



TO: CIF-SS Girls' Gymnastics Coaches

FROM: Kristine Palle, Assistant Commissioner

DATE: January 2016 updated 11/3/15

RE: 2015-16 GIRLS' GYMNASTICS SEASON

You will find included in this preview very important and vital information for the 2015-16 season. **REVIEW THE INFORMATION THOROUGHLY.** If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate in contacting me personally at the CIF-SS Office.

The following items are included:

- 2. Sportsmanship
- 3. Code of Ethics
- 4-6 Blue Book Rules
  - Special Points of Interest
  - Rule 125 – Accountability
  - Rule 503.H – Concussion Protocol
  - Rule 506 – Practice Allowance
  - Rule 600 - Competition on an Outside Team
  - Rule 1202 - Two Athletic Contests in One Day
  - Concussion Point of Emphasis
- 8-9 2012-14 Girls Gymnastics Rule Changes, Editorial Changes and Points of Emphasis
- 10 Supervision of Athletes - Rule 309

**2014-16 Girls Gymnastics Rule Book has been mailed to school**

# SPORTSMANSHIP

## THE INFLUENCE OF THE COACH

The coach is in a better position to have a positive influence on the youth of a community than any other member of the faculty. He/She has an obligation to develop a personality and character which are above reproach. The example set by the coach is of extreme importance. The character-building potential of athletics is closely related to the character of the coach.

Athletics furnish a setting for the demonstration of attitudes of players which are a direct reflection of the coach. It takes self-discipline on the part of the coach to always let reason, rather than emotions, guide conduct. To build the correct pattern for your athletes, give the following points your attention:

1. Watch your language. Obscenity and profanity have no place on the bench, in the dressing room, or, in fact, in your speaking vocabulary. Additionally, racial or ethnic comments will never be condoned.
2. You can explain defeat, but do not alibi for it.
3. Do not gloat in victory; this is even more offensive than the alibi.
4. Do not challenge the decision of officials.
5. Do not lose your temper because with it, will go your poise.
6. Organize your work well in advance, make a work schedule and carry it out effectively.
7. Do not try to take unfair advantage of the rules.
8. Give opportunities to your players for leadership.
9. The coach's job is to develop the individual players and the team into a unit which can give a performance approaching their maximum ability as individuals and as a team. This must be done within the best meaning of the work **SPORTSMANSHIP**.
10. **SPORTSMANSHIP - PRIORITY #1**

**GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS AND INTEGRITY!!!**

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# 2015-2016 Teams Participating

Lakewood  
Millikan  
Poly/ Long Beach  
Redondo Union  
Santa Barbara

St. Joseph/ Lakewood  
Valley Christian/ Cerritos  
Ventura  
West Ranch  
Wilson/ Long Beach

## CODE OF ETHICS

### IT IS THE DUTY OF ALL CONCERNED WITH HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS:

1. To emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play.
2. To eliminate all possibilities which tend to destroy the best values of the game.
3. To stress the values derived from playing the game fairly.
4. To show cordial courtesy to visiting teams and officials.
5. To establish a happy relationship between visitors and hosts.
6. To respect the integrity and judgment of sports officials.
7. To achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility.
8. To encourage leadership, use of initiative, and good judgment by the players on a team.
9. To recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social and emotional well-being of the individual players.
10. **To remember that an athletic contest is only a game - not a matter of life and death for player, coach, school, officials, fans, community, state or nation.**

# **BLUE BOOK RULES - SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST**

## **ACCOUNTABILITY RULE –**

**125.1 - COACH EJECTION** – Upon the ejection of a coach from any CIF-SS contest, it is the responsibility of the principal of said school to file a letter of explanation with the CIF Southern Section Office which includes the circumstances surrounding the matter and what action the principal has taken to prevent a recurrence. Said correspondence is to be filed within **THREE** school days of notification of the ejection. Additionally, upon ejection the ejected coach shall be disqualified from participating in the remainder of the game and will be ineligible for the team's next contest. A second ejection will constitute a two contest suspension and a third ejection will cause suspension for the remainder of the season.

**125.2 - FAILURE TO COMPLETE A CONTEST** – When a school fails to complete a contest, due to a coach pulling his/her team from the floor, court or field, it is **MANDATORY** that the CIF-SS Office be notified by the Principal within 24 hours (excluding holidays and weekends). The competing schools and officials will be required to file written reports, and after review of the aforementioned material, the principal of the school involved will be required to respond to the CIF Southern Section Office concerning his/her investigation of the incident.

**QUESTION:** How serious is such action?

**ANSWER:** It has been the position of the CIF-SS Executive Committee to expect the building principal of the school concerned to relieve the coach from his/her assignment for the balance of that season or the Executive Committee is empowered to consider recommendations for additional penalties.

