

**ARTICLE 2  
JURISDICTION**

20. **SECTIONS**

The State CIF shall consist of Sections, one of which shall be the State CIF, and remainder of which shall be those geographic Sections as may be created by the Federated Council. The geographical Sections, with their representatives on the Federated Council, are: Central (2), Central Coast (2), Los Angeles (2), North Coast (2), Northern (2), Oakland (1), Sac-Joaquin (2), San Diego (2), San Francisco (1), and Southern (4). Any Section which does not have a woman on the Federated Council as a regular representative shall select a woman as an additional representative. Section votes shall be divided equally among its representatives. All Sections consisting of more than two districts shall have a superintendent (deputy, associate, assistant superintendent) as a voting member of their governing board. Each Section shall make an attempt to have their governing body reflect the ethnic and gender population it represents (See Article 3-31). Any Section or Allied Organization which has an even number of representatives on the Federated Council shall have gender balance. The number of votes approved for each Section at the Federated Council will be determined every year in the spring and any necessary adjustments in the number of votes become effective in the first regular meeting of the following year.

Any Section or Allied Organization which has an odd number of representatives on the Federated Council shall achieve gender balance as closely as possible, unless the Allied Organization has only a single representative. Any Section of more than two districts shall have a school board member as a voting member of its governing board. In a Section where a Board of Managers is comprised of superintendents of all constituent school districts, the school board member may serve as a voting member of the Board of Managers or another Section governance body in accord with Section provisions.

(Revised October 2001 Federated Council)

**NOTE:** Hereinafter, the term "Section" shall refer only to geographic Sections.

21. **FORMATION OF NEW SECTIONS/GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE**

A. **New Sections**

Petitions for the formation of new Sections shall be made directly to the Federated Council.

Approval of a proposal to form a new Section requires a majority vote of the Federated Council present at a regular meeting of the council.

(Approved May 1997 Federated Council)

B. **Existing Section**

Approval of a proposal to amend an existing Section, or Sections, requires a majority vote of the Federated Council present at a regular meeting of the council. Such proposals will be presented at a regular Federated Council meeting prior to the meeting where a vote is taken on the proposal.

(Approved May 1997 Federated Council)

C. **Format for Section Modification**

The following conditions must be considered for Section modification:

- (1) Feasibility study must be made to include the following financial considerations:
  - a. Income projection
    - (i) Dues structure
    - (ii) Playoff revenue
    - (iii) Other revenue
  - b. Expense projection
    - (i) Proposed budget
- (2) Membership consideration for proposed Section
  - a. Public schools
  - b. Non-public schools
  - c. Demographics
    - (i) Size of schools
    - (ii) Distances
    - (iii) Geography
- (3) Governance consideration for proposed Section
  - a. School representation
  - b. League representation
  - c. Committee/Council/Board Structure
- (4) Voting summary for proposed Section members
  - a. Public school vote
  - b. Non-public school vote
  - c. Additional demographic information (e.g., size of school, location of school etc.)
  - d. Governing Board of the School Districts  
(Approved May 2002 Federated Council)

- (5) Voting summary for existing Section
  - a. Total Section vote
  - b. Public school vote
  - c. Non-public school vote
  - d. Demographic data (e.g., size of school, location of school, etc.)
- (6) Submittal to Section relation committee
  - a. Presentation of proposal
  - b. Presentation of feasibility study
  - c. Voting summaries
  - d. Written opposition report(s) (optional)
  - e. Public hearing
  - f. Recommendation by committee to State Federated Council

(Approved February 1984 Federated Council)

**D. Guidelines/Criteria for a New Section Formation**

For the purposes of forming a new Section, the following must be addressed in any application.

Variations from these guidelines could affect the terms of participation as a member of the CIF.

- (1) Sections shall abide by the CIF Constitution, Bylaws and the Operating Principles of the organization as found in the Pursuing Victory with Honor<sup>sm</sup> Program.
- (2) All Sections shall be contiguous.
- (3) Sections shall be geographically configured, considering physical and natural boundaries.
- (4) Section formation shall be flexible and responsive to address the changing demographics and long-term growth in California.
- (5) Section formation shall address the needs of all schools, non-public and public schools within the geographic boundaries of the new Section.
- (6) Sections shall consist of multiple leagues.
- (7) Sections shall consist of multiple school districts.
- (8) Sections shall have sufficient resources to provide adequate governance and services to their member schools.
- (9) Section formation shall take into consideration the financial impacts on local schools.
- (10) Section formation application must address the impact on opportunities to participate in State Championships.
- (11) Sections must be of sufficient size to address issues of economic viability, competitive opportunities and State competitions.

