Firebaugh  
Lynwood  
Mayfair  
Norwalk  
Paramount

**LEAGUE**  
**MIRAMONTE**

Bassett  
Edgewood  
Ganesha  
La Puente  
Pomona  
Workman

**MISSION**

Alemanya  
Chaminade  
Crespi  
Harvard-Westlake  
Loyola  
Notre Dame/SO  
Sierra Canyon  
St. Francis

**MISSION VALLEY**

Arroyo  
El Monte  
Gabrielino  
Marshall  
Mountain View  
Rosemead  
South El Monte

**MOJAVE RIVER**

Apple Valley  
Burroughs/R  
Hesperia  
Oak Hills  
Serrano  
Sultana

**MONTVIEW**

Azusa  
Baldwin Park  
Duarte  
Garey  
Nogales  
Sierra Vista

**LEAGUE**  
**MOORE**

Cabrillo/LB  
Compton  
Jordan  
Lakewood  
Millikan  
Poly/ Long Beach  
Wilson/ LB

**MOUNTAIN PASS**

Elsinore  
San Jacinto  
Tahquitz  
Temescal Canyon  
West Valley

**MOUNTAIN VALLEY**

Entrepreneur/H  
Indian Springs  
Miller, AB  
Pacific  
San Bernardino

**MT. BALDY**

Chaffey  
Chino  
Diamond Ranch  
Don Lugo  
Montclair  
Ontario

**MULLHOLLAND**

Ambassador Chr  
Animo Leadership  
Compton Early  
Environmental Ch  
Shalhevet

**NORTH HILLS**

Esperanza  
Sonora  
Sunny Hills  
Troy  
Yorba Linda

**LEAGUE****OCEAN**

Beverly Hills  
 Centennial/ Com  
 Culver City  
 Hawthorne  
 Inglewood  
 Lawndale  
 Leuzinger  
 Santa Monica

**OLYMPIC**

Heritage Christian  
 Maranatha  
 Valley Chr/Cer  
 Village Christian  
 Whittier Christian

**OMEGA**

Beacon Hill  
 Gorman LC  
 Hillcrest Christian  
 Ojai Valley  
 Sequoyah

**ORANGE**

Los Amigos  
 Magnolia  
 Santa Ana Valley  
 Santiago/ GG  
 Western

**ORANGE COAST**

Garden Grove  
 Godinez  
 Santa Ana  
 Valencia/ Placentia  
 Westminster

**PACIFIC**

Arcadia  
 Burbank  
 Burroughs/Burbank  
 Crescenta Valley  
 Glendale  
 Hoover  
 Muir  
 Pasadena

**LEAGUE****PACIFIC COAST**

Irvine  
 Laguna Beach  
 Northwood  
 Portola  
 Sage Hill  
 St. Margaret's  
 University  
 Woodbridge

**PALOMARES**

Ayala, Ruben  
 Bonita  
 Claremont  
 Diamond Bar  
 Glendora  
 Walnut

**PIONEER**

El Segundo  
 North Torrance  
 Peninsula  
 South Torrance  
 Wiseburn Da Vinci

**PREP**

Chadwick  
 Flintridge Prep  
 Poly/Pasadena  
 Rio Hondo Prep

**RIO HONDO**

La Canada  
 Monrovia  
 San Marino  
 South Pasadena  
 Temple City

**RIVER VALLEY**

Jurupa Valley  
 La Sierra  
 Norte Vista  
 Patriot  
 Ramona  
 Rubidoux

**LEAGUE****SAN ANDREAS**

Arroyo Valley  
 Bloomington  
 Carter  
 Colton  
 Eisenhower

**SAN JOAQUIN**

Avalon  
 Calvary Chapel/ D  
 Capistrano Vly Chr  
 Fairmont Prep  
 Legacy College Prep  
 Pacifica Chr/OC  
 Southlands Chr  
 Tarbut V Torah  
 Webb  
 Western Christian