## **RULE 503.H – CONCUSSION PROTOCOL**

A student-athlete who is suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury in a practice or game shall be removed from competition at that time for the remainder of the day. A student-athlete who has been removed from play may not return to play until the athlete is evaluated by a licensed health care provider trained in education and management of concussion and receives written clearance to return to play from that health care provider. If a licensed health care provider, trained in education and management of concussion determines that the athlete sustained a concussion or a head injury, the athlete is required to completed a graduated return-to-play protocol of no less than seven (7) full days from the time of diagnosis under the supervision of a licensed health care provider. On a yearly basis, a concussion and head injury information sheet shall be signed and returned by all athletes and the athlete's parent or guardian before the athlete's initiating practice or competition. (Approved May 2010 Federated Council/Revised May 2012 Federated Council/Revised January 2015 Federated Council)

## **RULE 506 – PRACTICE ALLOWANCE**

For the benefit of the physical and mental health of our student-athletes, all practices (as defined herein) under the auspices of the high school athletic program during the season of sport shall be conducted under the following conditions (See also Bylaw 504.M.):

**RULE 506 – PRACTICE ALLOWANCE** continued A. All teams will be allowed no more than eighteen (18) hours of practice time per week and no more than four (4) hours in any single day.

(1) Multiple Practice Sessions:

a. Double day practices shall not be held on consecutive days.

b. Must include a minimum of three (3) hours rest between practices.

B. Any competition day would count as three (3) hours toward the allowable weekly and daily practice hours no matter the length of the contest(s). No practice may be held following the conclusion of any contest.

C. Definition of Practice

(1) Any school team or individual activity organized by the coach that is intended to maintain or improve a student-athlete's skill proficiency in a sport; AND/OR

(2) Any school team or individual activity that includes skill drills, game situation drills, inter-squad scrimmages or games, weight training, chalk talks, film review, meetings outside of school time (excluding parent meetings) that are implicitly/explicitly required by the coach; AND/OR

(3) Any other coach-directed or supervised school team or individual activity or instruction for a specific sport (private, small group or positional instruction, etc.) AND/OR

(4) Any other team or individual instruction for a specific sport organized or supervised by any team member, or anyone else associated with the high school athletic program, team or school; AND

(5) Outside organization activity (club, etc.), shall not be used to circumvent these Bylaws.

D. Other mandatory activities (including, but not limited to study hall, tutorial sessions, team dinners), shall not be considered part of practice time. These activities must be approved by the principal. Activities that would be included herein are exclusive to any activity already covered in number C.(1)-(5) above.

E. This Bylaw shall not supersede any School/District/Section policies that may be more restrictive.

F. Penalties

Following the determination of a violation of CIF Bylaw 506, a loss of practice day(s) and/or other sanctions, for each practice session infraction, shall be imposed by the Section as deemed appropriate to the level, extent, and duration of the infraction(s).

<>NOTE: For purposes of this Bylaw, the season of sport begins with each team's first day of practice.

**RULE 600 - COMPETITION ON AN OUTSIDE TEAM** - A student on a high school team becomes ineligible if the student competes in a contest on an "outside" team, in the same sport, during the student's high school season of sport. (See Rule #511 for definition of season of sport).

**RULE 1202 - TWO ATHLETIC CONTESTS IN ONE DAY**

"Contests" - Interscholastic (dual-triangular) athletic contests in CIF approved sports are to be arranged in such a way that no student shall take part in more than two athletic contests in any one day.

"Tournaments" - All interscholastic athletic tournaments (defined as four or more teams) in CIF approved sports are to be arranged in such a way that no students shall take part in more than one tournament in the same sport in any one day.

**SUMMERTIME RULES** - Providing summertime athletic activity is to be undertaken by Southern Section schools, the school districts or private schools involved, must establish appropriate governing rules and procedures regulating the establishment, implementation, maintenance, monitoring and accountability of said activity. Further, school, districts or booster clubs may pay entry fees for summer activities with the approval of the principal.

For summer services by coaches, payment may be made by the school district office, A.S.B./principal, or a duly licensed community organization, i.e., parks and recreation.

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## Girls Gymnastics Major Rules Changes - 2014-16

2-1-5, 2-1-6, 5-1-3, 5-1-6c	Permits the use of electronic devices by coaches and judges under specified criteria during the meet.
4-1-2E(2),(3), NOTES, 7-3-5, 8-3-5, 9-3-5	Gymnasts that connect an Advanced High Superior acro element to a Superior salto/Superior acro element receive more credit in Bonus for a difficult combination.
6-1-2h, 7-1-2g, 8-1-2e, 9-1-2h	Clarifies that only manufactured mats referenced in the rules book may be used.
6-3-1e, 6-3-3a, 6-4-1f, 6-4-3b, 6-4-2b, 6-4-3g, 6-4-3i, 6-4-3l	Wording of event deductions was clarified for consistency between events and to keep terminology consistent throughout the rules book.
6-3-4 NOTE, 6-4-4 NOTE, 8-3-4d(3)(a) NOTE	Clarifies that when a gymnast falls and is spotted simultaneously, the gymnast is not penalized for the fall and the spot; only the fall.
7-2-2, 7-3-2, 7-3-3b, 4-1-2, 4-1-2b,d	Revises the event requirements and composition categories in uneven bars to better fit the skill-level of the high school gymnast.
7-3-4a(2), 7-3-4(6), 7-3-4b(6), 7-3-4b(10), 7-3-4b(11), 7-3-4c(3), 7-3-4d(2)	Wording of event deductions was clarified for consistency between events and to keep terminology consistent throughout the rules book.
7-3-6d, 8-3-6d, 9-3-6c	Clarifies and revises the method of evaluating short routines.
7-6-3	Deletes a counterswing backward with or without flight to stand on low bar.



