



SOFTBALL By-laws

ARTICLE I **Governing Rules**

Section 1 The current edition of the National Federation High School softball Rules

ARTICLE II **Classification**

Section 1 There shall be Varsity and JV teams. Movement is allowed throughout the year between Varsity and JV. Individual athletes may not exceed CCS game limits. Further, athletes may NOT participate in two levels on the same day. Moving athletes down in an attempt to win a JV championship would be inappropriate. Once a pitcher, pitches two Varsity games in division/league play they may not pitch in a JV game. NO Senior may play JV softball.

ARTICLE III **Practice and Game Limitations**

Section 1 No practice on Sundays.

Section 2 Game limitations shall be as follows: Twenty-seven (27) games and two scrimmages (per Article V of CCS), scrimmages will not officially be counted in the overall record and must be before official games begin. A tournament counts the number of guaranteed games.

ARTICLE IV **Game Management**

Section 1 Starting times for afternoon games shall be 3:30 p.m. before D.S.T. and 4:00 p.m. after D.S.T. begins; night games shall be 7:00 p.m.

Section 2 Rained out or make up games:

2.1 Rained out league games shall be made up on the earliest available date that both teams have open.

2.2 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.

2.3 Discontinued Games. A game called by the umpire for rain, darkness, or other reason, shall be considered regulation if five or more innings have been played. Discontinued games of four innings or less shall be resumed at the **exact** point

where they were stopped. The Home book is the official restart overview.

- Section 3** There shall be two (2) umpires for the Varsity game and one (1) umpire for the Junior Varsity game. If only one official comes to a Varsity game, it shall be played and considered an official game (let Commissioner know).
- Section 4** The home team shall be responsible for keeping score.
- Section 5** Junior Varsity games shall be played at sites opposite the Varsity games as best scheduled. One JV schedule will be developed after (4) weeks of practice including both division schools that have JV teams. A single or double round-robin will be developed based on the number of teams.
- Section 6** Game Management:
- 6.1 In Junior Varsity and Varsity games, if a team is ahead by ten (10) or more runs after five (5) full innings, the game will be called.
- 6.2 Junior Varsity will have a two (2) hour time limit. Innings 1-3 a (5) five run turnover will be enacted. Then, play on with 10 run rule after five innings. JV will begin the International Tie Breaker at the top of the 8th inning or at the end of the 2 hour time limit within the 7 inning game – whichever comes first. Tie games will continue until a winner is determined. There is no time limit for Varsity Games.
- Section 7** In Junior Varsity, rain or darkness tie games stand, with each team earning a one half (1/2) win in the standings. See section 8.
- Section 8** The International tie breaker system for Varsity games will begin at the top of the 10th. In the tenth (10th) inning and innings after, the 9th player due up to bat that inning goes to second base to start the inning – no outs.
- Section 9** Batting practice may be held prior to any game.
- 9.1 Pitching machines: If using a pitching machine before a game at a game site, it must be made available to both home and visiting teams for equal time.
- Section 10** Protests may be registered by the coach according to procedures outlined in the NFHS rulebook and SCVAL By-Laws, Article VII. Cost for registration of a protest is \$50.00 within seventy-two (72) hours.
- Section 11** Varsity shall utilize the official ball of the CCS and the Junior Varsity can use any NFHS approved ball.
- Section 12** Playing days will be rotated between Wednesday/Friday and Tuesday/Thursday every year between the DeAnza and El Camino divisions.

Section 13 At a pregame meeting, it will be determined if there is a media area. If and when a media area is utilized that area and ball entry rules of NFHS will be applied.

Section 14 All SCVAL schools shall provide a double first base for all Varsity and Junior Varsity games.

ARTICLE V

Final Standings - Tie Breaking Procedures – CCS Playoffs

Section 1 If two or more teams tie for first place in division standings, they shall be declared co-champions. All ties for 1st Place-CCS playoff berths, and seedings shall be decided by results of head-to-head competition. If the tie cannot be broken by a head to head competition, Article V, Section 2 procedures will be used.

Section 2 Tie Breaker Procedures:

- 2.1 Head to head competition.
- 2.2 Head to head of the teams above the place in from highest to lowest.
- 2.3 Head to head of the teams below the place in order from highest to lowest.
- 2.4 Head to Head run differential of just the teams involved in the tie.
- 2.5 The least amount of accumulated runs allowed from all league games (12 games) will determine the higher ranking
- 2.6 The league representative of the other division will decide who will call the coin toss by pulling a name out a hat.

