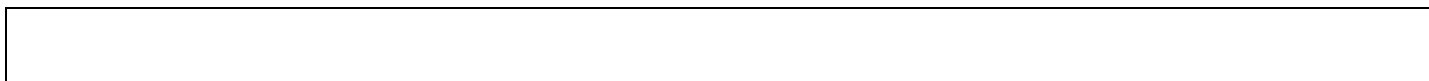




***2023-24***

***CONSTITUTION  
AND  
BY-Laws***





## **Part 1 purpose**

### **SANTA CLARA VALLEY ATHLETIC LEAGUE**

#### Purpose

The Santa Clara Valley Athletic League recognizes the importance of providing opportunities in athletics for all students. Students who participate in interscholastic athletics, regardless of gender, therefore, supports all efforts to develop a league program that equalizes the opportunity for boys and girls in the league.

It shall be the policy of the SCVAL that all teams organized at member schools shall comply with the organizational guidelines contained in the By-laws of the CIF, CCS and SCVAL.

#### The Constitution of California Interscholastic Federation Cardinal Athletic Principles

To be of maximum effectiveness, the athletic program will:

1. Be a well-coordinated part of the secondary school curriculum.
2. Justify the use of the tax funds and school facilities because of the educational aims achieved.
3. Be based on the spirit of amateurism.
4. Be conducted by secondary school authorities.
5. Provide opportunities for many students to participate in a wide variety of sports in every sport season.
6. Foster training in conduct, game ethics, and sportsmanship for participants and spectators.
7. Include a well-balanced program of intramural sports.
8. Engender respect for local, state, and national rules and policies under which the school program is conducted.

#### 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 host.

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.

## SCVAL Belief statement for the Student/Athlete

Athletic participation is in place to enrich the mental, physical and emotional well-being of all student/athletes by providing competitive opportunities through which the lifelong values of sportsmanship, individual effort, teamwork, dedication, integrity, and total commitment are emphasized.

### Part 2

#### CONSTITUTION

##### ARTICLE I

###### Name

- Section 1. The official name of this organization shall be the "Santa Clara Valley Athletic League," member of the Central Conference of the Central Coast Section of the CIF, herein referred to as SCVAL.
- Section 2. The SCVAL shall divide into two (2) divisions whenever possible – the "De Anza Division" and the "El Camino Division" – for equity in competition. The De Anza Division, in sports that are separated by strength of program, will be deemed the stronger division.
- Section 3. If only one division is warranted, it shall be known as the DeAnza/SCVAL.

##### ARTICLE II

###### Authority

- Section 1. The SCVAL is a member of the Central Coast Section of the California Interscholastic Federation and is bound by the Constitution and By-laws of both bodies as well as State and Federal statutes.
- Section 2. The SCVAL may make rules more restrictive than those of the Section and the State.

## ARTICLE III

### Philosophy

- Section 1. We believe that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of a schools' total curriculum and that equal opportunity shall be provided to all students.
- Section 2. We believe that participation in a sound athletic program contributes to the development of health and happiness, physical skills, emotional maturity, social competence, and moral values.
- Section 3. We believe that a sound athletic program teaches the participants the spirit of competition as well as the values of cooperation that are so important to our society. The student athlete learns how to work with others for the advancement of group goals.
- Section 4. We believe in the acceptance and adherence to the Cardinal Principle and code of Ethics of the California Interscholastic Federation.
- Section 5. It is the belief of the SCVAL that aims of interscholastic athletes can best be realized in an atmosphere in which the competitors, staff, and spectators manifest a feeling of respect and concern for these aims.

## ARTICLE IV

### Purposes

- Section 1. The purpose of the SCVAL is to govern and administer high school interscholastic competition within the SCVAL by means of a league constitution, by-laws, and efficient organization.

## ARTICLE V

### Membership and Dues

- Section 1. Central Coast Section (CCS) Board of Managers shall annually determine the SCVAL membership dues to the CCS.
- Section 2. The SCVAL Board of Managers shall establish each members SCVAL dues annually. Any supplemental school who is BOM approved to enter the SCVAL will pay a \$350 league fee.

## ARTICLE VI

### Board of Managers

- Section 1. Purpose:
- 1.1 The Board of Managers (BOM) is the governing body of the SCVAL.

- 1.2 The BOM has responsibility for the administration and supervision of high school athletics.
- 1.3 The BOM shall be responsible for the financial affairs of the SCVAL. The President shall submit a proposed budget for adoption as drafted and prepared by the Commissioner of the SCVAL at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the BOM each year. The League Commissioner shall be responsible for handling the money, collecting and dispersing it in accordance with the budget once it has been adopted by the BOM.
- 1.4 The BOM will establish a minimum operating expense account for the next school year. The BOM may assess member schools additional funds if so needed. The BOM will annually review the budget and carry over will be routinely shared among the member student bodies and athletic departments of the league.

## Section 2. Organization:

The Board of Managers shall consist of the chief administrative officer (Principal) of each member school or his or her proxy.