8-2-3, 8-3-2, 8-3-3b, 4-1-2, 4-1-2b,d	Revises the event requirements and composition categories in balance beam to better fit the skill-level of the high school gymnast.
8-3-4a(8), 8-3-4a(8), 8-3-4a(10), 8-3-4b(13), 8-3-4b(14), 8-3-4b(18), 8-3-4c(2), 8-3-4c(3), 8-3-4b(12), 8-3-4d(2), 8-3-4d(3)NOTE	Wording of event deductions was clarified for consistency between events and to keep terminology consistent throughout the rules book.
9-1-2c	Clarifies a sting mat may be placed on top of an up to 8 inch mat and the combination of the two mats are considered one of the allowed additional mats.
9-2-3, 9-2-3b, 9-3-2, 4-1-2, 4-1-2b,d	Revises the event requirements and composition categories in floor exercise to better fit the skill-level of the high school gymnast.
9-3-4a, 9-3-4a(6), 9-3-4a(7), 9-3-4b(12), 9-3-4b(16), 9-3-4c(3), 9-3-4c(4), 9-3-7o(1)	Wording of event deductions was clarified for consistency between events and to keep terminology consistent throughout the rules book.

### **2014-16 GIRLS GYMNASTICS EDITORIAL CHANGES**

3-3-NOTE, 6-1-2e, 6-4-4l, 7-3-3a(1), 7-6-8 (8.203), 8-2-1, 8-3-3a(4), 8-6-1 (1.202), 8-6-2 (2.203, 2.303, 2.403), 8-6-3 (New 3.204, New 3.304, New 3.404), 8-6-6, 8-6-9 (New 8.105c, 8.306), 8-6-10 (9.302), 8.1.5 SITUATION A, 9-3-3a(4), 9-6-1 (1.103, 1.203, 1.303, 1.403, 1.112, 1.113), 9-6-9 (9.101, 10.101)

### **2014-16 GIRLS GYMNASTICS POINTS OF EMPHASIS**

1. Spotting
2. Six ways to break a series
3. Rule enforcement throughout the season

# SPECIAL NOTICE

## SUPERVISION OF ATHLETES

The Southern Section Office has experienced a problem which has perpetuated itself over the past few years as it pertains to proper supervision and entry of student-athletes in the post-season playoffs.

The situation relates only to individual sports, i.e. CROSS COUNTRY, INDIVIDUAL TENNIS, TRACK, SWIMMING, etc. and the official recognition and registration of entrants at the respective playoff sites.

State and Southern Section Rule 309 states:

No CIF team (i.e., individual) shall participate in inter-scholastic or approved competition with any other team unless the CIF team is under supervision as required by the California Administrative Code Title V and CIF By-Law #506A and #506B. (Additionally, refer to Rule 123.) The supervisor must remain in attendance at all times.

**Those persons APPROVED FOR SUPERVISION PURPOSES are limited to:**

- A. Certificated personnel**
- B. Certified Coaches (certified credentialed coaches)**
- C. Non-certificated temporary coaches (certified walk-on coaches)**

(It should be noted that schools representing the same DISTRICT may send one credentialed or certified supervisor for three or four athletes. These individuals have been recognized and are to continue to be recognized for registration and participation purposes in that the district has assigned the supervisory role for all students from its= member schools to this one individual.)

However, the concern is for those students who ARE NOT accompanied by a faculty representative and report to the playoff site by themselves or with a parent. ***GIVING PARENTS THE SUPERVISION AUTHORITY, WHETHER IN WRITING OR NOT, DOES NOT MEET THE STANDARDS SET FORTH IN THE ABOVE REGULATIONS. This also applies to parents who are the student=s private coach but are not under contract to the member school.***

PLEASE NOTE, THIS RULE WAS REVIEWED BY BOTH THE STATE CIF OFFICE, IT=S GENERAL COUNSEL AND THE SOUTHERN SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. IT HAS BEEN REAFFIRMED THAT THE INTERPRETATION STAND AS ABOVE AND THAT ANY STUDENT REPORTING FOR COMPETITION WHO IS NOT UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE AND SOUTHERN SECTION RULE 309, IS TO BE DENIED ENTRY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION.

As pointed out by the Southern Section and State CIF attorney, there are inherent liability problems when an individual competes in violation of said rule. Please review this rule with your staff in that it will be strictly enforced as per the above application.



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