



Southern Section

Academics / Integrity / Athletics

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CIF Southern Section Council Proposal Form

Proposal Number _____

Date November 24, 2006

Submitted by: _____

Name AL MARZILLI

League SEA VIEW LEAGUE

School FOOTHILL HIGH SCHOOL

Rule Change:

Affected Rule Number Rule 312 CIF Blue Book Amendment

Implementation Date Spring, 2006

Abstract: (Add Supporting Documents)

CIF Southern Section athletes have opportunities to compete in post season National Cross Country and Track and Field High School events. These events, as defined by CIF, occur during their respective sport's post season. As it presently stands, an athlete that qualifies, receives an invitation or chooses to compete in such an event, may not be coached, guided, or accompanied by his or her high school coach to such event. With the introduction of the Cross Country Nationals (both individual and team) over the last twenty five years, and Track and Field Nationals over the last ten years, Southern Section coaches have been in a dilemma to either ignore the rule, pretending it does not exist, or chose to abide by the rule and not participate in the event. Essentially, any coach attending these events and associating with their athlete(s), are in direct violation of the Association Rule. Seeking to support and assist their athlete(s) they risk potential punishment or discipline by their superiors. The stated rule forces Southern Section athletes and coaches into an ethical dilemma and most certainly a competitive disadvantage in National competitions.

In summary, the following rationale supports a CIF SS Association Rule Amendment for Cross Country and Track and Field for National competitions:

1. Cross Country and Track and Field athletes have already participated in their sport and their CIF approved season has concluded.
2. These athletes have survived CIF playoff and often State post season competitions and are often invited or encouraged to participate in National post season competitions.
3. Coaches and athletes are in a professional and ethical dilemma to either break or support the Association Rule.

Association Rule Amendment

A Cross Country or Track and Field coach may coach and accompany his or her athlete in post CIF season competition for the following National championship events:

Cross Country

- Footlocker Western Regional (qualifier for Individual Nationals)
- Nike Team Nationals Team Competition
- Footlocker Nationals (Individual Competition)

Track and Field

- Golden West Invitational
- Nike Outdoor Nationals

* Sponsorship names may change in the future

Council Non-Action Date _____

Council Final Action Date _____

Fiscal Impact upon Member Schools and Southern Section: (Add Supporting Documents)

NO IMPACT TO THE SOUTHERN SECTION, MAY IMPACT MEMBERS SCHOOLS

Association Rule Amendment Rule 312 CIF SS Blue Book

Process/Timeline

1. Association Rule Amendment presented to Sea View League Cross Country/Track coaches at a meeting. The idea was discussed and agreed upon to be taken to CIF to go through the necessary process to be **eventually passed**, (September, 2006)
2. Amendment was presented to the Sea View League Athletic Directors and Principals at their AD/Principals meeting. It was discussed and agreed upon to be taken to CIF to begin the process necessary to be heard and eventually voted on. (October, 2006)
3. Amendment was presented to the CIF Council as a proposal from Sea View League President Al Marzilli (Principal, Foothill HS). This officially put the amendment into motion (November, 2006)
4. Amendment becomes a **Non-Action item to be explained** and presented to the CIF Council meeting by Sea View League representative, Vince Brown (Athletic Director, Foothill HS), (January 18, 2007)
5. **Amendment is then brought back** by the Athletic Directors to their leagues to discuss with coaches. This period is a last attempt for coaches and Athletic Directors to explain and clarify the amendment. Athletic Directors will be looking for coaches support or lack of support of the amendment so when it comes to vote as an action item at the next CIF Council meeting, they will know how to vote. This is considered a lobbying period for the coach, **an short window of time to let your feelings be known regarding the amendment. Hopefully, your Athletic Director will be aware of the proposal when you discuss it with them.** (January 19-March 7, 2007)
6. **Amendment becomes an Action item** at the CIF Council meeting. Each league will receive a vote either **for or against the amendment** at that time. It will be either **passed** or defeated. (March, 2007)

Strengths of the Amendment

1. No financial burden to CIF/Leagues.
2. No recruiting involved.
3. The amendment clarifies and cleans up the intent of the coach. It does not put the coach in an awkward position of breaking the rule to support his or her athlete/team in post season national caliber competition in which they may have the opportunity to compete.
4. It allows the athlete a level playing field in national caliber competition ruling out any disadvantages with their competition.
5. It honors athletes and coaches in their sport following the completion of their CIF season by allowing them to coach and compete on a national level.