(Approved May 2002 Federated Council)

**22. MEMBERSHIP/CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP**

- A. Membership in the California Interscholastic Federation shall be open to public and private high schools of the State of California. The CIF Section in which the school is located may grant membership according to the Section's policies and procedures.
- B. As a condition of membership and continuing membership a member school agrees to:
  - (1) Request to join the CIF and the CIF Section at a public meeting of the local school board or board of directors;
  - (2) Abide by all current rules and regulations of the CIF and Section;
  - (3) Ensure that the local school board or board of directors will adopt the 16 Principles of Pursuing Victory with Honor<sup>sm</sup> by a board resolution;
  - (4) Accept as a member school the responsibility to educate student athletes, coaches, parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver and other appropriate persons on the CIF and Section Constitution and Bylaws, Policies and Procedures adopted by the governing body;
  - (5) Ensure that the administrative decisions of the CIF Federated Council, CIF Executive Committee, CIF Executive Director, Section Board of Managers, Section Commissioner and all state and sectional appeal decisions shall be accepted in good faith by all member schools. The principal of any member school, who, by any act or attitude, shall refuse to accept, or shall hold in contempt or derision, or shall permit or acquiesce in such contempt or derision on the part of any group of individuals associated with his/her school, shall subject his/her school to possible sanctions, suspension and/or expulsion from the Section and/or State membership. These provisions are not to be construed as preventing the principal of a member school from exercising his/her school's right to due process;
  - (6) Abide by all decisions made by the CIF governing body having jurisdiction in the matter. If a member school, or that school's governing body files suit in a court of law against the State CIF and/or one of its sections and the State CIF and/or its section prevails, the member school shall reimburse the State CIF and/or its Section for all legal fees and

reasonable expenses incurred by the CIF and/or its Section in connection with the suit to remain a member in good standing;

- (7) Ensure that CIF-member schools will not accept monies, equipment or apparel specific to, or distributed to, individual athlete(s) within that program. All gifts are school property (as per the Education Code/Board Policy), and may not be given to any individual athlete(s). School/school districts should ensure such gifts are distributed equitably. Gifts supporting travel to athletic competitions must be devoted only to reasonable costs of travel, lodging and food and distributed through the school district, ASB or governing board according to Bylaw 805;
- (8) Monitor its athletic program and to self-report to the appropriate governing body any violations of state and section bylaws as soon as the school is aware of possible violations. This responsibility extends to all administrators and coaches at the school. Each member school is responsible for the conduct of its administrators, coaches, athletes, students and parent(s)/guardian(s)/caregiver and for any knowledge possessed by its administrators;
- (9) Ensure that all coaches, paid and unpaid, will have completed a coaching education program that emphasizes the following components:
  - a. Development of coaching philosophies consistent with school, school district and school board goals;
  - b. Sport psychology: emphasizing communication; reinforcement of young people's efforts; effective delivery of coaching regarding technique and motivation of the student-athlete;
  - c. Sport pedagogy: how young athletes learn and how to teach sport skills;
  - d. Sport physiology: principles of training; fitness for sport; development of a training program; nutrition for athletes; and the harmful effects associated with the use of steroids and performance-enhancing dietary supplements by adolescents;
  - e. Sport management: team management; risk management; and working within the context of an entire school program;
  - f. Training: certification in CPR and first aid;
  - g. Knowledge of, and adherence to, statewide rules and regulations; as well as school regulations including, but not necessarily limited to, eligibility, gender equity and discrimination; AND
  - h. Sound planning and goal setting.

A school/district may use a coach that does not meet these standards for one sports season in an emergency. The coach must still hold a CPR and First Aid certification as required under Title V. However, that person may not coach another season of sport without fulfilling this coaching education requirement. Any currently employed coach who has completed and passed a prior version of a coaching education program that meets the above listed criteria, as determined by the local administration, is exempt from this provision. The above certification is transferable between/among CIF-member schools. Coaches may need to complete additional local school or school district requirements;

**NOTE:** Definition of a coach, paid or unpaid: Any individual that the school/district is required to approve under Title V, California Code of Regulations, Section 5593 and 5594 and/or under California Education Code 33190-33192, 45125.01 and 45125.1. (Revised May 2005 Federated Council)