**SANTA FE**

Mary Star  
 Salesian  
 St. Genevieve  
 St. Pius X-St. Matthias  
 Verbum Dei

**SEA VIEW**

Beckman  
 Capistrano Valley  
 El Toro  
 Mission Viejo  
 San Juan Hills

**SKYLINE**

Fontana  
 Notre Dame/ Riv  
 Rim of the World  
 San Gorgonio

**SOUTH COAST**

Aliso Niguel  
 Dana Hills  
 San Clemente  
 Tesoro  
 Trabuco Hills

**LEAGUE**  
**SOUTH VALLEY**

California Military  
Desert Chr Acad  
Nuview Bridge  
San Jacinto Lead  
San Jacinto Vly Aca  
Santa Rosa Acad  
St. Jeanne  
Temecula Prep

**SOUTHWESTERN**

Chaparral  
Great Oak  
Murrieta Mesa  
Murrieta Valley  
Temecula Valley  
Vista Murrieta

**SUN VALLEY**

Banning  
Cathedral City  
Desert Hot Springs  
Desert Mirage

**SUNBELT**

Citrus Hill  
Hillcrest  
Lakeside  
Orange Vista  
Rancho Christian  
Valley View

**SUNKIST**

Grand Terrace  
Jurupa Hills  
Kaiser  
Rialto  
Summit

**LEAGUE**  
**SUNSET**

Corona del Mar  
Edison  
Fountain Valley  
Huntington Beach  
Los Alamitos  
Marina  
Newport Harbor

**TRI COUNTY PREMIER**

Desert Chapel  
Loma Linda Acad  
Mesa Grande  
Noli Indian  
Public Safety Acad  
Redlands Adventist  
Weaver

**TRINITY**

JSerra  
Lutheran/Orange  
Mater Dei  
Santa Margarita  
Servite  
St. John Bosco

**TRI-VALLEY**

Cate  
Foothill Technology  
Grace  
St. Bonaventure  
Thacher

**VALLE VISTA**

Charter Oak  
Covina  
Northview  
Rowland  
West Covina  
Wilson/ HH

**LEAGUE**  
**FREELANCE**

Del Sol

# CIF BLUE BOOK BYLAWS/NFHS RULES

## RULES

All playoff games will be conducted using the National Federation Baseball rules, **except** where Blue Book rulings or **this bulletin supersedes**. All playoff games will be of 7 (seven) innings duration.

### BATTING PRACTICE – CIF BYLAW 1515.2

Blue Book Rule 1515.2 states, “Teams entered in the baseball playoffs will not be permitted to take batting practice on the day of a playoff game prior to the commencement of the contest.”

Batting practice will be construed as **ANY** type of pitching motion with **ANY** type of ball from in front of the batter (including pitching machines and overhand throwing). **THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE BATTING WARMUP WILL BE SIDE SOFT TOSS OR BATTING TEE WORK. This should be done with only non-hard balls such as whiffle, smush, or reduced flight balls.**

- A) For side soft toss, the guidelines are as follows: the tosser should be on a knee, to the side of the batter and the ball should be lifted, not pitched, to the batter. **NO PEPPER IS ALLOWED AT ANY DISTANCE.**
- B) To clarify any questions that may arise. “Tracking”, the idea that hitters will stand in a batter’s position, while pitchers throw overhand to a catcher, and “track” pitches as they come toward the plate, is not considered batting practice by definition and is allowable prior to playoff contests. Batters who swing, or attempt to swing or bunt in any fashion, will be in violation of this rule and may face the consequences of that action. Coaches should be very careful to monitor any and all pre-game activities.
- C) No batting practice of any type may take place in batting cages.  
**THE PENALTY FOR BATTING PRACTICE MAY BE FORFEITURE OF THE GAME.**

Games will start at the scheduled time and each team will be allowed a maximum of 15 minutes for infield practice.

Question: If a coach, during the homeplate pre-game meeting, does not announce to the umpire and their opponent that a possible violation of the batting practice rule has occurred, could that violation be considered at any time after?