Section 3 CCS Playoffs:

- 3.1 DeAnza Division Champion and El Camino Division Champion will advance to the CCS Playoffs as Automatic Qualifiers. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th place teams in the DeAnza Division will each advance to the CCS Playoffs as Automatic Qualifiers.
- 3.2 All remaining teams will be considered for At-Large berths based on their CCS points. Exception: If the league has Co-Champions, the designated 2nd place team will have precedence before another team with CCS points in the division.

(Note – If the co-champion does not have enough points to qualify for an At-Large berth and another team in the division does, then the League Rep shall remove the co-champion so another qualified team can enter.)

- 3.3 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. (SCVAL General By-Law)

- 3.4 If the De Anza team and the El Camino team played head to head during the season and the El Camino team won more times than the De Anza team, then the El Camino team does not have to give up its spot. (SCVAL General By-Law)

ARTICLE VI

League Realignment

Section 1 At the end of each season, the Varsity champion of the El Camino division will move to the DeAnza Division. The last place Varsity team from the De Anza Division will move into the El Camino Division. Coaches may vote on other up and down movements if coaches vote to approve by a $\frac{3}{4}$ majority vote then that will move to ADC and BOM for approval. Otherwise, one up and one down.

Section 2 To break a tie for last place in the De Anza Division:

- a) Discussion and rationale for either team to volunteer to move.
- b) Head to head competition.
- c) Head to head competition of the team(s) above the place in order from highest to lowest.
- d) Head to head run differential (gave up the most runs)

To break a tie for first place in the El Camino Division:

- a) Discussion and rationale for either team to volunteer to move.
- b) Head to head competition
- c) Head to head competition of the team(s) below the place in order from highest to lowest.
- d) The automatic qualifier goes up to the DeAnza Division based on the outcome of Article V – The Tie Breaker Rule.

Section 3 If more teams from the El Camino division want to move up and there is a team from the De Anza that wants to move down then more movement may occur, or visa a versa.

ARTICLE VII

All-League Selections

Section 1 At the post-season meeting, the Varsity and Junior Varsity coaches of both divisions will submit the names of their all-league players based on the table below. In the case of a tie in the league standings, the formula to determine league finish for CCS placement will be used.

	First Team	Second Team	Hon Men	Total
First Place	4	3	1	8
Second Place	4	2	1	7
Third Place	3	2	1	6
Fourth Place	2	2	1	5
Fifth Place	2	1	1	4
Sixth Place	1	2	1	4
Seventh Place	0	2	1	3
Total	16	14	7	37

Section 2 Varsity only (JV will vote for MVP) **Special Recognition Awards** are limited to 4 (MVP, MVP Offense, MVP Defense and Pitcher of the Year) and will be included in each school's 1st team totals.

- Any Team may nominate 1 player for each of the 4 Special recognition awards from its list of First Team All-League Players.
- All Coaches will have (2) votes the first round and may vote for their own player. After that vote tabulation, the top (2) and ties will be voted on again with each coach having (1) vote.
- Only Varsity head coaches may cast a vote.
- Nominating coach should include player's name, school, positions played, and relevant stats. Coaches are not required to provide player's year in schools as this should not be considered a relevant factor.
- Stats used for supporting your nomination must come from Max Preps so they may be validated by the coaches within the league prior to casting their votes.
- In the result of a tie the chairperson will conduct a second vote containing those players' names that were tied in the initial vote. Coaches who have had their players names removed from consideration may now vote in the second voting. If after the second vote a tie still exists players will be considered "Co." When there is a "Co" award given, that player must also have been named first-team all-league by her coach.

ARTICLE VIII

Chairperson Responsibilities

Section 1 A softball chairperson will be selected for both the De Anza and the El Camino Divisions. The coaches from each division will elect their

chairperson.

Section 2 The chairperson will serve a minimum of two (2) years.

Section 3 The chairpersons will represent their respective divisions at the CCS softball seeding meeting, the evaluation meeting and any special meetings.

Section 4 A new chairperson will be elected if the previous chairperson changes divisions.

ARTICLE IX

Umpire Evaluations

Section 1. Umpire evaluations should be sent to BASO and softball assigner for their review.
cc: League Commissioner.