Commission on Athletics

Water Polo Guide

July 2007

WATER POLO

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POSTCONFERENCE COMPETITION

All rules and regulations set forth in this guide are subject to review and modification by the Commission on Athletics (COA).

1. MEN'S & WOMEN'S WATER POLO

1.1. CONFERENCE COMPETITION AND REPRESENTATION (See COA Bylaw 3.11.)

A. Men

1. Northern California—There are two (2) water polo conferences. They are designated as the Big Eight and Coast conferences. 4/5/07
2. Southern California—There are four (4) water polo conferences. They are the Orange Empire, Pacific Coast, South Coast, and Western State conferences.

B. Women

1. Northern California—There are two (2) water polo conferences. They are designated as the Big Eight and Coast conferences. 4/5/07
2. Southern California—There are four (4) water polo conferences. They are the South Coast, Orange Empire, Pacific Coast, and Western State conferences.

2. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR POSTCONFERENCE COMPETITION

2.1. PLAYING RULES (SEE COA BYLAW 4.)

A. Current NCAA water polo rules will govern play. California community college water polo and conference rules will also apply.

B. Mikasa shall be the official game ball of the tournaments. Men will use the 6000 ball while women will use the 6009 ball.

C. Safety precautions—Games may not start if an unsafe situation exists, e.g. lightning, water temperature, water chlorination. Games which have started must be suspended and players take cover if an unsafe situation exists. If the conditions are not safe after one-half hour, the game must be rescheduled at a mutually agreeable date. If a game is suspended, the coaches may mutually agree to consider the game a completed contest. If either coach disagrees, the game will be continued as soon as possible from the point of stoppage.

2.2. OFFICIALS

A. Officials Committee—There shall be regional and state officials committees.

1. The northern regional officials committee shall be made up of one (1) postconference coach from each of the two (2) conferences. 4/5/07
2. The southern regional officials committee shall be made up of one (1) representative from each of the previous year's conference championship teams.

B. Regional Competition (See COA Bylaws 6.8.4 and 6.8.5.)

1. Selection of the officials pool for regional PC shall be made by the north and south coaches committee with input by the coaches association. The lists shall then be forwarded to the officials assignor and the event manager.

2. The Southern California Water Polo Coaches Association shall evaluate all Southern California community college tournaments up to and including the conference championships. The event manager will distribute a standardized form to the participating coaches. At the conclusion of the tournament, the forms will be forwarded to the Coaches Association President for processing. Top-rated officials from these tournaments will be the pool from which the Regional Officials Committee will select officials for PC. Each of the two (2) officials' associations must have representation. Officials selected must have worked a minimum of eight (8) contests or two (2) tournaments during the community college season in order to be considered. Each of the two (2) officials associations must have representation, and at least one (1) official must be selected from each officials association in California.
3. The state tournament officials will be assigned based on recommendations from the Coaches Association.

C. State PC

There shall be three (3) officials from the north and three (3) officials from the south at each state championship. The officials will be assigned to the men's and/or women's games as determined by the body of officials, the senior official, and the officials committee.

D. State PC officials fees will be the same as current regular game fees based on the highest Southern California pay scale. Each official will receive a flat stipend, not to exceed $100.00 per day of the state championship for travel, lodging, and meals. The stipend will be included in the officials' pay following the state championship. 4/5/07

2.3. Sites

A. Regional PC

The sites for regional PC shall be rotated among member conferences located in each region and within the member colleges of each conference. Pools for these sites must furnish a minimum course width of 20 yards and be 25 meters in length from goal face to goal face and a minimum depth of 6.5 feet.

B. State PC

The site shall be alternated between northern and southern regions and shall be established two (2) years in advance. Pools for these sites must furnish a minimum course of 20 yards in width and be 25 meters in length from goal face to goal face and a minimum depth of 6.5 feet.

2.4. Awards (See COA Bylaw 7.2)

There may be an all-state tournament team made up of seven (7) players plus the MVP. The all-state tournament team and MVP awards shall be paid for by non-tournament funds.