Answer: No, any perceived batting practice violation must be noted by the plate umpire prior to the end of the pregame meeting to be report to the CIF-SS Office.

### PITCHING LIMITATION RULE – CIF BYLAW 1500

A reminder that both Pitching Limitation Rule 1500 (30 Outs per week) and 1501 Pitch Count will be in effect for all CIF Southern Section Baseball Playoff games. Please make sure that coaches are verifying pitch count after each half inning or a visible pitch count mechanism (i.e. scoreboard add-on, flip chart behind home plate, etc.) can be seen by both teams. Coaches may use this as verification of the pitch count. Please review the specific rules for pitching limitations below.

#### **1500. PITCHING LIMITATION RULE – 30 OUTS**

Sections shall adopt the following baseball pitching limitation rule: 30 outs and/or three (3) appearances in a calendar week through the season.

- A. The calendar week begins on Monday.
- B. Innings pitched in a no game (i.e., rainout, power failure, etc.) shall count toward the total.
- C. If the 30<sup>th</sup> out involves a double or triple play, the team will not be penalized.
- D. An appearance is defined as a pitcher pitching at least one (1) pitch. If a pitcher is removed from the mound to another position or to the dugout and later returns to pitch in the same game, the pitcher will be charged with a second appearance.

E. Any violation constitutes a forfeit of the contest.

### 1501. PITCHING LIMITATION RULE – PITCH COUNT

In addition to 1500 above, Sections shall adopt the following baseball pitching limitation rule with respect to pitch count and required days of rest:

#### Pitch count limits and required rest:

Level	Maximum Contest Pitch Limit	0 Days Rest Required	1 Day Rest Required	2 Days Rest Required	3 Days Rest Required
Varsity	110 Pitches	1-30 Pitches	31-50 Pitches	51-75 Pitches	76+ Pitches
Freshman; F/S; JV	90 Pitches	1-30 Pitches	31-50 Pitches	51-75 Pitches	76+ Pitches

- A. A pitcher may finish the current batter if the Maximum Contest Pitch Limit is reached during that at-bat.
- B. Pitches thrown and appearances made in a no game (i.e., rainout, power failure, etc.) shall count toward the totals.
- C. At the end of each half inning, the head coaches will confirm and both team score books will record the pitch count for all pitchers who threw a pitch in that half inning. In the case of a discrepancy, the home book is considered the official score book.
- D. It is the expectation of the CIF Southern Section that coaches will discuss any discrepancies **before** a potential violation occurs.
- E. Each school must keep a record of all pitches thrown by each of their players in each game and make this available to their respective Section Office upon request.
- F. Any violation constitutes a forfeit of the contest

#### Questions & Answers:

Q: If a pitch count mechanism is used that is visible to both teams, do the coaches still need to confirm the pitch count every half inning?

A: No. If the mechanism (i.e. scoreboard add-on, flip chart behind home plate, etc.) can be seen by both teams, the coaches may use that as verification of the pitch count.

Q: How is a day of rest defined?

A: A day of rest is defined as a calendar day. For example, if a pitcher throws 76 or more pitches in a Monday game thus requiring three-days rest before being allowed to pitch again, those days of rest would be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday allowing that pitcher to pitch again on Friday.

Q: If a pitcher exceeds the maximum number of allowable pitches with respect to the required days of rest while finishing a batter, how are the required number of rest days calculated?

A: The required days of rest is determined by the actual number of pitches thrown. For example, if a pitcher starts a batter with 48 pitches, finishes the batter with 53 pitches and is then removed from the game, that pitcher would be required to rest for two days before making another appearance.

Q: What, if any role, do the umpires play in the confirmation and recording of the pitch count after each half inning?

A: The umpires are asked to ensure that the teams are exchanging the required information but the actual recording of the pitch count is up to the head coach from each school.

Q: If an intentional walk is issued to the batter and no pitches are delivered to home plate, are those pitches counted towards the pitcher's total number?

A: No. Those pitches would not count towards the pitcher's total number

Q: In the case of balk, when does a pitch count towards the pitcher's total number?

