PACIFIC COAST ATHLETIC LEAGUE SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONTEST MANAGEMENT POLICY

Adopted March 19 2020

This policy applies to each of the following sports competed in PCAL.

Fall Sports	Winter Sports	Spring Sports
Cross Country	Boys Basketball	Baseball
Field Hockey	Girls Basketball	Boys Lacrosse
Football (11-Man and 8-Man)	Boys Soccer	Boys Tennis
Girls Golf	Girls Soccer	Boys Golf
Girls Tennis	Wrestling	Boys Volleyball
Girls Volleyball		Girls Lacrosse
Boys Water Polo		Softball
Girls Water Polo		Swimming and Diving
		Track and Field

Purpose of Document:

The purpose of this document is to set forth plans for action and codes of conduct related to the management of athletic contests in the Pacific Coast Athletic League in the league sports listed above. Once adopted by the league Board of Managers, all schools in the league shall adhere to and take steps to implement its contents.

Guiding Philosophy regarding High School Athletics:

Athletics in our high schools should be education-based, co-curricular rather than extra-curricular, an integral part of our educational mission. They should be designed with the commitment to help our student-athletes leave high school with life lessons (teamwork, hard work and effort, playing by the rules, how to win and lose) that will help them become better and contributing members of our society. Achieving this goal requires coordinated effort by all the adults involved in the process – administrators, officials, coaches and parents. To that end, and with the idea that high school athletics should be fun as well as instructive, we, as the administrators of the Pacific Coast Athletic League, commit to the codes of conduct and action plans below with respect to the conduct of athletic contests in our schools.

Definition of a Successful Athletic Contest:

A successful athletic contest should be or result in all of the following:

- Fun
- Safe
- Welcoming
- Full of respect for Contest/teammates/opponents/officials by players, coaches and fans on both sides of the contest
- Hard fought but cleanly and positively contested
- Played, called and coached by the rules

- Winning team (including fans) handles victory with grace
- Losing team (including fans) handles defeat with grace
- Well-organized and smoothly run
- Good Sportsmanship is exhibited by all.

None of these happens by accident. ADVANCED PLANNING is key to the successful management of a high school athletic contest.

Needs for Authorized Representatives from both sites for Contest Management

The guiding principles with respect to Authorized representatives designated for contest management are the following:

- Respect for and collegiality with league mates
- Each school ultimately responsible for conduct of own coaches, players and fans
- COMMUNICATION with league mates prior to contest
- The authorized representative for each school is designated by the school's administration and SHOULD NOT be a contest coach
- The authorized representative should be made aware of his/her responsibilities and duties by the designating school.

The following are the requirements for the designating of an authorized representative for both the home and visiting sites:

- There shall be an authorized representative designated at all home contests, regardless of sport. Just prior to the beginning of the contest, the visiting school staff should be given the name and location of that designee.
- The home school designee must be an administrator at the following contests:
 - o Football, all levels
 - O Boys Basketball, all levels
 - o Boys Soccer, all levels
- The following sports require an Authorized Representative to be designated and sent by the Visiting school:
 - o Football, Varsity only
 - o Boys Basketball, Varsity only
 - o Boys Soccer, Varsity only

With the exception of Football, at which the visiting team should ALWAYS have an authorized representative, in the event that it is logistically impossible for the visiting school to provide such an authorized representative, the administration of the visiting school shall contact the home school administration in advance as early as known. The two administrators shall discuss how the absence will be handled. In the event that the home site administrator requests a visiting authorized representative in any event, the visiting school shall comply. The key here is COMMUNICATION as far in advance of the contest as possible.

Contest Management:

- 1. Upon arrival and before the start of the varsity contest, host designee, away designee (when applicable) and officials should meet and exchange information and locations.
- 2. Home designee is responsible for game management, including fan management
 - a. If an away designee is present, home designee should work with away designee for game management support

- 3. Home and away designees will inform contest coaches who is the designee on duty, including away contests in which an away designee is required.
- 4. All contest management and emergency plans are available digitally and are shared with all PCAL schools.

CIF Sportsmanship Code of Ethics

It is the duty of all concerned with high school athletes:

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

How to Handle Sportsmanship Issues Between Schools:

When there is an issue involving bad sportsmanship by any school before, during or after a contest, the schools shall first communicate between their respective administrators, and the League Commissioner should be made aware of the Issue. If the schools cannot resolve matters between them, the League Commissioner shall take appropriate steps to remedy the issue and to prevent its recurrence. Both schools shall cooperate in that process. As always, COMMUNICATION among league mates is the key here.

End of Document.