- 2.1 Each school shall have one vote.
- 2.2 Representation by a majority of the member schools shall constitute a quorum.
- 2.3 At their last meeting, the BOM shall establish meeting dates for Athletic Directors and BOM, for the following school year. Each group shall meet a minimum of four (4) times a year – fall, winter, spring, and end of the year.
- 2.4 The officers of the BOM shall be: President, President-Elect, and delegates to the Central Coast Section (CCS) Board of Managers (BOM).
  - a. President: Shall come from a two year rotating school chronicle along with President elect. Each year the BOM will vote to approve each. Waiver can be given to new member of BOM. The President shall perform all the duties of a president as defined in Roberts Rules of Order, unless otherwise specified in this constitution. The President is responsible for the budget and financial considerations as well as informing the Principals of the member schools of all league business along with the Commissioner.
  - b. President-Elect: The President-Elect shall perform all the duties of the President in his or her absence, shall complete his or her term upon the resignation or removal of that officer, and shall be the President for the following year.
  - c. Delegates – CCS BOM: the SCVAL BOM shall choose SCVAL representatives on the CCS BOM annually. He or she shall attend the meetings of the CCS BOM, report on the matters that concern the SCVAL to the SCVAL BOM, and vote on behalf of the SCVAL BOM at the CCS BOM.
- 2.5 Non-voting representatives to the BOM shall consist of a Commissioner of Athletics, representatives from the Athletic Directors Council, and possibly student representation.
  - a. League Commissioner of Athletics: the Board of Managers shall determine Duties and responsibilities:

1. The SCVAL League Commissioner shall be selected by a majority vote of the SCVAL Board of Managers. Evaluation will occur annually with documented elements of positive administration and areas in need of improvement.
2. The Commissioner will represent the SCVAL schools as appropriate.
3. The SCVAL League Commissioner's compensation will be reviewed every (3) years with a "Letter of Understanding" being signed by both the SCVAL Board of Managers President and the Commissioner. Ending the understanding between the two parties can occur at any time with a Board of Managers motion, second and majority BOMs vote to remove.

### **General Responsibilities**

1. The Commissioner will be responsible for the daily operation and business of the league as outlined by the SCVAL Constitution, by-laws, policies, division adjustments and other official documents established by the Board of Managers of the SCVAL. The Commissioner will have the authority to interpret, administer, and apply all elements of the SCVAL Constitution, by-laws, policies, and other Board of Managers approved documents.
2. The Commissioner will serve as Treasurer, Secretary, and Advisor to the SCVAL Board of Managers. The Commissioner will issue Invoices for dues and fees to schools, deposit revenue, and pay bills for the SCVAL. Services will include preparing agendas for Athletic Directors' Council and Board of Managers meetings. Board of Managers' and Athletic Directors' Council minutes will be posted on webpage in a timely way. The Commissioner will develop an annual budget draft which will then be approved by SCVAL Board of Managers.
3. The Commissioner's duties will include maintaining a league Webpage and keeping current the SCVAL Constitution and sport by-laws with voted approvals to any corrections, updates, or additions by the SCVAL Board of Managers. The Commissioner's, along with BOMs, duties will also include developing, approving, and publishing league schedules plus support to all SCVAL league playoff events. The Commissioner and BOMs will oversee SCVAL eligibility and awards (which the Commissioner will order and distribute).
4. The Commissioner shall receive requests from Coaches, Athletic Directors or SCVAL Board of Managers on interpretations of the SCVAL Constitution components and individual sport by-laws.
5. As needed, the Commissioner will contact the CCS and CIF for proper clarity and guidance will be utilized. Less restrictive actions by the league is not allowed.
6. The Commissioner shall have the authority to interpret, administer, and resolve all issues addressed in the SCVAL Constitution, by-laws, and policies, and other official documents established by the SCVAL Board of Managers. All such interpretations, administration, and applications are subject to review by the SCVAL Board of Managers or an ad-hoc committee as described in #6b.
  - a. The Commissioner can render interim sanctions, judgments and consequences for violations of the SCVAL Constitution, individual sport by-laws, CCS and CIF policies, NFHS rules and sportsmanship behaviors by schools, coaches, players and spectators. A non-exhaustive list of possible consequences includes sanctioning, forfeiture, loss on a league record, removal from CCS playoffs, fewer max contests the next year, fines, spectator adjustments.

- b. If a SCVAL Board of Manager wishes to appeal a Commissioner's daily operations of league policies or rendered sanctions and consequences, that SCVAL Board of Manager(s) may request the SCVAL Board of Managers' President to form an ad-hoc committee of three neutral BOMs Principals to review the grievance and make a determination of how to proceed.
- 7. The Commissioner shall organize committees as necessary or as directed by SCVAL Board of Managers.
- 8. The Commissioner will promote good public relations and positive interactions.
- 9. The Commissioner will attend a variety of athletic contests for the purpose of observing and evaluating the athletic programs.
- 10. The Commissioner will perform other duties as assigned by the SCVAL Board of Managers.

### **Compensation**

The SCVAL Board of Managers will establish compensation with Commissioner on a three-year basis.

### **Evaluation**

The Commissioner will be evaluated annually. The process will contain information from all member schools. A three-person ad-hoc subcommittee of the Board of Managers will compile and review the results and present a recommendation to the Board of Managers at their spring meeting in a closed session.

- b. Representatives from the Athletic Directors' Council: The Athletic Directors Council shall elect a two year representative and that representative elect will attend the Board of Managers meetings. They shall make recommendations to the Board of Managers from the Athletic Directors Council, and they shall communicate decisions of and act as liaison between the two Boards.
- c. Student Representative: There may be a student representative selected from a nomination from each member school.

Section 3. The CCS representatives of the Board of Managers will be selected and approved annually at the final regularly scheduled meeting of the school year or at the initial BOM meeting for the school year. The office of President and President (elect) of the SCVAL will be a two year rotational cycle with schools moving to the bottom after serving (if a school representative is new to the BOM a two year relief will be allowed).

Gunn, Los Gatos, Homestead, Mountain View, Monta Vista, Palo Alto, Wilcox, Lynbrook, Milpitas, Los Altos, Saratoga, Fremont, Santa Clara, Macdonald, Cupertino present rotation.

