

WCAL BYLAWS

Article II – General Policies

1. WCAL: A PART OF THE CCS AND CIF – All policies of this League must conform to the regulations and policies of the Central Coast Section and the California Interscholastic Federation.
2. ALL POLICIES MUST BE APPROVED BY THE PRINCIPALS’ COUNCIL – No policies are effective until approved by the Principals’ Council.
3. LEAGUE POLICY REGARDING RECRUITING – The following is the WCAL “Recruiting Rule”:
 - A. No coach or faculty member may approach a student, his/her parents or family, his/her school coach or teacher for the expressed purpose of inducing the student to attend their high school in order to participate in athletics. This shall be known as the “Recruiting Rule.”
 - B. A school shall be equally guilty of violating the “Recruiting Rule” if it knowingly makes use of a third party (not on the school staff) who is guilty of violating the “Recruiting Rule.”
 - C.
 1. If a member school suspects a violation of the recruiting rule by another member school the principal of the school suspecting the violation may send a letter clearly outlining the facts, circumstances and any relevant proof confirming the alleged violation to the principal of the suspected school.
 2. Copies of this letter will also be forwarded to the League Commissioner, and to the principals of the other league schools.
 3. The accused school has fifteen (15) days from the receipt of the accusation letter to respond. The response shall be in written form from school principal to school principal with copies sent to the League Commissioner and to the principals of the other league member schools. The response will include a detailed description of the steps taken to investigate the allegations, and either confirm or deny the suspected violation, and shall include relevant, specific facts, circumstances and proof substantiating and documenting confirmation or denial. If the in-house investigation confirms a violation has occurred the violating school may provide a recommendation for a penalty for their violation in their response, including any remedies that the school is taking to rectify the solution, and to insure that this will not happen in the future.
 4. Once the League Commissioner receives the response from the accused school, the Commissioner will, within seven (7) days, convene a hearing panel consisting of three principals of schools not involved in the inquiry to hear and rule on the issue. This panel will then determine any appropriate penalties it deems fit as described in Section D. below. The school that made the accusation may comment on the merits of the accused school’s response to the hearing panel prior to the final ruling.
 5. In the event a member school has been accused of a recruiting violation by a non-member school, and the accusation is filed with the CCS, the member school must also follow the procedures outlined in Section C.3. above regardless of any ruling by the CCS in the matter. Under this situation the school accused of a recruiting violation must send a written response described in Section C. 3. above to the League Commissioner. The Commissioner will then convene hearing panel as described in Section C. 4. above to rule on the issue on behalf of the entire league.

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4. **PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING THE RECRUITING RULE** – Penalties of any violation of the “Recruiting Rule” may be one or more of the following:
 - A. Probationary Status for the school’s program(s) involved in the violation for one year. If during this year of Probationary Status a second violation occurs the school may not be permitted to participate in some or all sports for the WCAL Playoffs and/or CCS Playoffs, and could be deemed ineligible for any league championship. Further, if the same coach(es) associated with the first violation is/are involved in a second violation such coach(es) may be suspended from coaching at their school for one year.
 - B. Any coach(es) or player(s) involved in the violation may be suspended from coaching or playing at their school for one year.
 - C. The school may not be allowed to participate in the WCAL Playoffs in either the sport(s) involved in the violation, or possibly all sports for one year. Also, the school could be deemed ineligible for any league championship(s) in the sport(s) involved in the violation, and/or possibly all sports for one year.
 - D. The school may not be allowed to participate in a sport or sports for the CCS Playoffs for one year.
 - E. Regardless of the penalty incurred, the school must meet its league schedule obligations in all sports during the penalty phase.
5. **PENALTIES FOR VIOLATING OTHER WCAL BY-LAWS** – The penalty for the violation of a WCAL Sport Rule and/or By-Law shall be a one year suspension from the sport in which the violation occurred.
6. **RADIO AND TV COVERAGE** – The following shall be effected:
 - A. All requests to broadcast and/or televise regular season games and/or league meets shall be directed to the host school which shall determine whether there shall be radio or TV coverage.
 - B. All requests to broadcast and/or televise league playoff games and/or league meets shall be directed to the League Office for approval.
7. **SCHOOLS MAY COMPETE IN NO OTHER LEAGUE** – Any school which fields a team in a WCAL-sanctioned league sport must compete in the WCAL or as an independent, unless granted an exemption by the Principals Council with a two-thirds majority vote.
 - A. The intent to field such a team shall be made known in writing to the League Office.
 - B. The written notice shall contain a projected time frame for entry into league competition and the expected levels of competition.
 - C. Periodic reports of progress shall be made to the League Office in order that projected schedules may be discussed and proposed in a timely fashion.
8. **CAMPS AND/OR CLINICS** – Schools must consult with the commissioner on any activities involving camps or clinics that fall outside the parameters of practice and competition during the regular school year prior to implementing such activities. Further, no middle school students may participate in open gyms during the regular school year.