

ARTICLE 60
OUTSIDE COMPETITION

600. COMPETITION ON AN OUTSIDE TEAM

A student on a high school team becomes ineligible if the student competes in a contest on an “outside” team, in the same sport, during the student’s high school season of sport (See Bylaw 504.A). The following exceptions apply:

- A. If the outside team has half or more of the team members as stated in the National Federation rules book for that sport, it shall be considered the same sport. Examples: three-on-three basketball---outside team competition prohibited; two-on-two volleyball---outside team competition permitted.
- B. **Flag Football/Beach Volleyball/Slow Pitch Softball**
For purposes of this rule, touch football, flag football, beach volleyball and slow pitch softball are considered to be different sports than tackle football, volleyball and softball respectively.
(Editorial Revision May 2017)
- C. **Soccer**
In the sport of soccer, Bylaw 600 shall be in effect only during the winter high school soccer season. High school soccer programs that compete during the fall or spring season are not subject to Bylaw 600.
NOTE: For purposes of this section, indoor soccer and futsal are not considered the same sport as soccer.
- D. **Swimming and Diving**
Swimmers may compete for an amateur team during the season of sport in the USA Swimming Senior National Championship Meet, the USA Swimming Sectional Championship Meet and the USA Swimming Junior Olympic Meet. Divers may compete for an amateur team during the season of sport in the USA National Championships, USA Junior National Championships and any Regional and/or Zone Championship meet that qualifies the diver to the aforementioned Championships.
(Editorial Revision May 2017)
- E. Bylaw 600 shall not be in effect for those sports conducted outside the State-adopted season of sport.
- F. **Spontaneous Recreational Activity**
It is permissible for a high school team member to participate in a spontaneous recreational activity or game in which sides or teams are chosen without regard to players representing any group or organization. Such participation would not cause loss of eligibility. (Definition of spontaneous: no prior planning or notice; an unplanned part of another activity which has a primary focus other than the sport.)

Q: What is an outside team?

A: An outside team is one that is organized through a non-school organization such as, but not limited to, youth teams, community teams, club teams, national teams, park and recreation teams, etc.

Q: Is attendance by an individual student-athlete at a non-school practice, camp or clinic considered participation on an outside team if during that sport’s season of sport?

A: No. Individual student-athletes may attend a non-school practice, camp or clinic during that sport’s season of sport (unless your school and/or CIF Section has developed a more restrictive rule).

Q: May an individual student-athlete compete in a scrimmage or game while attending a non-school practice, camp or clinic during that sport’s season of sport?

A: Yes, as long as they are attending that camp as an individual (unless your school and/or CIF Section has developed a more restrictive rule).

G. **Unattached Competition in Individual Sports (see also Bylaw 215)**

- (1) An unattached athlete shall not represent any team. Points won by the athlete shall not be credited to any team. An unattached athlete shall not use a uniform which identifies a school or “outside” team. Any violation shall be considered an infraction of Bylaw 600.
- (2) Unattached competition is permissible for a student in other than school contests during the season of sport provided the student enters in the individual sports of badminton (singles and doubles), cross country, golf, gymnastics, skiing, swimming and diving (including unattached entry on relays), tennis (singles and doubles), track and field (including unattached entry on relays) and wrestling.
- (3) **Certification of Unattached Athletes**
No official recognition or certification on the part of the CIF member school or personnel of the CIF member school may be given in order that unattached athletes may participate in contests.
- (4) **Representation in CIF Competition**
Unattached competition is not permitted in any CIF competition (See Bylaw 503.D.). Individuals or teams entered in CIF competition must represent a CIF member school. No other form of representation shall be permitted in CIF competition.

NOTE: Alpine, Nordic Skiing and Snowboarding are exempt for this Bylaw as the season of sport is not defined and listed under Bylaws 503.D. and 504.H. and that all competitions are done in conjunction with the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association.

(Revised October 2008 Federated Council)

Q: May an athlete compete unattached in a collegiate track meet?