Section 4. Public input- Pursuant to EDCode 33353.2 (C) any person wishing to address any item on the agenda or to comment on policies and practices of the CIF/CCS/SCVAL Board of Managers can be heard during the public input portion of SCVAL BOMs' meeting/agenda. A (2) minute statement will be the maximum time allowed; with a one-half hour limit to public input. Agenda or non-Agenda items can be heard. The SCVAL BOMs may increase the amount of total time if they wish. This policy should promote mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among SCVAL Leadership members, parents, athletes and the public. This policy is not intended to deprive any person the right to freedom of expression, but only to maintain, to the extent possible and reasonable, a

safe harassment-free workplace for our public and the SCVAL Leadership. The SCVAL BOMs seeks the public's cooperation in this endeavor. Public input will not be required in Athletic Director Council meetings or Sport pre or post meetings for those groups are advisory to the SCVAL Board of Managers. Work through one's Athletic Directors or the school's coach if you wish comments to those groups.

## ARTICLE VII

### Athletic Directors Council

- Section 1. The Athletic Directors Council shall be responsible for recommendations relating to interscholastic athletics within the league. It shall be an advisory board that is subordinate to the Board of Managers and will consist of the Athletic Director(s) of each member school or his or her proxy.
- 1.1 Each school shall have one vote.
  - 1.2 Representation by a majority of the member schools shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 2. Meetings:
- 2.1 The Athletic Directors Council will meet a minimum of four (4) times a year – fall, winter, spring, and end of the year.
- Section 3. AD Council President shall preside over all meetings of the Athletic Directors' Council plus represent ADs at BOM meetings. Minutes shall be distributed to all members of the Athletic Directors' Council and the Board of Managers.
- 3.1 AD Representative-Elect to the BOM shall perform all the duties of the AD Representative in his or her absence, shall complete that term upon the resignation and/or removal of the AD Representative, and shall be the AD Representative for the next year.

## ARTICLE VIII

### Sports Committee

- Section 1. There shall be a Sports Committee to represent each league sport. It shall have an AD and a coach representative for each division responsible for that sport of each of the member schools.
- 1.1 An Athletic Director will be assigned by the SCVAL Commissioner to preside over each sports committee. Their duties are as follows
    - 1. Conduct a preseason meeting of all the SCVAL coaches for that sport to review by-laws, schedules, issues and sport year end tournament hosts. All schools should have a head coach or rep present.
    - 2. Conduct a postseason meeting for their sport. Determine league and/or division standings, Sportsmanship team for each division, Coach of the Year for each division, All League selections, division adjustments and proposed by-law revisions, will take place at this meeting. All schools should have a head coach or rep present.
    - 3. Collect, organize and distribute minutes from preseason, postseason meetings, to the SCVAL Commissioner and the AD's from each SCVAL school.



4. Develop with sport reps a electronic draft schedule for the following year's season of sport in both divisions.

1.2 Each Sports Committee shall appoint a division chairperson for both the De Anza Division and the El Camino Division. The following duties are the responsibility of the league/division chairperson.

1. The chairperson will preside over individual division preseason meetings and will keep minutes of its meetings. A copy of these minutes will be given to the Sports Committee AD to distribute.
2. Attend the CCS seeding and Post season playoff evaluation meetings

Section 2. The purpose of each Sports Committee Rep shall be to assist the Athletic Directors Council on matters pertaining to the sport it represents, to annually review the by-laws, to review a schedule for the next school year, and to make division placement recommendations. Division adjustments will not include the top three finishers of the DeAnza division or the bottom three finishers of the El Camino division from the previous year's standings.

Section 3. Each Sports Committee will have a pre-season and a post-season meeting each year or upon the call of its chairperson, upon request of a majority of its members, or upon request of the Board of Managers.

Section 4. Sports Chairpersons:

- 5.1 The Sports Committee shall elect the chairperson(s) for each sport division.
- 5.2 The sports chairperson(s) shall hold office for a minimum of two to three (3) years.

## ARTICLE IX

### Amendments

Section 1. This constitution, with the exception of the by-laws, may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the Board of Managers, provided the amendment was proposed in writing at a previous meeting.

## ARTICLE X

### By-Laws

Section 1. All rules and regulations not herein stated and adopted by the Board of Managers shall be classified as By-laws of this Constitution and are binding upon all member schools.

## ARTICLE XI

### Annual Review

Section 1. The Constitution shall be reviewed annually at the first meeting of the Board of Managers for the purpose of revising and updating its provisions.

- 1.1 Recommendations for change as a result of the annual review shall be submitted in writing at the end of the year meeting for official approval.

Section 2. By-laws shall be reviewed at the end of each sport season and presented to the Board of Managers for the purpose of revising and updating its provisions at the first meeting following the sport season.

## **Part 3 GENERAL BY-LAWS**

### **Article I**

#### **Amendments**

- Section 1. These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the Board of Managers.
- Section 2. Each motion to amend the by-laws shall include the date on which the law becomes effective.
- Section 3. No by-laws shall be adopted which is in conflict with the provisions of the Constitutions and By-laws of the SCVAL, CCS, CIF, or State and Federal statutes.
- Section 4. Board of Managers shall approve all By-law changes after the end of each season for implementation the following year.

### **ARTICLE II**

#### **Certification of Eligibility**

- Section 1. Registration and Current Scholarship Forms: Eligibility is determined by district policies and cannot be less restrictive than CIF eligibility policies. This form is for the purpose of certifying the eligibility of athletes and registers them as official members of a sports team. **Each school is to develop its own form that is to be kept on file in the principal's office** and/or forwarded to the SCVAL Commissioner.
- Section 2. **Prior to the first scheduled contest, the principal (or designee) of each member school shall certify the eligibility of members of athletic teams as complying to school, district, CCS, and CIF standards.**
- Section 3. Names may be added to or deleted from the registration form by the principal (or designee).