- (10) Remit any approved State or Section school dues and assessments on time;
- (11) Abide by any additional requirements of the Section; AND
- (12) An athletic director, sports coach, school official or employee or booster club/support group member may provide only non-muscle building nutritional supplements to a student-athlete at any time for the purpose of providing additional calories and electrolytes. A school may only accept an advertisement, sponsorship or donation from a supplement manufacturer that offers only non-muscle building nutritional supplements. A school may not accept an advertisement sponsorship or donation from a distributor of a dietary supplement whose name appears on the label. Permissible non-muscle building nutritional supplements are identified according to the following classes: Carbohydrate/electrolyte drinks; energy bars; carbohydrate boosters and vitamins and minerals.  
(Revised May 2007 Federated Council)

C. **Enforcement**

- (1) The State CIF Executive Director and/or CIF Executive Committee or Section Commissioner and/or Section Board of Managers shall have power to suspend, to fine or otherwise penalize any member school for the violation of any CIF or Section rules and regulations or for just cause. The period of suspension or other penalty shall be left to the discretion of the CIF governing body that has jurisdiction of the matter where the penalty is not fixed.
- (2) The Executive Director or Section Commissioner shall, at his/her discretion, determine whether information about any possible violation of the CIF or Section Constitution or Bylaws is sufficiently reliable to justify further investigation. The Executive Director or Section Commissioner shall also, at his/her discretion, determine whether to conduct any investigation of possible violations of the Constitution or Bylaws as well as the nature and extent of any investigation that may be conducted and the procedures to be used in any such investigation. Factors to be considered by the Executive Director or Section Commissioner in making these determinations may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. The seriousness of the alleged violation;
  - b. Any other factor the Executive Director or Section Commissioner may deem relevant in making these decisions.
- (3) A violation of the State CIF or Section Constitution or Bylaws will not result in any investigation or penalty if it is inadvertent and the school first learns or and reports the violation after the conclusion of the following year's playoffs in the sport in which the violation occurred. If it is determined that a school or any of its administrators or coaches had knowledge of a violation or possible violation of the CIF or Section Constitution or Bylaws and failed to promptly self report as it is required to do as a condition of membership, or that a delay in self reporting occurred as a result of a failure by the school to properly monitor its athletic program as required as a condition of membership, the provisions of this section shall not apply. In any such case, a violation may be investigated and penalties may be implemented regardless of when the violation occurred.
- (4) Any school under suspension, if it has restricted its athletic program to intramural athletics for the period of suspension, may be reinstated by the CIF Executive Committee or Section Board of Managers upon application made in writing 20 days in advance of the time it desires to be reinstated, to the Executive Director or Section Commissioner by the principal of the school and by the Board of Education under which the school operates. The Executive Director or Section Commissioner shall present the application of the suspended school to the appropriate Board for its consideration. The principal and the board of education shall agree, in writing, that the school will abide by all rules of the CIF and/or Section in the future. The principal and each member of the board of education shall sign the statement.

(Approved May 2003 Federated Council)

23. **ORDER OF JURISDICTION**

This Constitution and Bylaws is binding on all schools, leagues and Sections. The order of descending jurisdiction is as follows: State (Federated Council), Section, league and school. A school, league or Section may enact regulations which are more stringent than those adopted by higher authority. The State Federated Council is the governing body of the State CIF and shall establish policy. Within the framework of that policy, local Sections may establish local rules and regulations as long as they are no less stringent and do not violate State policy rules or intent.

(Revised May 2003 Federated Council)

**NOTE:** Bylaws 206, 207 and 208 relate to statewide eligibility rules, therefore apart from more restrictive rules enacted by school boards, no Section, league or school shall adopt or enact any regulations, rules or policies different than, or affecting in any manner, these statewide bylaws. Only the Section Commissioner may waive the effect of those bylaws on transfer athletic eligibility and only in accordance with the provisions of those bylaws.

(NOTE Approved January 2008 Federated Council)

24. **JURISDICTION**

All students attending either public or private high schools in any Section under the jurisdiction of the Federation will be subject to the rules of eligibility of the Federated Council for participation in athletic contests between/among schools. All CIF-member schools are accountable to the Federated Council for violations of the CIF Constitution and Bylaws.

25. **RATIFICATION OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Each local school district board of education or private school governing board will ratify to the appropriate CIF Section Office, by August 15, of each year, the appointment of individuals and alternates by name or by

title who will be school representatives to the athletic leagues for the upcoming year. In the absence of the appropriate filing, all voting privileges for the affected school(s) shall be suspended.