

# CONSTITUTION OF THE WEST CATHOLIC ATHLETIC LEAGUE

## Name

This organization shall be known as the West Catholic Athletic League (WCAL).

## Article I – Purpose

The purpose of this League shall be:

1. To supervise and control the athletic competition between the member schools of this League.
2. To provide guidance and direction so that athletics will always contribute effectively to the total educational development of the students.
3. To administer the athletics of the League in accordance with the Constitution, By-Laws and Rulings.
4. To provide for the development of cordial and friendly relations among the member schools through the high standards of good sportsmanship.

## Article II – Philosophy and Goals

The WCAL was founded in 1967 to provide for the administration of athletic competition among its member schools. Athletic participation is seen as integral to the common Catholic mission of our schools and, as such, is viewed as an extension of the class room. Administrators, faculty, and coaches dedicate themselves, to bring forth to their student-athlete that will serve the participating individual and the community.

Towards that end the league offers competition in athletics to attain the following goals:

1. To promote in the student-athlete greater appreciation of his/her **spirituality** by fostering an understanding of athletic competition within a Christian context.
2. To instill in the student-athlete a sense of **responsibility** by emphasizing consistent effort and by making the student-athlete aware and respectful of the needs of others.
3. To nurture a willingness to **sacrifice** in the student-athlete by requiring that his/her actions on and off the playing field be consistent with goals of the team as a whole and not be directed towards individual honors.
4. To further a sense of personal **discipline** and **positive decision-making** in the student-athlete by demanding high standards of behavior and encouraging from activities that maximize his/her athletic, academic, and personal potential.

5. To have the student-athlete internalize the proper ideals of **sportsmanship**, ethical conduct, and fair play by adult modeling and teaching of such principles on and off the playing field.
6. To develop positive **leadership** qualities in the student-athlete by defining and encouraging the assumption of varied leadership roles.
7. To enhance the **relationships** among the member schools by using the vehicle of athletic focus on the common Christian vision our schools share.
8. To promote a **positive perception** of our schools and our student athletes in the largest community by demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.

## **Article III – Government**

PRINCIPALS’ COUNCIL – The Principals’ Council, composed of the Principals of all member schools, shall be the governing body of this organization. Any Principal may delegate his/her powers to his/her Vice Principal or to some other member of his/her faculty, except this person may not be the Athletic Director for the school, and may not serve as the substitute for the regular member at any meetings.

DECISION OF THE PRINCIPALS’ COUNCIL FINAL – The decisions of the Council shall be final, unless a Council decision is overruled by the California Inter-scholastic Federation or by the Central Coast Section, to which this organization belongs.

PROCEDURE FOR VOTING ON THE PRINCIPALS’ COUNCIL – In all decisions, the Council shall vote by schools, and each school shall be entitled to one (1) vote. The vote of each school shall be cast by the Principal or by his/her delegate. A simple majority is necessary to decide any vote, except that which would involve an amendment (See Amendment) or a request for membership or withdrawal (See League Membership). In areas involving questions of a specific gender (boys or girls), school representatives may only vote if their school offers sports in the specific gender in question.

QUORUM ON THE PRINCIPALS’ COUNCIL – A quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the voting members of the Council.

## **Article IV – Jurisdiction**

WCAL A MEMBER OF THE CCS AND THE CIF – This League is a member of the Central Coast Section of the California Interscholastic Federation and, as such, the League and all member schools are subject to the Constitution and By-Laws of both bodies, the Central Coast Section and the California Interscholastic Federation.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS BINDING ON MEMBER SCHOOLS – The league Constitution and By-Laws are binding on all member schools. Member schools may enact regulations which are more stringent than those of the League Constitution and By-Laws, but they cannot adopt any regulations which would be less stringent.

STUDENT SUBJECT TO ELIGIBILITY RULES – All students of the member schools are subject to the rules of eligibility for participation in athletic contests as stated in the Constitution and By-Laws, and are accountable to the governing body of the League for violations of the same.

## **Article V – Officers**

LEAGUE PRESIDENT – There shall be a President elected by the Principals of all the schools to serve as the main officer for the League. In the absence of the President, Pro-tem Chairman shall be elected.