### **ARTICLE III**

#### **Eligibility**

- Section 1. The league shall pass no rule less stringent than those provided in the Constitution and By-laws of the Central Coast Section or CIF but may adopt more restrictive eligibility requirements.
- Section 2. A student may be registered as a member of one or more teams simultaneously provided there is mutual consent by the two coaches. A student must participate in 50% of league contests to participate in league finals.
- Section 3. After a student has participated in a league/division contest, that student may not compete on a team of lower classification in the same league sport during the remainder of that season, except as specifically provided in the Sports By-laws or conversation with SCVAL Commissioner.
- Section 4. The level at which a student competes in one sport does not affect the level at which he/she may compete in other sports.
- Section 5. Questions that arise about player eligibility shall be reported immediately to the SCVAL Commissioner in writing.
- 5.1 The Commissioner shall notify the principal if the eligibility of an athlete in his or her school is questionable or if a possible by-laws violation has occurred.
  - 5.2 The principal shall investigate the allegations and report back to the Commissioner.
  - 5.3 If an ineligible player participates in a contest or contest, the school for which he/she plays shall be penalized according to the regulations outlined in Article XII.
  - 5.4 The SCVAL Commissioner shall submit eligibility appeals/disputes to the Board of Managers.
    - a. Representatives of the schools involved in the dispute shall not have a vote.
    - b. Voting shall be by roll call.
    - c. In the case of a tie, the League Commissioner shall cast the deciding vote.
- Section 6. Scholastic eligibility shall be based on each grading period for that district. Each school district shall establish its policy in accordance with CIF.
- Section 7. **Winter Athlete Participation Deadline** (Passed BOM 5/2012)
- All Winter Athletes must have stopped participation in contests for a team outside of the school, in the same sport, by the **Monday following Thanksgiving**, if the player is to participate on the high school team.
- 7.1. If a player participates in a contest on an outside team, in the same sport, during the high school sports season, after this deadline, they will no longer be able to participate on the high school team for the remainder of that season.
    - a. All CIF / CCS team and player sanctions will also be in place.
    - b. The only exception to this rule is for athlete who has received signed permission from the Principal to participate on designated Olympic Development Program (ODP) team or national sport team, during their season of sport. This form must be provided by the athlete and signed off by

the principal, 30 days prior to participation on the ODP team.

- 1) The player may only participate in designated ODP or national team international games activities

Section 8 In all sports any athlete or coach who receives a flagrant ejection or removal from a contest during that sport season will be required to sit out the next game on their school's schedule. Further, the SCVAL will require in all sports any athlete or coach receiving a second flagrant ejection in that same sport during the year will not be able to participate or coach for the remainder of the year and into the playoffs within that sport. Schools have the discretion to be more restrictive to the number of games an athlete or coach must sit out and/or add other school disciplinary consequences if the athletic leadership of the school deems it appropriate. Appeals may be lodged by the Principal to the League Commissioner in writing. The SCVAL or individual schools may not be less restrictive than any CCS or CIF policies.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Team Classifications**

Section 1. Schools shall be placed into divisions according to the official classifications in each sport. Basically, best seven (8-7) in DeAnza, second seven (8-7) in El Camino divisions.

Section 2. Following are the official classifications in each sport. No other league teams are authorized. 3.23.23

Badminton (Coed)	Varsity / JV	Soccer (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Basketball (Boys)	Varsity / JV	Softball (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Basketball (Girls)	Varsity / JV	Swimming (Boys)	Varsity / JV
Baseball (Boys)	Varsity / JV	Swimming (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Cross Country (Boys)	Varsity / JV	Tennis (Boys)	Varsity / JV
Cross Country (Girls)	Varsity / JV	Tennis (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Field Hockey (Girls)	Varsity / JV	Track (Boys)	Varsity / JV
Flag Football (Girls)	Varsity/JV		
Football (Football)	Varsity / JV	Track (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Golf (Boys/Girls)	Varsity only		
		Volleyball (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Gymnastics (Girls)	Varsity / JV	Volleyball (Boys)	Varsity / JV
		Water Polo (Boys)	Varsity / JV
Lacrosse (Girls)	Varsity / JV	Water Polo (Girls)	Varsity / JV
Soccer (Boys)	Varsity / JV	Wrestling (Coed)	Varsity / JV

Section 3. Classification – Boys

3.1 Team classifications for boys will be Varsity and JV.

3.2 Varsity is open to all grade levels excluding CIF age limitations.

- 3.3 JV Competition shall be limited to ninth, tenth and eleventh grade athletes. No seniors male or female, may participate on the JV level.

Section 4. Classification – Girls

- 4.1 Team classifications for girls will be Varsity and Junior Varsity.  
4.2 Varsity is open to all grade levels excluding CIF age limitations.  
4.3 JV competition shall be limited to ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade athletes. No seniors, male or female, may participate on the JV level.

Section 5. Classification – Coed (Badminton and Wrestling Only)

- 5.1 Team classifications for coed teams will be Varsity and Junior Varsity.

Section 6. Each sport must field a Varsity team before fielding a team in a lower classification.

- 6.1 A Varsity team for individual sports consists of entrants in more than half of the Events

Section 7 If a school Principal determines a league contest must be forfeited a conference must be held with the opposing Principals with both reviewing the reasons and effects. This would be followed by a conversation with the Commissioner. The Commissioner will determine whether the reasons warrant forfeiture. If the forfeiture is determined to not be warranted or a coach or Athletic Director forfeits a game unilaterally additional consequences past the forfeited loss could be enacted by the Commissioner. They could include school sport sanctioning, loss of a game or more on next year's schedule, additional loss and removal of a win on league record that year, removal from CCS playoff entry for one year or more or a combination of the aforementioned consequences. Other non-competitive actions by coaches, players, spectators or distain for appropriate play could fall into these consequences.

Section 8 If a team forfeits a league finals/playoff contest they will not be entered to that year's CCS playoffs even if they qualify for an automatic berth. This includes an individual player within a final's competition (injury forfeiture is obviously allowable).