2.5. Finances (See COA Bylaws 6.8, 6.14, 6.15, and 8.1.)

A. Ticket Information 5/4/07

1. The price of admission shall be a minimum of:
   a. $20.00–Tournament Pass, or
   b. $8.00–All seats except,
   c. $5.00–All identified students, faculty, staff, senior citizens, and children under 12 years of age.
2. Passes 5/4/07
   a. Current State CCCWPCA Membership and COA Lifetime Passes shall be honored for entry.

b. Conference Commissioner and COA ID cards shall be honored for entry.

c. Regular press passes shall be honored according to host college policies.

d. There shall be no other passes honored. Regional games are a part of the state playoff system. No student, parent, conference, or any other passes shall be accepted for this game. It is important that this notice be publicized prior to your game. We must defray game expenses.

G. Concessions and Program Sales (See COA Bylaw 6.8.17.)

2.6. Press Information

A. Seating for media representatives will be provided at poolside for accredited news media only.

B. Official statistics will be distributed to the press at half-time and following each game.

C. Phones will be available in the pool area for the exclusive use of the press on a collect or credit card basis only. Media representatives shall arrange for their own poolside telephones.

D. Agencies wishing to sponsor television or radio broadcasts of games shall make arrangements with the event manager. There may be a cost for these productions. The COA Executive Director shall establish such costs.

Radio broadcasting facilities will be available at poolside. To broadcast, stations must request credentials, as per the above, and make their own arrangements for installation of lines from the telephone company.

E. A press room facility shall be available during the tournament under the direction of the event manager.

F. There shall be a designated interview area for the use of media and coaches during the tournament.

2.7. Coaches Association

A. The president and executive board shall be selected to serve a three (3)-year term. The seven (7) officers and their duties are as follows. The president shall request agenda items, conduct annual business meeting, communicate to Association members important state issues in a timely manner, attend COA conventions and meetings as needed, secure designee at meetings if unable to attend, and actively pursue the welfare of water polo. The state vice presidents shall perform the above mentioned duties in their respective region and serve the president as requested. A men's representative and a women's representative shall support the regional presidents by communicating current and future interests specific to the gender they represent. The treasurer shall keep all financial records, collect Association dues, disburse funds as needed, and provide an annual budget to the Association. The secretary shall take business meeting minutes and provide minutes to the Association members in a timely manner. The past president shall provide information, contacts, and expertise to the current board as requested. At the end of the three (3)-year term the current vice president will become president and a new vice president will be selected from the region of the past president. The positions of the two (2) representatives, treasurer, and secretary are available for new officers if so desired. There is no limit to successive terms for these officers. Should any officer become unable to complete the term the executive board shall appoint or accept a volunteer to complete that officer's term. 4/5/07

B. The state event manager shall schedule a general coaches meeting at the state tournament and notify all coaches of the date, time, and location of the meeting. The purpose of this meeting will be to:

1. Prepare recommendations to be submitted to the COA.

2. Consider other items relating to the welfare of the water polo programs within the California community colleges.

C. Coaches association dues of $35.00 per team per year will be assessed. Membership must be current to vote. 4/5/07

3. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PC

3.1. On-Site Host Administrators for Postconference Events (See COA Bylaw 6.12.)

3.2. On-Site Protest Committees for Postconference Events (See COA Bylaw 6.13.)

3.3. Financial Considerations (See COA Bylaws 6.8, 6.14, 6.14, and 8.1.)

4 REGIONAL PC FORMAT

4.1. Date (See COA Bylaw 3.11)

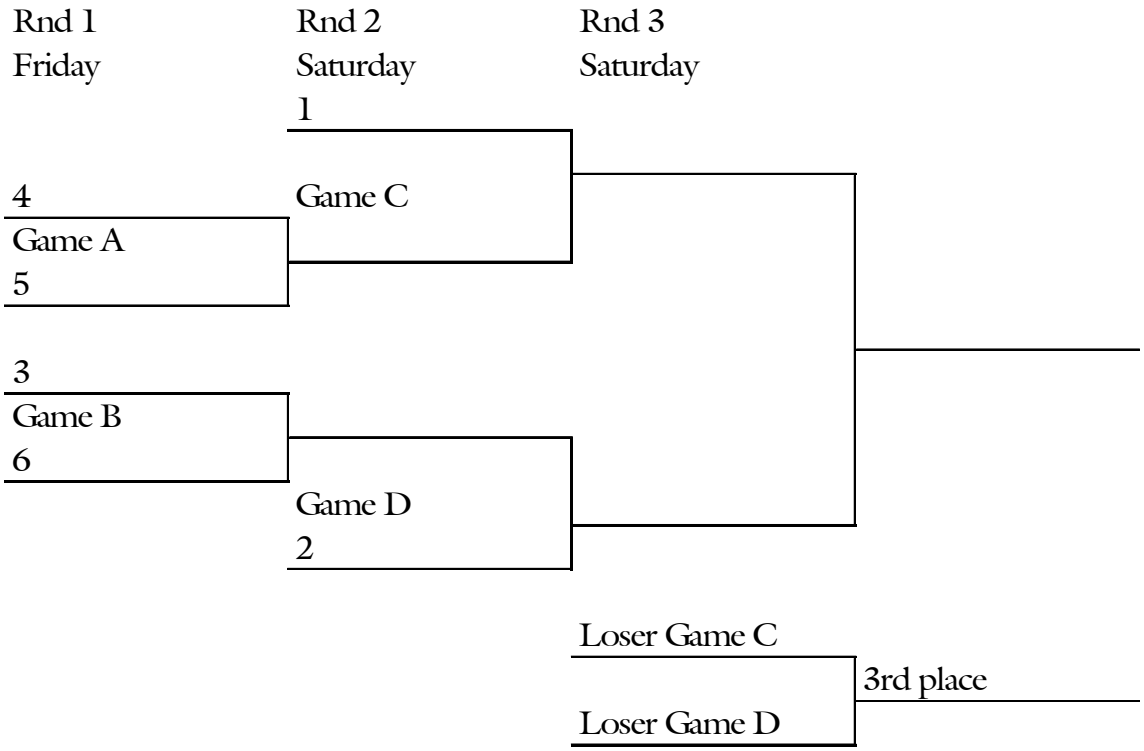
4.2. Qualifiers and Seeding

Seeding of teams to regional PC shall be completed as listed in this section. As a first order of business, each conference shall present its conference teams in rank order. The rank order shall be noted and kept by the meeting chair. Conference seeding representatives shall follow their conference's team placement. The seeding committee shall not in any way change the rankings of colleges as specified by the conference. All games played (regulation and pool play) including no contests or forfeitures, both resulting in 5-0 scores, shall be used in the seeding and challenge formula to seed regional tournaments. (see Section 1.4.2.C)

A. Northern Regional Qualifying

1. The Men's Northern California Water Polo Committee shall be comprised of one representative from each conference. The champion from each conference will automatically qualify. Other teams bidding to qualify for the four (4) at-large spots must present their records to the Men's Northern California Water Polo Committee at the selection meeting to be held one (1) week prior to the tournament.
2. After the entries have been selected, the committee will then seed the men's teams according to strength for the tournament. The seeding formula (see Section 1.4.2.C) will be used for selecting the four (4) at-large teams and seeding the tournament.
3. The Women's Northern California Water Polo Committee shall be comprised of one (1) representative from each conference. The champion from each conference will automatically qualify. Other teams bidding to qualify for the four (4) at-large spots must present their records to the Women's Northern California Water Polo Committee at the selection meeting to be held one (1) week prior to the tournament. 4/5/07
4. After the entries have been selected, the Committee will then seed the women's teams according to strength for the tournament. The seeding formula (see 4.2.C) will be used for selecting the four (4) at-large women's teams and seeding the tournament. 4/5/07

Men & Women's Northern California Water Polo Regional



B. Southern Regional Qualifying

1. The men's and women's southern regional shall be a 10-team, single-elimination tournament through two (2) rounds. The four (4) remaining teams will playoff for first through third for seeding to the state championship.

2. The conference champion from each conference (South Coast, Orange Empire, Pacific Coast, and Western State) shall receive an automatic bid to the Southern California Regional Water Polo Tournament. The next best six (6) at-large teams will comprise a total of ten (10) teams. The selection committee, which shall be comprised of coaches of the first- and second-place teams from each conference, shall seed the ten (10) qualifying teams. The meeting will be held at the college that is hosting the Southern California Regional Water Polo Tournament. Teams bidding to qualify for the six (6) at-large spots must present their written records in person or by proxy at the Men's and Women's Selection Committee meeting.

3. Each conference shall designate its top-ranked team in case of a co-championship, and each conference shall designate its champion.

4. After the entries have been selected, the committee will then seed the teams according to strength for the tournament. The seeding formula (see Section 4.2.D) will be used for selecting and seeding the tournament. Teams partaking in this seeding process must present their written records in person or by proxy at this Men's and Women's Selection Committee meeting.

