



ELIGIBILITY
BRIEF OVERVIEW
Session 3
2011 Administrator's Workshop

WHOSE RULES?

- YOUR RULES!!!
- Order of Jurisdiction
Minimum Standards-CIF
More Restrictive in order....
 CCS,
 League,
 District,
 School,
 Team



ROLE OF STAFF

- ❑ To enforce the rules as written
CONSISTENTLY AND FAIRLY
- ❑ To assist you in making sure that YOUR STUDENTS are eligible
- ❑ To assist you in processing eligibility applications for YOUR STUDENTS
- ❑ To assist you in answering questions YOU might have that YOU can communicate to YOUR parents and players and COACHES!!!



Perspective of our Office

- Happy to help Administrators and AD's anytime with questions.
- When in doubt, e-mail or call and ask BEFORE you do something that gets you in trouble.
- Not our job to help parents or athletes or coaches with eligibility.

Why not?

PRINCIPALS:

The Principal at every school is ultimately responsible for the eligibility of the students who compete for that school.

The Principal may elect to delegate that responsibility but remains the person responsible for the administrative controls established at the school to insure that ALL eligibility standards are met.

Principals/Schools can establish more restrictive rules than the CIF/CCS, or leagues, but they cannot be less restrictive.

As in the classroom, where the Principal has the ultimate authority; Principals are the final authority on whether or not a student, who meets all other CIF/CCS, LEAGUE AND DISTRICT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, is allowed to participate in that school's athletic program.



ATHLETIC DIRECTORS...

- Are the front-line in knowing and applying eligibility rules and regulations
- Are expected to assist student athletes and coaches with eligibility determinations
- Should be working with the League Commissioner and CCS to review and determine athletic eligibility
- Should be given authority not just responsibility
- Should be encouraged to develop professionally
- Should be expected to develop protocols, oversee all aspects of the athletic program: coaches, athletes, schedules, facilities, boosters, finances, sportsmanship programs, league and CCS responsibilities.

COACHES...

- ❑ Coaches should know the eligibility rules, but usually do not and should not be giving rule interpretations.
- ❑ Coaches should not be responsible for scholastic or transfer eligibility without oversight from the Athletic Director.
- ❑ Coaches must be certified in the NFHS or ASEP coaching education programs.
- ❑ Coaches must be CPR and First-aid trained.
- ❑ Coaches must be teachers even if they are walk on coaches...
- ❑ Coaches often are the most important person in a student's life...what kind of behavior are they teaching and modeling while representing your school?
- ❑ Good, qualified, sincere coaches show teach, model good behavior. know the sport and love the kids are hard to find.....



RESIDENTIAL ELIGIBILITY.....

ANY STUDENT
WHO WAS NOT ENROLLED IN YOUR SCHOOL
FOR THE ENTIRE
PREVIOUS SCHOOL YEAR

MUST COMPLETE AN ELIGIBILITY APPLICATION FORM,
SUBMIT IT TO THE CCS & BE CLEARED IN SOME WAY
BEFORE THEY CAN PLAY ANY SPORTS AT ANY LEVELS
AT YOUR SCHOOL!!!!!!!!!!!!



DISCIPLINARY TRANSFERS: **NO SPORTS AT ANY LEVEL!**

- ❑ Ineligible for 12 months for ALL SPORTS AT ALL LEVELS
- ❑ No exception to the Transfer Rule can be made for disciplinary transfers
- ❑ Transfer Rule is stricter for them
- ❑ WHAT CONSTITUTES A DISCIPLINE TRANSFER?
- ❑ What is the new and former school's role?



Other Rules:

- ❑ Age Rules: 19 year olds/14 year olds—
football
- ❑ 8 Semesters
- ❑ 4 season of any one sport/1 season per year
- ❑ Physical Exams
- ❑ Sundays
- ❑ Non-CIF Teams 502



Continued...

- ❑ Fraudulent Information
- ❑ Outside Competition-Rule 600
- ❑ Tournament Sanctioning
- ❑ Ineligible Athletes--forfeiture



HOT SPOTS TO AVOID....

- ❑ Ineligible athletes play = your teams forfeit games
- ❑ Mad parents
- ❑ Negative media coverage
- ❑ Blame game
- ❑ Tips to avoid this.....

VERIFYING ELIGIBILITY

- BE PARANOID! Be very paranoid...
- Have clearly defined processes:
 - *ENROLLMENT OF Freshman, New Students, Students who were there part of the year last year but did not play sports...etc.
 - *Admissions, Counselors, Parents, Students..what information is given to them, or asked of them?

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- *Who are new students interested in sports directed to? AD, VP, Coaches?
 - *Once students tryout for and make a team, who checks for Transfers? Who checks grades? Who checks for Physicals? Who checks that the Steroid statement is signed? Who checks that your Code of conduct or other school-related sportsmanship papers are signed? Who conducts your parent meetings? Who attends? What information is given to them? When is your parent meeting scheduled?
 - *How is clearance for an athlete who has been confirmed to play communicated and to whom???
 - *When is your Fall coaches meeting and do you cover their role in clearing eligibility of their athletes and what the consequences are of not doing so?

DOUBLE-TRIPLE CHECK

- Grades, Physicals, Steroid Statements, Transfers, Grade level (9th & 10th Semesters), Family moves, etc. etc. etc.
- Is the person who is responsible for doing this here today to be trained? Are they staying for the extended eligibility session?
- Let's prevent errors by thorough, clear processes at the school house **BEFORE** an ineligible athlete plays!

Hot Spots:

- ❑ Be a little cynical about full family moves, transfers, etc.....
- ❑ Follow your gut instinct on whether parents are “problem parents” or not.
- ❑ Briefly document conversations or impressions from “problem parents” at the time.
- ❑ Don’t be afraid to ask “extra” questions...to make sure you are getting the full story. You have the right to find out the truth because you are responsible to protect ALL the kids in your program, not just the one who might have an eligibility issue.
- ❑ CALL US to discuss any concerns you might have...ask for advice....check the rule, etc. etc. etc.
- ❑ POUND into your coaches head the importance of checking with the AD BEFORE making some decision or giving parents information about which they are not 100% positive!

REMEMBER...

- ❑ Participation in your programs is a privilege for the student-athletes, not their right. You are the gatekeepers, so make sure that you are comfortable, satisfied, convinced that a student is eligible BEFORE they step on the contest stage.....
- ❑ Problem parents will always be a problem, so making them wait or asking for more information is going to make them mad every time, might as well start out setting the tone in the first encounter.
- ❑ Talk to us, talk to each other.....
- ❑ THESE STUDENTS, PARENTS AND COACHES ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY.
- ❑ WE ARE HAPPY TO HELP YOU IN ANY WAY WE ARE ABLE.



QUESTIONS, you now
would like to ask 😊