TERMS OF THE PRESIDENT – The term of the President shall be two years, renewable at the end of the first term, for one additional year.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT – The election of the President will be held at the end of his/her term at the last meeting of the school year, and the newly elected President will take office at the end of that meeting.

SECRETARY – The school that hosts the Principals Council Meeting shall provide a person to act as secretary for the meeting. This person is to take notes of the actions of the meeting, and prepare and distribute copies of the minutes of the meeting to all member schools.

LEAGUE COMMISSIONER – A Commissioner shall be appointed by the Council to execute the rulings and procedures of the League and to administer the League according to its Constitution and By-Laws. Refer to the General By-Laws, Article I, for the responsibilities of the Commissioner.

DELEGATES TO THE BOARD OF MANAGERS – The President (or his/her delegate), and two delegates chosen by the Principals' Council shall serve as delegates to the CCS Board of Managers. The Commissioner shall substitute for any delegate who cannot attend a CCS Board of Managers meeting.

## **Article VI – Meetings**

Meetings of the Principals' Council shall take place five (5) times a year, in September, November, January, April and either May or June. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the President.

At its meetings, the Principals' Council shall:

1. Organize by electing its officers and appointing a Commissioner.
2. Receive reports from committees.
3. Review the minutes of the Athletic Directors' Council and act upon their proposals and recommendations.
4. Consider new policies, procedures, new business and such other matters as may seem necessary.

## **Article VII – League Membership**

JOINING THE LEAGUE – Any Catholic high school in the Archdiocese of San Francisco or the Diocese of San Jose desiring membership in this League shall submit a written request for membership one (1) year in advance of anticipated entry. The President of the Council shall present such a request at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Council. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the Council is needed for approval of the membership request.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE LEAGUE – Any member school wishing to withdraw from the League shall submit such a request in writing one (1) year in advance of anticipated withdrawal. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the Council is needed for approval of the withdrawal request.

## **Article VIII – Athletic Directors’ Council**

PURPOSE – The Athletic Directors’ Council, composed of the Athletic Directors of all member schools, shall be the advisory body of the League.

FUNCTION – The function of the Athletic Directors’ Council shall be to present to the Principals’ Council recommendations and proposals regarding League rulings, procedures, policies, schedules and all other matters which are deemed necessary. A Chairman shall direct this Council and the office shall be reviewed at the end of a three (3) year term. Refer to the General By-Laws, Article I, for further details.

MEETINGS – The Athletic Directors’ Council shall meet at least six (6) times a year, and five (5) of these meetings must be held before the scheduled meetings of the Principals’ Council. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman. Refer to the General By-Laws, Article I, for further details.

ONE VOTE PER SCHOOL – Each school shall have one (1) vote and any proposal or recommendation shall pass by simple majority.

## **Article IX – Protests and Eligibility**

DIRECT PROTESTS AND ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS TO THE LEAGUE COMMISSIONER – All protests and questions of eligibility shall be directed and sent to the League Commissioner. He/she will process all protests and questions of eligibility and will be responsible for rendering the final decision in accordance with the following procedure:

1. All ordinary and routine protests and questions of eligibility shall be decided by the Commissioner.
2. The more serious protests and questions of eligibility shall be presented by the Commissioner to the Principals’ Council, and, if deemed necessary by the Council, a committee will review the protest and/or the eligibility matter. In any protest or eligibility case where it is deemed necessary to form a committee, the Commissioner shall be the chairman, and no member may be from a school which is involved in the protest or eligibility case. The committee members must be Principals or their delegates. The final decision in any protest or eligibility case shall be sent in writing to the Principals of the schools involved. If any appeal to the Central Coast Section or to the California Interscholastic Federation office is to be made, it shall be made only by the League Commissioner.

## **Article X – Assessments**

The expenses of the League shall be met by an assessment levied upon each member school at the beginning of each school year. If additional funds are needed, the Principals’ Council shall be authorized to levy an extra assessment upon the member schools.

## **Article XI – Amendments**

A. The Constitution of this League may be amended at any regular meeting of the Principals’ Council by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided notice of such amendment shall have been received by all members two weeks in advance. Such amendments shall not be in effect for a period of thirty (30 ) days after such a passage, except by unanimous consent of a quorum present and voting.