C. Seeding and Challenge Formula for the Northern California Regional Tournament

1. Fifty ((50) percent for head-to-head competition. A score of up to plus or minus five (5) points will be counted for the winning team and for the losing team. This shall be for the number of times the teams have met.

Example:

Cuesta 11, Modesto 10 = Cuesta +1, Modesto -1
Cuesta 12, Modesto 9 = Cuesta +3, Modesto -3
Cuesta 8, Modesto 10 = Cuesta -2, Modesto +2
Cuesta +2, Modesto -2

2. Fifty (50) percent for all games played with common opponents of up to plus or minus five (5) points which shall be used for determining goal difference between all common opponents.

Example:

Cuesta 10 Ventura 8 (+2)
Cuesta 8 Orange Coast 11 (-3)
Cuesta 15 West Valley 3 (+5 max.)
Cuesta +4

Modesto 9 Ventura 7 (+2)
Modesto 10 Orange Coast 11 (-1)
Modesto 7 West Valley 3 (+4)
Modesto +5

= Cuesta +4, Modesto +5

3. If common opponents have met more than one (1) time, then add point totals and divide by number of games played.

Example:

Cuesta 5, Long Beach 10 (-5)
Cuesta 6, Long Beach 5 (+1)
Cuesta 7, Long Beach 9 (-2)
Cuesta (-6) ÷ 3 games = (-2)

Modesto 5, Long Beach 10 (-5)
Modesto 10, Long Beach 6 (+4)
Modesto (-1) ÷ 2 games = (-½)

4. Total points from head-to-head and common opponents (coop).

Example:

Cuesta	Modesto
+2 (head-to-head)	-2 (head-to-head)
+4 (copp)	+5 (coop)
-2 (c-opp)	-½ (coop)
+4 Total	**-2 ½ Total**

5. Cuesta seeded ahead of Modesto.
6. Conference finish supersedes formula. No team can be seeded ahead of a team which finished ahead of them in the conference.
7. Only community college competition shall be used when applying the formula.

D. Seeding and Challenge Formula for the Southern California Regional Tournament

1. Fifty (50) percent for head-to-head competition. A score of up to plus or minus three (3) points will be counted for the winning team and for the losing team. This shall be for the number of times the teams have met.

   Example:

   Cuesta 11, Modesto 10 =
   Cuesta +1, Modesto -1
   Cuesta 12, Modesto 9 =
   Cuesta +3, Modesto -3
   Cuesta 8, Modesto 10 =
   Cuesta -2, Modesto +2
   Cuesta +2, Modesto -2

2. Fifty (50) percent for all games played with common opponents of up to plus or minus three (3) points which shall be used for determining goal difference between all common opponents. The total goal difference is to be divided by the number of games involved.

   Example:

   Cuesta 8, Golden West 6 (+2)
   Cuesta 10, Ventura 8 (+2)
   Cuesta 8, Orange Coast 11 (-3)
   Cuesta 15, West Valley 3 (+3)
   Modesto 6, Golden West 9 (-3 max.)

   Modesto 9, Ventura 7 (+2)
   Modesto 10, Orange Coast 11 (-1)
   Modesto 7, West Valley 3 (+3)
   Cuesta +4, Modesto +1

3. If common opponents have met more than one (1) time, then add point totals and divide by number of games played.

   Example:

   Cuesta 5, Long Beach 10 (-5)
   Cuesta 6, Long Beach 5 (+1)
   Cuesta 7, Long Beach 9 (-2)
   Cuesta (-6) ÷ 3 games = (-2)

Modesto 5, Long Beach 10 (-5)
Modesto 10, Long Beach 6 (+4)
Modesto (-1) ÷ 2 games = (-½)