A: A pitch would only count if the ball is delivered to the batter.

Q: If a batter is awarded timeout by the umpire but the pitcher still delivers the ball to the batter, does that pitch count towards the pitcher's total number?

A: No. That pitch would not count towards the pitcher's total number.

Q: Does the Pitch Count reset each Monday like the 30 Out Rule?

A: No. While the 30 Out Rule will reset each Monday, the Pitch Count Rule will not. For example, if a pitcher throws 76+ pitches in a game on Saturday, they would have to rest on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday before being eligible to pitch again on Wednesday.

Q: May the same pitcher appear in two different games on the same day?

A: Yes. However, they may only do so if they threw 30 pitches or less in the first game and are not required to rest. Also, they may not throw more than 110 pitches total for the day.

## **TOBACCO PRODUCTS PROHIBITED - CIF BYLAW 514**

The use of tobacco products in conjunction with any CIF Southern Section athletic contest is prohibited. That is to include all those involved in the contest including players, coaches, and officials.

## **COACHES**

Coaches of the host team are responsible for typing the ground rules on cards and presenting copies to umpires and the opposing coach prior to the game. No player or adult may coach from the first or third base box that is not in uniform. Any player in a coaching box must be listed on the certified eligibility list submitted to the CIF-SS office.

NFHS Baseball Rules 3-3-1-a and 3-3-1-i, which deal with the following issues, will be enforced for all playoff games.

3-3-1-a – “A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not: (a) leave the dugout during a live ball for an unauthorized purpose.”

3-3-1-i – “A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not: (i) be outside the designated dugout, (bench) or bullpen area if not a batter, runner, on-deck batter, in the coach's box or one of the nine players on defense.”

## **TEN RUN RULE**

National Federation Rule 4-2-2 states that the 10-run rule is optional, not mandatory.

**All C.I.F. playoff games will be played without the 10-run rule.**

## **BASEBALL GAMES – RAINOUT POLICY**

1. In instances where games cannot be started due to inclement weather, teams will postpone that day's scheduled games until the next available date. Weekday games will be postponed until the next day; Saturday games will be postponed until the following Monday.
2. If games are started and then must be called due to inclement weather, the following NFHS rules apply:
  - a. If a game has reached 4 and one-half completed innings, with the Home team ahead, then it is an official game and the result will stand. In other words, the Visiting team has had 5 completed innings at bat and the Home team is ahead in the contest.
  - b. If the game has reached 5 completed innings, with the Visiting team ahead, then it is an official game and the result will stand. In other words, if both teams have had 5 completed innings at bat and the Visiting team is ahead in the contest.
  - c. If a contest has not reached the required number of innings to be an official contest, and the game is called due to inclement weather, then the game is ended at that point when the teams resume play on their next available date, the game starts over with no score. Also, no statistics from a game that ends before it is an official contest will be recorded.

- d. If a contest is tied and is stopped due to inclement weather, if it is less than an official game (has not reached the 4 and one-half completed innings or 5 completed innings), then the game would start over with no score. If it is an official game (5 completed innings or more), then it will resume from the point it was called. **For Baseball, all pitching innings and pitch count would count regardless.**

**Note: The outs recorded by any pitcher in a game that is ended before it is an official contest, DO count toward the 30 outs maximum during the current week, Monday through Saturday. All pitches thrown in game that is ended before it is an official contest do count in the pitch count limitation rule.**

*We ask that you please communicate with our office immediately on any changes to your scheduled games.*

### **PROTESTS OF PLAYOFF CONTESTS**

Coaches are encouraged to carry National Federation baseball rulebooks with them for all playoff contests. Coaches **must** resolve questions pertaining to possible misapplication of the rules in accordance with the National Federation baseball rules. **No protest may be carried forth once the contest is completed, with the following exception.** Schools will still have the opportunity to protest a contest in accordance with Southern Section rules, Rule 1111, as it pertains to use of ineligible player, or violations of any CIF-SS rule in connection with the contest.