## **ARTICLE V**

### **Division Standing, Championship, and Section Playoff Rankings**

Section 1. Championships, final Division standings, and Section playoff rankings in football, soccer, tennis, basketball, badminton, softball, field hockey, volleyball, wrestling, golf, and baseball shall be determined on the basis of the win-loss record in dual meet competition unless specified otherwise in individual sport by-laws.

- 1.1 Wrestling, cross country, water polo, track, gymnastics, badminton, track and swimming final championships will be held. Some standings are based on a combination of dual meet and final division meet results or final tournament rankings.  
1.2 Cross-country championships and division standings shall be based on the results of the division/league finals.

- 1.3 For determining division championships, two (2) points will be awarded for a win, one (1) point for a tie, and zero (0) for a loss. Sport by-laws might determine standings.

Section 2.

- Section 3. If two or more teams tie for first place in final division standings, they shall be declared co-champions.

- Section 4. Sports by-laws will provide for Section playoff Automatic Qualifier placements.

- Section 5. If sports by-laws do not provide for or cannot be implemented for tie breaking situations for Section placements, the following criteria is to be used in the order listed:

- 5.1 Head to head competition.
- 5.2 Descending order in league standings
- 5.3 Section point criteria
- 5.4 Flip of a coin.

- Section 6. The following applies to all sports applying for at-large entry from the SCVAL into the CCS playoffs

- 5.1 No team or teams from the El Camino Division applying for an at-large position in the CCS playoff tournament may prevent a team or teams from the De Anza Division from being granted an at-large berth. The El Camino Division team or teams must remove their team(s) from the CCS tournament if it allows a De Anza Division team(s) to be included into the CCS tournament. If such removal does not allow the De Anza Division team(s) to be included into the CCS tournament, the El Camino team(s) will be allowed to keep their spot in the tournament.
- 5.2 If the De Anza team and the El Camino team played head to head during the season and the El Camino won the more times than the De Anza team, then the El Camino team does not have to give up its spot

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **Division Schedules and Placements; Adoption, Postponements, Changes, and Starting Times**

- Section 1. The Athletic Directors shall present proposed draft schedules for the following year in each sport annually to the Board of Managers.

- 1.1 The schedule proposals shall include the actual date that schools may begin playing games.
- 1.2 The schedule proposal shall include Division placement.

- Section 2. Schedules and Division placements become official when approved by the Board of Managers.

- Section 3. Member schools are obligated to compete at the time, place, and on the date published in the official SCVAL schedule.

- Section 4. The date or time of an officially scheduled contest may be changed by mutual agreement of the two Principals, Athletic Directors, and Head coaches involved. Utilize SCVAL "Change of Schedule" form and sent to SCVAL Commissioner for signature and recording. The home school is responsible for notifying the officials association but cannot dictate dates or times different then BOM approved elements. Location is a home school choice.
- Section 5. Dates for rescheduling of postponed games are to be mutually arranged by the schools involved. If agreement cannot be reached, the League Commissioner is authorized to set the date for the contests, subject to availability of officials. Refer to sport by-laws.
- Section 6. The starting times for league events are as follows:

No SCVAL contest or playoffs shall start prior to 1:00 PM on any school day, Monday through Friday, without permission from the SCVAL Board of Managers and/or Commissioner

## LEAGUE CONTEST START TIMES

### **Fall**

<b>Cross Country</b>	3:00
<b>Football</b>	4:30 (nv)-7:00 (v) @SCVAL stadium
	Day games at PAL league members-sept-3:15; Oct-3:00; Nov. 2:45; NV-Th
	Saturday no earlier than 11:00am
<b>Field Hockey</b>	4:00 until second full week of October then 3:30; back to back
	11:00am Saturday
<b>Girls' Tennis</b>	4:00 until second full week of October then 3:30
<b>Girls' Golf</b>	Week of, course availability
<b>Girls' Flag FB</b>	TBD
<b>Girls' Volleyball</b>	5:30 (jv)-6:45 (v); no day games
<b>Water Polo*</b>	4:15 (nv)- 5:15 (v) for single gender game
	4:15 (nv); 5:15 (v); 6:30 (v); 7:45 (nv) lighted sites
	3:00 (nv); 4:00 (v); 5:15 (v); 6:30 (nv) without lights
	• If a lower level does not exist... lighted no last game; without lights no first game

### **Winter**

<b>Basketball</b>	5:30 (nv)-7:00 (v); no day games

<b>Soccer</b>	3:30 side by side OR
	4:00(nv)-6:00 (v) Home school choice
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good idea, schools mutually agree to move one game during the week to Saturday (nv) 11:00am-1:00pm (v) Change of Schedule form</li> </ul>
<b>Wrestling</b>	Tri-meet 4:30-6:00-7:30; dual meet 5:30-7:00

## **Spring**

<b>Badminton</b>	5:15 or 6:00 if there is only (1) gym or gym issues
<b>Baseball</b>	4:00; 7:00 evening; 11am Saturday
<b>Boys' Golf</b>	Week of, course availability
<b>Gymnastics</b>	(nv) 4:30 – (v)7:00
<b>Lacrosse</b>	Day (nv) 4:30- (v) 6:00
	Night (nv) 5:30- (v) 7:00
<b>Softball</b>	4:00; 7:00 evening; 11am Saturday
<b>Swimming</b>	4:00
<b>Boys' Tennis</b>	3:30 until daylight savings; 4:00 then on
<b>Track</b>	Week of 3:30 -change to 4:00 DST
<b>Boys' Volleyball</b>	5:30 (fs)-6:45 (v); no day games

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Protest and Appeals**

- Section 1. Each sport is unique and we should strive for this visible uniqueness.
- 1.1 Protest of dangerous or sub-standard playing facilities.
  - 1.2 Protest of alleged misinterpretation of a rule by the officials in charge, provided the misinterpretation had a direct effect upon the outcome of the contest.
  - 1.3 Protest of violation of a by-law of any of the constitutions of the SCVAL, CCS or CIF.
  - 1.4 All protests must come from the school Principal to the SCVAL Commissioner, who can rule if time becomes a issue. Due process for each sport is to be consistent the chain of command should be:
    1. Coaches: recommendations
    2. Athletic directors: approval



### 3. Principals (BOM): approval

1.5 If these three bodies cannot agree, then the commissioner will appoint an appeals committee consisting of the following.