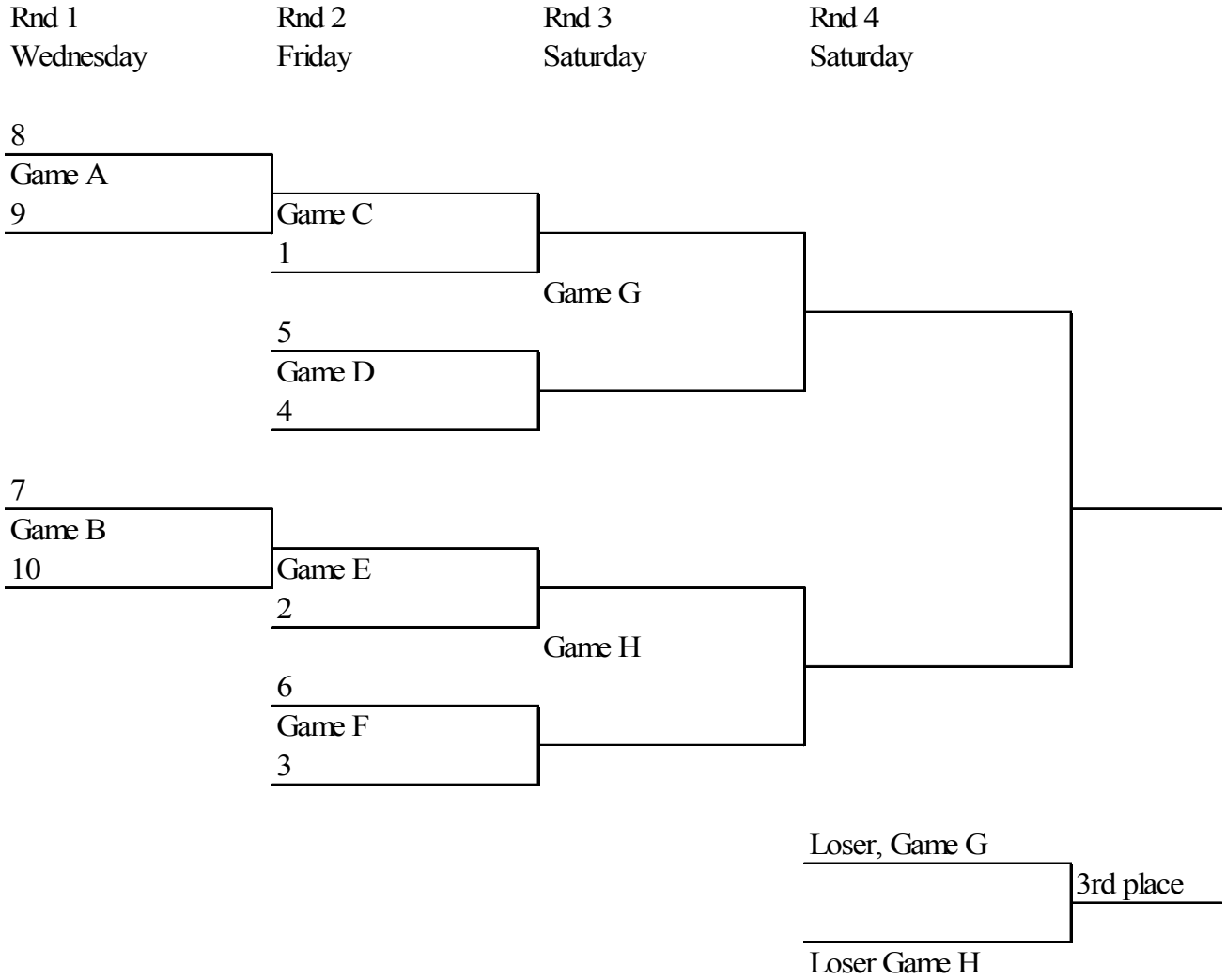
4. Total points from head-to-head and common opponents (coop).

   Example:

Cuesta	Modesto
+2 (head-to-head)	-2 (head-to-head)
+4 (coop)	+1 (coop)
-2 (coop)	-½ (coop)
+4 Total	**-1½ Total**

5. Cuesta seeded ahead of Modesto.
6. Conference finish supersedes formula. No team can be seeded ahead of a team which finished ahead of them in the conference.
7. Only community college competition shall be used when applying the formula.

Men & Women's Southern California Water Polo Regional



5. STATE PC FORMAT

5.1. DATE (SEE COA BYLAW 3.11)

5.2. QUALIFIERS

A. The top three (3) men's teams from the north and the top three (3) men's teams from the south shall advance to the state tournament.

The teams' finishing place in regional PC shall determine their seeding for the state tournament.

B. The top three (3) women's teams from the north and the top three (3) women's teams from the south shall advance to the state tournament.

5.3 GAME TIME SCHEDULE 4/7/06 4/5/06

ALTERNATE MEN AND WOMEN ORDER BY YEARS:
EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS WOMEN FIRST,
ODD-NUMBERED YEARS MEN FIRST.