### **ADMISSION REGULATIONS FOR PLAYOFF CONTESTS – CIF BYLAW 143**

#### **For Playoff Rounds other than the Divisional Championships**

Generally, due to the inability to obtain playing sites that are enclosed, admission is not charged for baseball playoff contests. However, if agreed upon by both schools and permission is received from the CIF-SS office **in advance**, admission may be charged. If it is agreed upon to charge admission, the following financial regulations will be in effect:

- (A) **ADMISSION PRICES (Playoff Rounds)** -- The admission prices shall be \$12.00 for adults, \$6.00 for students with valid high school ID cards and \$5.00 for children 13 and under.
- (B) **HOST SCHOOL (Playoff Rounds)** -- The designated host school is responsible for all costs incurred in hosting the contest. These would include officials, supervision, stadium rental, etc.
- (C) **VISITING SCHOOL (Playoff Rounds)** -- The designated visiting school is responsible for all costs incurred in traveling, such as bus, meals, etc.
- (D) **GATE SPLIT (Playoff Rounds)** -- When admission is charged, the gate is to be handled as a gross gate and split 50-50 between the competing schools (please refer to Article 1, Section 143, page 49, of the Blue Book).
- (E) **ADMISSION PRICES (Championship Finals)** -- The admission prices shall be \$16.00 for adults, \$8.00 for students with valid high school ID cards and \$8.00 for children 13 and under.

## **503.M CIF Statewide Sportsmanship and Ejection Policy**

### **PLAYER:**

A player who is ejected from a contest (for reasons other than fighting or leaving the bench area during a fight) shall be ineligible to participate in the remainder of that contest (event) and his or her team's future contest (s) as outlined below:

**First Ejection:** Player is ineligible to participate in the team's next contest. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's next contest. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season, the player would be ineligible for the team's first contest the following season. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for the first contest of their next season of sport.

**Second Ejection:** Player is ineligible to participate in the team's next three (3) contests. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's next three (3) contests. If the season concludes prior to the player serving the three (3) contests suspension, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for the team's following season. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for their next season of sport.

**Third Ejection:** Player is ineligible to participate for the remainder of that season. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's remaining contest that season. If there are six (6) or fewer contests remaining in the season, the player would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for the next season of sport as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

***A player who is ejected from a contest for fighting or leaving the bench area during a fight\* shall be ineligible to participate in the remainder of that contest and his or her team's future contests as outlined below:***

**First Ejection:** Player (Fighting/Assaultive Behavior/Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct) is ineligible to participate in the team's next three (3) to six (6) contests as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the duration of the suspension. If the season concludes prior to the player serving the full suspension, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for the team's following season. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for the number of contests remaining on the suspension for their next season of sport. \*NFHS Rules indicate automatic one game suspension for leaving the bench.

**Second Ejection:** Player is ineligible to participate for the remainder of that season. Player may remain on the bench for the duration of that contest and may be on the bench in street clothes for the team's remaining contests that season. If there are six (6) or fewer contests remaining in the season, the player would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. If the player is a senior, he or she would be ineligible for up to six (6) contests for their next season of sport as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

Before a player may return to participate in a contest following a multiple game suspension for any of the above infractions, the school principal must inform the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter that they have met with the student-athlete, his or her parent/guardian/caregiver and coach to discuss future behavioral expectations.

**COACH:** who is ejected from a contest (for reasons other than fighting) shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of that contest and his or her team's future contest (s) as outlined below:

**First Ejection:** Coach is disqualified from participating in the team's next contest. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for the team's next contest. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season, the coach would be ineligible for the team's first contest the following season.

**Second Ejection:** Coach is disqualified from participating in the team's next three (3) to six (6) contests as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for the team's next three (3) to six (6) contests. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season, the coach would be ineligible for the team's first three (3) to six (6) contests the following season.