1. Principal or his/her designated representative
2. Athletic Director male/female
3. Chairperson for that activity.

If no agreement can be made...commissioner will make the final decision.

## Appeals of By-Law Violation, Division placement and Penalties

Section 2. All protests and appeals shall be directed and sent to the League Commissioner. He/she will process all protests and appeals and will be responsible for rendering the final decision in accordance with the following procedures:

- 2.1 The SCVAL Commissioner shall decide all routine protests and appeals.
- 2.2 The Commissioner shall present serious protests and appeals to the BOM and if deemed necessary by the BOM, a committee will review the protest or appeal.
- 2.3 Appeals to a school's division placement shall be processed through/with a "Division Placement Appeal" Form and given to the Commissioner within two weeks after sport's post season meeting. A three person committee of Commissioner, Chairperson AD liaison for that sport and a Principal will hear appeal.
- 2.4 If for any reason that a school who is filing the appeal is a member of the committee there will be a replacement for that particular appeal appointed by Commissioner.
- 2.5 The final decision in any protest or appeal shall be sent in writing to the principals of the schools involved.
- 2.6 If a school is still not satisfied then they can appeal to CCS

## ARTICLE VIII

### Practice, Practice Games, and Practice Limitations

Section 1. The SCVAL will follow the CCS definition of a practice.  
(PLEASE REFER TO CCS BY-LAW ARTICLE V)

Section 2. Games and Practices are allowed on all days except New Years Day and Sundays.

Section 3. Teams may not start practice prior to the starting date established annually by the CCS Board of Managers. (PLEASE REFER TO CCS BY-LAW ARTICLE V)

- 3.1 Violations of the starting date shall be reported to the SCVAL Commissioner and the CCS Commissioner.

- 3.2 The SCVAL and CCS Board of Managers shall take appropriate action when violations are reported.

Section 4. A sport season ends with the final scheduled league event. Only teams advancing to the CCS playoffs may continue to participate. (PLEASE REFER TO CCS BY-LAW ARTICLE V)

Section 5. Any student who wishes to tryout and be part of an athletic team needs to be provided (3) days of tryout. Further, those days need to occur from the official start of that sport's team practice. If athletic clearance delays the participation then the (3) days may be shortened. Clearance should happen before the first three days of practice. Special circumstances will be determined by the Athletic Director and/or Principal. Any student, effective 5.26.22, completing an athletic season will be allowed a minimum of three (3) days of tryout in the subsequent season.

Section 6. Definition of Contest or Game and scrimmage  
(PLEASE REFER TO CCS BY-LAW ARTICLE V)

6.1 A contest or game is defined as any participation where two (2) or more teams from different schools are present.

6.2 A scrimmage is defined as a practice session involving two, three (2-3) schools where coaches are present and directing their teams, no scores are kept, and the officials can or might be paid. (PLEASE REFER TO CCS BY-LAW ARTICLE V)

6.2.1. Each sports is allowed one contact with their alumni and/or parent teams without permission from the SCVAL Commissioner or the CCS Commissioner. Varsity teams only with Principal approval of these exhibitions of play. Not on Sunday.

6.2.2. All sports are allowed 2 scrimmages with the exception of football, which is allowed 1 scrimmage. They must be scheduled before games begin. (CIF rule). Special circumstances with teams moving to CCS or NorCal competition. Check with the Commissioner.

6.2.3. Scrimmages may be held with CIF high schools. All other scrimmages must have approval of the CCS Commissioner (i.e.: club, community college, etc.)

6.2.4. Jamborees of 4 or more schools must be approved by SCVAL Commissioner. All league schools should have the ability to participate if they wish. Jamborees should be held before any formal games begin.

6.3 GAME LIMITATIONS and Individual athlete contest limit participation (PLEASE REFER TO CCS BY-LAW ARTICLE V)

<u>Sport</u>	<u># of games</u>
Badminton	24 matches
Baseball	27 games
Basketball	24 games
Cross Country	13 meets
Field Hockey	20 games
Football	10 games
Golf	18 matches

Gymnastics	15 matches
Lacrosse	20 games
Soccer	20 games
Softball	27 games
Swimming	13 meets
Tennis	24 matches
Track & Field	14 meets including invitational
Volleyball	26 games
Water Polo	24 games
Wrestling	40 contacts

## **ARTICLE IX**

### **Division Finals and Section Tournaments**

- Section 1. Division finals shall be held in the following sports:
- 1.1 Cross Country (Boys Varsity, JV & Girls Varsity, JV)  
To determine the division championship and final Division standings and to determine the individual and team qualifiers for CCS meets.
  - 1.2 Wrestling (Varsity, 2nd Man Tournament) to determine individual Varsity and 2nd Man champions and Varsity qualifiers for CCS.
  - 1.3 Boys Tennis (Varsity) Girls Tennis (Varsity) Badminton (Varsity) & Golf (Varsity)  
To determine the individual champion in each classification and to determine individual Varsity qualifiers for the CCS meets.
  - 1.4 Boys Track (Varsity, JV) Girls Track (Varsity, JV) To help determine the Division championships and final Division standings in each classification and to determine individual Varsity qualifiers to the league CCS Qualifier meet.
  - 1.5 Boys Swimming (Varsity / JV), Girls Swimming (Varsity, JV) and Girls Gymnastics (Varsity, JV) To help determine Division championships and individual Varsity qualifiers for Section meets.
  - 1.6 Boys Water Polo (Varsity) and Girls Water Polo (Varsity) Tournaments  
To help determine Division championships and teams advancing to CCS
  - 1.7 A student must participate in a minimum of 50% of dual meet or league contests in order to participate in the Division finals of that sport. Board of Managers may make exceptions for injuries/illnesses/transfers. Please refer to CCS Rules on exceptions.
- Section 2. Responsibility for hosting Division tournaments shall be rotated among the member schools.
- Section 3. Refer to sports by-laws for any possible additions to Division finals.

