

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Office of Interscholastic Athletics

LIABILITY ADVISORY

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This document is meant to serve the purpose of clarifying the rules and providing information regarding the liability of school personnel conducting any athletic activities that take place out of season. The seasons of sport (as defined by CIF) are: **Fall:** August - November (football, girls' volleyball, cross country, girls' tennis, boys' water polo, girls' golf) **Winter:** November - February (wrestling, basketball, soccer, girls' water polo)

Spring: February - June (baseball, softball, swimming, track and field, boys' volleyball, boys' tennis, boys' golf, lacrosse)

☐ **Seasons may be extended due to playoff success. See playoff brackets on www.cif-la.org**

MAY SCHOOL TEAMS COMPETE IN OUT OF SEASON LEAGUES? Every year, questions arise about the "legality" of out of season leagues. School teams as such, may compete **only** in CIF sanctioned activity and there is **no such activity, with the exception of the LA Watts Summer Games.** Therefore, by definition **NO SCHOOL TEAM** may participate in any other out of season competition.

WHAT IS A SCHOOL TEAM?

A school team is one that represents a school, uses school equipment and/or facilities, is funded by a school district (either district office funds, funds raised on behalf of the school's athletic program, school's athletic team, school's booster club or ASB funds), is under the direction of a person who is assigned by the school district, and/or identifies itself as being a school team in name or by use of school uniforms. In short, direct terms; **a school team cannot compete or practice in out of season.**

MAY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN OUT OF SEASON COMPETITION?

The foregoing is specific; however, it does not say that students must refrain from out of season athletic activity. Students may participate in **non-school** sponsored athletic competition out of season so long as they do not violate amateur standing requirements. Undergraduates (grades 9 – 11) may **not** participate in high school All-Star games between September 1st and the last CIF sanctioned event for that school year.

MAY SCHOOL COACHES ASSOCIATE WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM THEIR SCHOOL OUT OF SEASON? Persons who coach school teams during the school year may also associate with students out of season. They may coach, organize, transport, and otherwise be involved with students out of season, as **private citizens** or employees of a recreation department or other **non-school entity**. They may **not** coach out of season teams as an employee of the school (district), use or issue school equipment or school uniforms, and they may **not** use school funds for entry fees, transportation, officials, or salary for themselves or others. They may **not** use school facilities on a different basis than any member of the general public may use them.

MAY SCHOOL COACHES ASSOCIATE WITH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM OTHER SCHOOLS OUT OF SEASON? Persons who coach school teams during the school year may also associate with students in out of season athletic activity.

Since neither the CIF nor LAUSD regulates athletic activities out of season, coaches may associate with students who do not attend the school where the coach is employed. However, the coach **MAY NOT** provide any information to a student from another school, which can be inferred as an inducement of that student to transfer. This is a violation of CIF rule 510 regarding undue influence, and is applicable at any time during the calendar year.

COACHES' SIGNATURE _____

LAUSD OUT OF SEASON LIABILITY