



Memo

TO: CIF SAN DIEGO SECTION PRINCIPALS/ ATHLETIC DIRECTORS

FROM: JOE HEINZ, COMMISSIONER
TODD CASSEN, ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: CIF SAN DIEGO SECTION UPDATE

DATE: JULY 20, 2020

For your review and information, please review the latest athletic information:

1. 2020-2021 Sports Calendars – The California Interscholastic Federation, San Diego Section (CIF-SDS) is excited to see the foundations of a plan to return high school athletics throughout the state of California for the 2020-2021 school year. Today’s announcement from the state office provides our section with the information necessary to finalize the calendars and schedules for all of our CIF regulated sports, while also acknowledging the importance of the health and safety of our student athletes and coaches by pushing the official start date back to align with the Roadmap to Recovery set by the state of California. Over the last several months, and through the ever-changing situation with the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been working on various scenarios to deliver Fall, Winter and Spring sports during the 2020-2021 school year. Below, you will see the results of that effort, with some explanations/clarifications regarding the decisions that have been made. This work was not done in isolation. This was a collaborative effort amongst all the Section Commissioners and with the leadership of State CIF Executive Director, Dr. Ron Nocetti, CIF Associate Executive Director, Mr. Brian Seymour, and their staff. From start to finish, the focus has been on how the organization may serve all student athletes in the best possible way.

A) Two Seasons – Fall and Spring – Specifics of the plan provides for two seasons of sport, which will serve to maximize the length of each season while not eliminating any athletic opportunities in a reduced athletic calendar for the year. The adjusted calendar distributes the athletic offerings into a Fall/Winter Season, and a Spring Season in hope of balancing the opportunities for all student athletes. We understand this move from three seasons of sport to two will not come without its challenges. The logistics of facility usage, multi-sport athletes, multi-sport coaches, a potential shortage of officials are just a few of the challenges we recognize with this modified calendar and have already begun to explore potential solutions. Extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures and there is no doubt that is where we are right now.



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- B) Section Championships** – The 2020-2021, sports calendar includes full Section Championship experiences, which means the same number of champions in each sport, the same number of divisions in each sport, and the same number of guaranteed entries from leagues advancing to the playoffs in each sport, as in previous years.
- C) CIF Regional/State Championships** – The CIF State Office has made the decision to streamline the CIF Regional and CIF State Championships competitions/tournaments to no longer than one week once our San Diego Section Championships have concluded. More details on format, dates, etc., will be forthcoming from the CIF State Office.

2. CIF Bylaws 600-605 Suspended for the 2020-2021 School Year – CIF Executive Director, Dr. Ron Nocetti, has made the decision to enact CIF Bylaw 1108.A, which states, “In emergency situations, the State CIF President or Executive Director or his/her authorized designee may act for the Federated Council in the best interests of the organization. The action will be reviewed by the Executive Committee.” Therefore, a decision has been made that CIF Bylaws 600-605 will be suspended for the 2020-2021, school year. The thought behind this decision was it would not be a realistic expectation, with the major adjustments of our sports seasons, that we would still prohibit students from participating in contests for outside teams during the high school season of sport. ***The CIFSDS Governance will review this decision and make a final determination as to which sections of this one-time suspension of Bylaws 600-605 will be adopted for the 2020-2021 year.***

3. Outside Season Activities – As schools open and students return, provided state and local health authorities deem it safe to do so, schools can begin their pre-season preparations, depending on what is allowed by health authorities during that time period. ***Any specific rules pertaining to these pre-season activities will be determined after the final adoption by the CIFSDS Governance on the one-time suspension to Bylaws 600-605, more specifically CIFSDS Bylaw 600.2 pertaining to activities conducted “outside the season of sport”.***

4. Approval Process – In collaboration with our Board of Managers, Conference Presidents, Sport Specific Advisory Committees, and Officials Association, we will be coming together over the next couple weeks to finalize the dates and schedules for each of the seasons of sport for our section. We understand that this has been a difficult period for our student athletes, coaches, athletic administrators, and parents with so much uncertainty and information changing on a daily basis. With an approved CIFSDS Master Calendar for 2020-2021 in place, we look forward to continuing to collaborate with leaders from across our section and state as we prepare for the start of the 2020-2021 athletic year.

During these unprecedented times, it is going to require us all to approach our mission of supporting education-based athletics with a “solution oriented” mindset. We understand the challenges this modified calendar is going to present. The CIFSDS, its leadership, and governance are committed to offering all of our current sport opportunities this upcoming school year for our member schools, athletes, parents, and



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communities. It will require vision, creativity, flexibility, teamwork, and unwavering commitment from all our member schools to make this unique schedule a success.

The entire CIFSDS team is ready, willing, and able to assist you in any way we possibly can. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions on the information presented in this memo.

Thank you in advance for your help and support with the implementation of this plan for the CIF San Diego Section!