A: No. CIF students are not eligible to compete at intercollegiate events (Bylaw 215).

Q: May an athlete compete unattached in "open competition" at a joint sanctioned event?

A: No. A high school student who has any eligibility left at a high school shall not participate in any "open competition" event. A high school student may only compete in a high school division comprised of high school student-athletes at these events (Bylaw 702.C.).

Q: May an athlete compete unattached in a national governing body event?

A: Yes. An athlete may compete unattached in an event such as the heptathlon or decathlon when the National Governing Body of that sport administers the event(s).

Q: May an athlete compete unattached in an "open competition" event?

A: Yes. Bylaw 600.G. permits unattached competition in individual sports. An athlete may compete unattached in an "Open Competition" event such as a road race, 5k fun run of similar community sponsored event.

601. PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF BYLAW 600

A. Individual

(1) First Offense in High School Career in Any Sport

The student becomes immediately ineligible for participation with his/her high school team for a number of contests equal to twice the number of contests of outside competition in which the student participated.

(2) Any Subsequent Offense in High School Career in Any Sport

The student becomes immediately ineligible for one (1) year (365 days) from the second infraction

in all sports.

a. Appeals

Upon written appeal to the Section Commissioner, the student may petition his/her Section for reinstatement of his/her eligibility status.

B. Team

(1) Games Forfeited

Games in which a student participated on his/her high school team after violation of Bylaw 600

shall be forfeited.

(2) Appeals

Sections may establish rules and procedures to consider requests for waivers of game forfeitures.

(Revised May 2004 Federated Council)

602. PAN-AMERICAN, US PARALYMPICS OR OLYMPIC COMPETITION

During the high school season of sport, a high school student who has been selected or qualified for participation on the United States team, which will engage in Pan-American, US Paralympics or Olympic competition, may participate on that team.

(Revised May 2007 Federated Council/Revised October 2008 Federated Council)

603. OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

During their high school season of sport, a high school student who has been selected or qualified for an Olympic Development Program (ODP) by the respective National Governing Body for that sport, shall be permitted to participate in such a program without loss of interscholastic eligibility, if the following conditions are met:

A. The Olympic Development Program is:

(1) Verified as such by the CIF; AND

(2) a. Conducted or sponsored by the United States Olympic Committee; OR

b. Directly funded and conducted by the U.S. national governing body for the sport on a

national level; OR

c. Authorized by a national governing body for athletes having potential for future national AND

team participation;

B. The student informs the high school principal at least 30 days prior to participating in the program; AND

C. The principal verifies the authenticity of the program; AND

D. The student makes prior arrangement to complete missed academic lessons, assignments and tests before the last day of classes of the semester in which the student's absence occurs.

E. This Bylaw was written with the intent that only individual student-athletes that have been identified by the respective National Governing Body for that sport, as having Olympic potential, would be eligible for this exemption of Bylaw 600. Individual student-athletes who are members of a club team(s) consisting in whole or part of high school age athletes, participating in any competitions (e.g. Super Y League events, USA

Youth Soccer National League, Championships, etc.), even if the competition itself is labeled as an ODP event, that occur during the high school student's season of sport are not eligible for this exemption.

NOTE: It is up to the school and individual(s) participating to confirm that above events have been approved by the CIF (visit www.cifstate.org).

(Editorial Revision May 2017)

(Revised May 2007 Federated Council)

604. INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

The CIF State Executive Director may grant approval, upon individual petition, for an athlete to travel to a foreign country to participate in international competition sanctioned by the governing body for that sport in the United States and the international governing body.

(Revised May 2003 Federated Council/Revised October 2008 Federated Council)

605. PROFESSIONAL TRYOUT

A student shall become ineligible for CIF competition if he/she participates in any tryout for a professional team in any CIF-approved sport during the high school season of sport. The season of sport for a school is that period of time that elapses between the first interscholastic contest and the final contest in that particular sport.

NOTE: See Bylaw 1200 for CIF-approved sports.

(Revised May 2009 Federated Council)