## **ARTICLE X**

## Post-Season Contests and Invitational Tournaments

- Section 1. Post-season contests, other than official league, section or state events, are prohibited.
- 1.1 Any team involved in CCS playoffs with more than five (5) school days without a contest may request a scrimmage from the CCS/League Commissioner.
- Section 2. Member schools desiring to host an invitational tournament in any official league sport must secure permission and approved sanction from the CCS.
- Section 3. Member schools may enter only properly sanctioned invitational tournaments.

## **ARTICLE XI**

### Awards

- Section 1. Certificates of Recognition for all classifications.
- 1.1 Certificates shall be presented to each member and coach of championship teams.
- 1.2 Certificates will be awarded to members of official all-league teams as specified in the by-laws of each team sport.
- 1.3 Certificates will be awarded to the first three (3) place finishers if not addressed in Sports By-laws in an event or match in the finals of individual sports to include swimming, tennis, golf, wrestling, track, gymnastics, and badminton.
- Section 2. All League: The following are guidelines for selection of All-League teams at the Varsity level if not addressed in Sports By-laws: F/S and JV will select a division MVP and receive certificates based on placement.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>League Selections</u>	<u>Number of Honorable Mention</u>
Football	58 (6)	10
Basketball	15	3 <sup>rd</sup> Team-one per school
Baseball	27	14
Water Polo	14 (4)	12
Soccer	33 (4)	0
Field Hockey	32 (8)	one per school
Volleyball	20 (6)	one per school
Softball	27	one per school
Cross Country	15/ 10 FS. JV	0
Golf	12 (3)	10 Tournament
Wrestling	(8) 14 weights/ Masters participants are all-league	
Lacrosse		

- Section 3. The assigned sports committee Athletic Director shall report Varsity, JV league standings and all-league selections to the League Commissioner in all divisions. Name, school, position and year in school provided.

## **ARTICLE XII**

### **Violations and Penalties**

- Section 1. Any violation of the SCVAL Constitution & By-laws will result in a letter of censure to the coach and a copy sent to his/her Principal and Athletic Director, and the possibly forfeiture of a division contest in the standings. Violations include illegal practices, classification infractions, ineligible players, and illegal number of contests.
- Section 2. Penalties for By-law violations:
- 2.1 Classification infraction – Forfeiture of contests that the individual(s) participated.
  - 2.2 Ineligible Player (Team Sport) – Forfeiture of contests that the individual(s) participated.
  - 2.3 Ineligible Player (Individual Sport) – Forfeiture of points earned by the individual.
  - 2.4 Illegal practice, scrimmage, or game – Forfeiture of one (1) Division wins.
  - 2.5 Illegal number of contests – Forfeiture of Division standings and CCS Sanctions.
  - 2.6 Coach's ejection from contest – Coach must leave the area completely or forfeit the contest. Contest will be forfeited also if there is no certified person employed by school to assume the ejected coach's supervision duties.
- Section 3. Chronic or flagrant violations of this Constitution or its By-laws on the part of a coach will result in severe disciplinary action, which could include forfeiture of Division standing and/or being banned from coaching in the SCVAL.
- Section 4. The Board of Managers shall determine penalties for violations of league rules not outlined in this article.
- Section 5. Coach or Player Ejection
- 5.1 Notification of the ejection by a official association of any coach and/or player rests primarily with the involved official. They are required to notify their lead association leadership who in turn will notify the CCS, the league commissioner, and the respective schools the next school day. It is also the responsibility that each school should notify the League Commissioner the next day to actions school is proceeding with to the report of the incident that took place.
  - 5.2 The coach and/or player may select to withdraw from the next contest, thereby eliminating the need for any appeal. Should the coach and/or player select to appeal they must notify the League Commissioner within 24 hours after the incident. The appeal must come from the Principal in conference with the athletic leadership at the school. The exception will be weekend tournaments games, etc. The following Monday will be the deadline to file appeal.
  - 5.3 The League Commissioner will make every effort to hear the appeal before the next regularly scheduled contest. Should he/she be unable to hear the appeal before the next contest, that coach or player may participate in the next contest until the commissioner hears the appeal. Should the League Commissioner rule against the coach and/or player will miss the next contest after the appeal.

The appeal must come from the school principal in writing. All appeals must come from the Principal after Athletic Leadership of the school has met.

- 5.4 If a player or coach is ejected from the last game of the season, then the player or coach will not be allowed to participate in the first regular season game the next year. The above appeal process would apply.
- 5.5 Participants ejected from a second contest during a season will not be allowed to coach or play for the remainder of that sports season. If they chose to appeal they may not participate until the appeal is heard.
- 5.6 If the officials association does not forward a report concerning the coach and/or player ejected, appeals will automatically be ruled in the favor of the coach and/or player.
- 5.7 If a spectator is removed by a game official or site supervision, that spectator shall not be allowed at the next game of that sport. If removed a second time that calendar year in any sport, the spectator will not be allowed to attend any sport contest involving our SCVAL schools for one calendar year from the date of the second incident. This decision is not appealable. 5.25.23
- 5.8 Sanctions and consequences can occur towards school.

### **ARTICLE XIII**

#### **Rules for the Rooting Sections at Athletic Events** **Sportsmanship Policy Statement**

All SCVAL athletic events are considered an educational experience for our students and are conducted in an extended classroom environment. Sportsmanship is expected from all participants as well as from spectators.

