



What Are High School Sports All About?



High school sports are a privilege unique to American education. Unique in what it does for our schools, our student-athletes and our communities. Only in America is this after-school activity so tightly entwined with, but yet secondary to, a school's mission – educating our young students to become productive members of society; tomorrow's leaders.

High school athletics prepares young people for the next level of life – not the next level of competition. High school sports are a unique and positive force in the lives of our student-athletes and their communities. The opportunities to play organized athletics beyond high school come to only a select few. Fewer than one in a hundred participants earn college athletic scholarships. High school sports are defined by the experiences of thousands of youngsters – the day-to-day student-athletes. It



is not unusual to have half of a high school student population involved in high school athletics. Many more students, along with parents, teachers and communities attend the hundreds of competitions organized by their school, their league, the North Coast Section, and the California Interscholastic Federation. After-school activities are available to those enrolled at the school and who meet established eligibility standards.

Positive experiences include:

- Tools to help reach and motivate students, aiding classroom performance and rallying community support for school programs in general.
- Games that are conducted in an environment requiring the proper atmosphere – good sportsmanship – at all times.
- Teaching loyalty to school, community and team over self.
- Promoting the ideals of school spirit, teamwork, hard work, discipline, personal sacrifice, leadership and sportsmanship. Helping participants gain a lifetime appreciation for sports and healthy lifestyles.
- Achieving these objectives at the varsity and sub-varsity levels.
- Emphasizing participation and academic achievement in the classroom for the many, not college athletic scholarships for so very few.
- Programs where local school administrators make decisions in the best interests of all participants, not the narrow interests of individual parents and non-school groups. Programs emphasizing local competition, not statewide and national events. As with all programs with value, there are important questions to consider:



Who?

We're educational athletics – not big time event promoters.

What?

We're the builders of tomorrow's community leaders – not farm clubs for college and professional sports.

When?

Our organized activities and competitions are held during the regular school year based on a calendar developed by member schools.

Where?

The majority of our contests are held in our backyards using the school facilities. There is plenty of healthy competition where student-athletes can learn and grow through athletics in our local area.

Why?

Because it's the right way to do it. Schools offer these programs because they enhance the educational experience of the youngsters who participate.

High school educational athletics is one of the most exciting experiences of a young person's life, the privilege of representing their school and community through participation in high school sports.



Would you like to get in the game? Join our team and support high school educational athletics.



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Serving member schools since 1914