Pools: A = South 1, North 2, North 3
B = North 1, South 2, South 3

Friday—Game Schedule:

8:00am	A1 vs A3
9:20am	B1 vs B3
12:00pm	A2 vs A3
1:20pm	B2 vs B3
4:00pm	A1 vs A2
5:20pm	B1 vs B2

Warm Up Schedule (Opposite Gender):

9:45-10:15am	S2 & S3 swim area
10:15-10:45am	S2 & S3 polo area
10:15-10:45am	S1 swim area
10:45-11:15am	S1 polo area
1:45-2:15pm	N2 & N3 swim area
2:15-2:45pm	N2 & N3 polo area
2:15-2:45pm	N1 swim area
2:45-3:15pm	N1 polo area

Saturday—Game Schedule:

8:00am	A1 vs A3
9:20am	B1 vs B3
12:00pm	A2 vs A3
1:20pm	B2 vs B3
4:00pm	A1 vs A2
5:20pm	B1 vs B2

Warm Up Schedule (Opposite Gender):

10:00-10:30am	1st & 2nd A swim area
10:30-11:00am	1st & 2nd A polo area
2:00-2:30pm	1st & 2nd B swim area
2:30-3:00pm	1st & 2nd B polo area

Sunday—Game Schedule: No Warm Up Needed

10:30AM	2ND A vs 2ND B — 3RD-PLACE
11:45AM	2ND A vs 2ND B — 3RD-PLACE
1:00PM	1ST A vs 1ST B — CHAMPION
2:15PM	1ST A vs 1ST B — CHAMPION

Note: Method of advancement according to NCAA Water Polo Rules "Tournament Advancement" Appendix C.1, 2, and 3. Host venue must have adequate lighting for evening games.

6. PC EVENT MANAGER

A. The PC event manager shall be the president of the CCCWPCA or his designee and shall administer the details of the tournament. He shall receive a stipend for his work. The COA water polo representative and the COA Executive Director shall establish the amount of the director's stipend.

B. The event manager shall:

1. Using the appropriate forms available at www.coasports.org, submit a proposed budget form by September 15 and a final financial statement by December 15 of each year. The proposed budget shall be presented to the COA water polo representative and the COA Executive Director for review and approval. Souvenir program and concession expense and profit shall not be included in the budget preparation (see 1.2.5G).

2. Be responsible for communicating with participating colleges, officials, and any other people involved in the details of tournament administration, including:

   a. Assignment and supervision of ticket sellers and takers.

   b. Assignment and supervision of building and parking lot security.

   c. Procurement and administration of warm-up and game equipment.

   d. Preparation of awards and their presentation.

   e. Preparation of a tournament program.

   f. Securing a three (3)-person protest committee made up of the CCCWPCA president, or designee, and two (2) members at-large. The members of the protest committee will also serve as the PC officials committee. 4/5/07

3. Procure a tournament headquarters hotel that is geographically located to provide ease of transportation to the tournament site and will offer the lowest possible room cost for tournament participants.

4. The development and administration of a hospitality room for the press and coaches including door supervision.

5. Be responsible for an ongoing update of tournament statistical records.

6. Be responsible for reviewing and evaluating the tournament.

Excerpted from the COA Constitution and Bylaws, Bylaw 4:

4.3 Decorum

4.3.1 Decorum at California community college events is the responsibility of all participants. For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

A PARTICIPANT — is a player, coach, team member, team attendant, official, or college staff member.

B. DISQUALIFICATION — is removal from an event for an accumulation of personal or technical fouls, yellow cards, etc. and is not under the jurisdiction of this policy, but are covered by the rules of the sport.

C. EJECTION — is defined as the immediate removal from further participation in an event as a result of abusive, verbal or physical behavior.

1. First Offense: In addition to immediate ejection from the contest, the individual shall be suspended from the following contest. Each ejection shall be reviewed by the conference commissioner to determine if the ejection is a "strike" and covered by this policy.

2. All ejections shall be treated as first offenses unless a previous "strike" has been declared by the conference commissioner.

3. Second "strike" (same Individual): In addition to immediate ejection from the contest, the individual shall be suspended from all remaining contests including PC.
4. Determination of whether or not an ejection is a "strike" may only be appealed to the conference appeals board. A decision by the conference appeals board is final.