**Third Ejection:** Coach is disqualified from participating in the remaining contests of that season. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for the remaining contests of that season. If there are six (6) or fewer contests remaining in the season, the coach would be disqualified from participating for up to six (6) contest for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

***A coach who is ejected from a contest for (Fighting/Assaultive Behavior/Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct) shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of that contest and his or her team's future contests as outlined below:***

Ejection for (Fighting/Assaultive Behavior/Gross Unsportsmanlike Conduct): Coach is disqualified from participating for the remainder of that season. Coach must immediately vacate the playing area and the vicinity in and around the contest and refrain from having any communication with the team or other coaches for the remainder of that contest and for all of the team's remaining contests that season. If there are fewer than six (6) contest remaining in the season, the coach would be disqualified from participating for up to six (6) contests for the team's following season as determined by the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter.

Before a coach may return to participate in a contest following a multiple contest disqualification, for any of the above infractions, the school principal must inform the CIF Section Commissioner with jurisdiction in the matter that they have met with the coach to discuss future behavioral expectations.

### **SPECTATOR:**

If a spectator is ejected from a contest, it is the responsibility of the school to ensure that person does not attend that team's next contest. If the same spectator is ejected a second time, it is the responsibility of the school to ensure that person does not attend any of the remaining contests for that season.

**Note: There is no appeal process for single game ejections.**

### **SPORTSMANSHIP**

There should be a great deal of concern about security for officials. It is strongly suggested that the home team have a representative to escort the officials to the playing field and back to your locker room and/or their car at the end of the contest. A responsible adult who can guarantee the security of the official should do this task.

## **CHEERING SECTION**

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, buckets, 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 paint is acceptable from the neck up only and shall not include any inappropriate letters or symbols. Assigned school staff shall monitor their cheering sections regarding face painting.

## **BASEBALL REMINDERS**

**SPORTSMANSHIP-CELEBRATIONS AROUND OR NEAR HOME PLATE**--Any walk-off game winning base hit or home run generates immediate excitement. Everyone on the winning team wants to congratulate the successful batter. However, the problem is that the umpire has to verify that the runner touches home plate. Additionally, umpires must be alert for bad sportsmanship, taunting and other boorish behavior. Therefore, umpires are instructed to keep players out of the home plate circle or the area around home plate until all runners have scored.

**LINE UP CARDS**—Please do not separate lineup cards. Just hand everything to the plate umpire. It is acceptable to provide a lineup card to the opposing team scorekeeper before the pregame meeting at home plate. Umpires are instructed to take the home lineup card first, then the visiting lineup card before inspecting either of the lineup cards.

**LINEUP CARDS II**—If you are using a designated hitter, please list the DH either directly below or directly across from the player for whom he is hitting. Please do not list the DH at the bottom of the lineup card, unless of course, he is batting for the player ninth in the order.

**PREGAME MEETING**—It has been noted that during the pregame meeting at home plate, members of the visiting team have often been observed outside their dugout warming up with bats. Rule 2-10-2 provides that BOTH teams must remain in the dugout during the pregame meeting. Please remind your teams.

## **CIF POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

**GAME MANAGEMENT:** Teams are doing a much better job of correctly lining the field. The most notable problems are the lack of markings for the three-foot running lane and the coaching boxes.

**PREGAME EQUIPMENT/BAT INSPECTION:** Along with asking if players are properly and legally equipped, umpires will now verify with coaches that all of their equipment (bats, batting helmets and catcher's helmets) are legal.

The specific language in rule 4-1-3b reads "equipped with bats that are unaltered from the original manufacturer's design and production and helmets that meet NFHS and NOCSAE standards and free of cracks or damage."

The result of that rule change means that umpires will no longer be required to do pregame equipment checks.

The penalty for using an illegal bat now also affects the coaches, since they have certified the legality of their equipment at the pregame meeting.

**POST GAME BEHAVIOR:** NFHS rules only cover the conduct of players and coaches during a game. There is no coverage of a penalty for coach or player conduct after a game. As a result, there have been instances of coaches and/or players, knowing there is no penalty, acting with non-sporting behavior toward umpires after a game.