The SCVAL, as a member of the California Interscholastic Federation, will enforce the following sportsmanship rules as developed by the League, the CCS, and the California Interscholastic Federation. Spectators at all SCVAL sponsored activities are expected to follow the rules listed below:

- Section 1. Show respect and courtesy for all players, coaches, officials and spectators.
- Section 2. Refrain from the following behaviors:
  - 2.1 Berating your opponents, school, or mascot.
  - 2.2 Berating opposing players.
  - 2.3 Obscene cheers or gestures.
  - 2.4 Signs not promoting sportsmanship. (Run-throughs and banners are approved.)
  - 2.5 Noisemakers (air and battery-fed horns, bells, and various types of unusual noisemakers are not allowed).
  - 2.6 Complaining about official's calls (verbal or gestures).
  - 2.7 Throwing shredded paper, confetti, baby powder or any objects or articles.
  - 2.8 Vandalism or disorderly conduct. This would include "storming the court" /field and yelling directly at umpires or referees. This could lead to ejection and sanctions to the spectator section and/or student body. 5.25.23
  - 2.9 **No music with lyrics may be played at any athletic event hosted by an SCVAL school (pre-league or league)** except for the National Anthem, the

schools alma mater and with the exception to Cheer and Dance teams pre-game or half time performances.

- Section 3. Students/spectators shall remain on their own side/area of the field or gymnasium. "Storming the court /field" is never appropriate at any SCVAL contest when our teams are involved. Students and spectators should remain in stands and bleachers unless entering or exiting. Following the directions of supervision or security should always occur. Interacting with coaches or players is not something that should occur. Ejection or removal plus school sanctions can occur. Individual schools may be more restrictive with their spectators or student body. 5.25.23
- Section 4. For contests held in the gym, only the home school may have a pep band, limited to 20 members in size, situated in their stands or on the floor next to their rooting section, and playing only when the game is not in progress.
- Section 5. The Alma Mater of participating schools may be sung after the final game, with visiting school singing first.
- Section 6. Schools shall assign appropriate administrators, faculty members, and police officers to provide for supervision of athletic contests.
- Section 7. Visiting supervising administrator and/or teacher has the responsibility to identify himself/herself to the home school administrator in charge.
- Section 8. It is the responsibility of the coaches and other staff members at athletic events to enforce these rules. Persons unable to conduct themselves according to these rules of sportsmanship will be asked to leave.

## **ARTICLE XIV**

### **Procedures for Bands during Pre-Game and Half Time Show at Football Games**

- Section 1. The following league by-laws and procedures are to be followed for league football games. When a school is playing a non-league game, it will be up to the school to make any arrangements with the visiting school as to length of time the bands will perform before the game and at half time. For league contests, the visiting band director must contact the home school band director.
- Section 2. Pre-Game Varsity
- 2.1 League By-Laws: There shall be a maximum intermission of thirty (30) minutes between preliminary and second game.
- a. This Allows for a maximum time of twenty four (24) minutes for football warm-ups, including the coin flip, and a maximum of six (6) minutes for band's patriotic ceremony.
- 2.2 League By-Laws: Teams shall warm up on the half of the field to the right of their bench.
- 2.3 The home band is responsible for the National Anthem.
- Section 3. Half-Time Show
- 3.1 League By-Laws: No half-time activity is to exceed twenty (20) minutes actual elapsed time.

3.2

- a. The field clock will start when the first half ends at the gun.
- b. The visiting band is to perform first.
- c. Only authorized people are to be in the announcer's booth.
- d. Both bands may play simultaneously for their rooting sections during time outs.
- e. Bands are not to play when the football is in play.

**ARTICLE XV**

**Smog Alert**

Section 1. Declared Smog Advisory Alert – Actions to be taken by the BOM and Principals of the SCVAL:

- 1.1 Strenuous physical activities by all students shall be discontinued. This includes physical education classes and interscholastic activities.
  - a. Scrimmages, continuous running, sprinting, jogging, games, practice games, and meets are examples of activities that are prohibited.
  - b. Coaches will be held responsible for maintaining a non-strenuous practice session.
- c. Violations of a smog alert will be treated as an illegal practice.

**ARTICLE XVI**

**Administrative Categories**

Section 1. Admission Charges

- 1.1 Uniform admission fee for league scheduled football- \$10 General admission; \$5 students/Seniors/children; children 5 and under free.
- 1.2 Division Volleyball, Basketball, Wrestling event prices:  
\$8.00: General Admission  
\$5.00: Students with high school ID; Sr. Citizens and Children 6- 12 accompanied by an adult; Children 5 and under are free 5.25.23
- 1.3 SCVAL, CCS, and Participating School Staff passes will be honored at all league contests. Passes will admit staff members and members of the immediate family or one (1) guest.
- 1.4 Admission fee will be charged for the following Division finals: Cross Country, Water Polo, Swimming (G & B), Wrestling (\$11), Track and Gymnastics. Admission fee will also be charged for any other finals or playoffs designated in Sports By-laws if it is appropriate to charge. See section 1.1 for prices.

Section 2. Gate Receipts and Expenses

- 2.1 The home team is responsible for all expenses of a Division contest and will keep all gate receipts sending to Commissioner at end of tournament.
- 2.2 The league is responsible for the expenses of Division finals as budgeted and will keep all gate receipts. The host school shall be responsible for submitting a budget and/or invoices for the finals to the Board of Managers/Commissioner for approval and payment.



## **ARTICLE XVII**

### **Appendix**

Section 1.      Appendixes included are to be reviewed annually for yearly up-date where necessary.

- i.       Board of Managers Membership
- ii.      Athletic Directors Council
- iii.     Sports Committee Assignments
- iv.      Division Placements
- v.       Division Finals Host Rotation