D. VERBAL OR ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR — is defined as, but not limited to: unsportsmanlike tactics, such as using profanity or vulgarity, taunting, spitting on an opponent, ridiculing, pointing a finger, making obscene gestures, throwing gang signs, baiting of opponents, or inciting undesirable crowd reactions which results in ejection.

E. PHYSICAL ABUSE — is defined as any physical act that results in ejection.

F. EVENT — is defined as the time a visiting team or participant arrives at the site until the time the visiting team or participant leaves the site.

G. FOR WATER POLO: Game disqualification — The official may issue a participant a disqualification which results in disqualification from that contest for overaggressive play or actions that are unacceptable within the spirit of the rules and are likely to bring the game into disrepute. All applications of the rule per the NCAA Rule Book.

(Adopted: April 6, 2007; Effective: July 1, 2007)

4.3.2 Where official playing rules and COA decorum rules differ, the most stringent rules shall be enforced.

4.4 Punishment for Physically Assaulting Officials

Physically assaulting or attempting to physically assault an official shall result in immediate ejection and the individual shall be disqualified from participation in California community college athletic activities for a period of sixty (60) months.

4.5 Punishment for Leaving Bench Area

Coaches or participants entering the field of play from the bench area in reaction to a confrontation shall be ejected and punished as outlined in Bylaw 4.3. If, in the opinion of the officials, a coach going onto the field of play was helpful to the officials in the effort to control players, the penalty against the coach may be waived.

4.6 Punishment for Violation of the Tobacco and Substance Abuse Policy

4.6.1 The use or possession of any form of tobacco, alcohol, or other controlled substances by any participant during California community college-sponsored athletic activity shall be punished by ejection.

4.6.2 Ejection for violation of Bylaw 4.6 shall be the same as those outlined in Bylaw 4.5.

4.7 Reporting of Ejections

4.7.1 Within 24 hours after a contest where there has been an ejection of a player or a participant, the coach of the team shall report the names and circumstances to the athletic director who, in turn, shall immediately inform the conference commissioner. Failure by a coach to report shall be penalized the same as in Bylaw 4.3 and 4.4. Failure of an athletic director to report may be referred to the conference commissioner for disciplinary action. Conference commissioners shall cause the report of ejections to be sent to the next team on the college's schedule.

4.7.2 Coaches or team attendants penalized by any of the above rules are prohibited from participation during a game only, not from carrying out assigned non--game responsibilities.

4.7.3 Each person participating in a California community college athletic event shall receive a copy of this decorum policy and provide a written acknowledgment of understanding.

Sports Information:

If your college does not have a sports information professional to assist you, the California Community College Sports Information Association (CCCSIA) has compiled the following to help you better serve your student athletes.

Prior to the start of each season, each coach should provide a *complete* roster (in column order: Number, Name, [first, then last], Position, Height, Weight, Year of Eligibility, Hometown, High School) to his/her college's sports information office or whoever handles sports information functions (public information, athletic secretary, athletic director, etc.), his/her sport's state statistician and the COA office. Updates should be sent as necessary.

The coach and his or her staff should also know who the local media are and have a directory (phone and fax numbers) of those media outlets. Results of each contest should be reported to the local media regardless of the outcome (win, lose, tie, rainout postponement). The coach is responsible for making sure adequate statistics are being kept on each contest and that a copy of those statistics can be provided to members of the media following each contest. Members of the California Community College Sports Information Association (CCCSIA) have adopted the NCAA standards for statistical reporting.

Coaches should also be willing to serve as ambassadors for their colleges and for the good of the entire community college athletic scene, working closely with their own sports information director, the opponent's sports information director, and the media covering the contest.

The CCCSIA was created in part to help provide direction in the practice of sports information. For other information on sports information responsibilities, questions on various functions of the sports information professionals, or training and instructions for individuals who will be handling sports information responsibilities, please contact a member of the CCCSIA Executive Board.

CCCSIA Executive Board:

President	Pete Schuler pschuler@cuesta.edu	Cuesta College	Phone: 805.546.3211
President Elect	Jerry Hannula jhannula@saddleback.edu	Saddleback College	Phone: 949.582.4490
Past President	Fred Baer Frdbaer@aol.com	JC Athletic Bureau	Phone: 650.345.4114
Secretary/Treasurer	Robert Lewis rmlewis@pasadena.edu	Pasadena City College	Phone: 626.585.7018
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