In the event of post-game behavior by a coach or player that would result in an ejection during a game, the coach or player will be informed by the umpires that his behavior will be reported to the area liaison as an ejection. This policy is in effect until the umpires leave the game site.

Please note that the above has the full support of the CIF-SS.



## 2025-2026 ALL CIF BASEBALL SELECTION PROCESS GUIDELINES

All coaches within their respective division will be eligible to vote for their division's All CIF team. A link to the ballot form will be emailed to each head coaches email address listed in CIFSSHome ([www.cifsshhome.org](http://www.cifsshhome.org)) on May 8th. Please ensure your email address is accurate.

All teams competing in the CIF Southern Section Baseball season are eligible to nominate players.

League champions may nominate up to three players, other playoff teams (2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, At Large in league) may nominate up to two players and teams that did not qualify for the playoffs are limited to one player nomination.

In addition, if your team reaches the finals of the playoffs, an additional player (up to 4 maximum per team) may be nominated after the final game.

A separate form is required for each player that you are nominating. You must submit full final season stats including southern section playoffs for each player. Coaches will nominate players (in the order they would have them considered).

A player and coach of the year will be selected for each respective division. There is a total of 22 players that will receive "All CIF" honors. If you have a player who you deem worthy of being part of the top 22 players in your division, please nominate your player(s).

### [2026 BASEBALL ALL CIF NOMINATION FORM](#)

Once your season has ended, you may submit nominations.  
**Nominations must be submitted via the link provided; no other method will be accepted.**  
The deadline to submit nominations will be **Monday, June 8, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**

Questions or inquiries regarding ALL-CIF Baseball  
contact Iran Novick at [allcifssbaseball@aol.com](mailto:allcifssbaseball@aol.com).

**This information will be released to the media via the CIF office and should NOT be shared with recipients, parents, or media prior to the CIF press release.**

# MEMO



**To:** CIF STATE REGIONAL QUALIFIERS

**From:** Joe Hoggatt, CIF -SS Assistant Commissioner,  
CIF Southern Section Baseball Administrator

**Date:** April 2026

**Subject:** CIF STATE BASEBALL REGIONAL CRITERIA

The CIF Southern Section will be granted 20 entries into the CIF State Regional Championships. Teams may be moved to a different State Regional Division than the one in which they competed during the Southern Section playoffs. There are no enrollment parameters in any division. The CIF State Seeding Committee has the authority to adjust when necessary, due to travel considerations or when a repeat match-up of a final or semi-final occurs, but every effort is made to keep the schools in the order they are submitted. If one of the teams elects not to compete in the regional event a school will be selected from the previous rounds. The highest seeded team that did not advance to the semi-final, or the final, will be invited followed by the next highest seeded team followed by the next, etc. until the entries are filled. The entrants will be as follows:

- 4 Semifinalists from Southern Section Division 1
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 2
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 3
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 4
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 5
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 6
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 7
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 8
- 2 Finalists from Southern Section Division 9

**For additional information visit the CIF State website**  
[www.cifstate.org](http://www.cifstate.org)



## 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.



**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](http://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="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">760-983-6087</a>   <a href="https://www.tassigns.com/page/cif-southern-section-licensed-patch-provider">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.

# When pain gets in the way of doing what you love ...

Trust the experts at Hoag & Hoag Orthopedic Institute  
Sports Medicine to get you back on the field.

---

Hoag & Hoag Orthopedic Institute Sports Medicine are proud  
to be the Official Orthopedic & Sports Medicine Partner of the  
CIF Southern Section.

**Hoag  
Orthopedic  
Institute.**

SPORTS MEDICINE



We are proudly founded by our premier physicians in partnership with Hoag.

© 2024, Hoag is a registered trademark of Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian. All Rights Reserved.



F-150



Mustang Mach-E



Bronco



Explorer

## Our vehicles. Your athletes.

The Southern California Ford Dealers proudly support SoCal High School Athletics.





**THE  
BEST  
USE  
THE  
BEST**

**GATORADE**

