

BOYS & GIRLS WATER POLO BY-LAWS

1. OFFICIAL RULES

- A. The National Federation of State School Association Rules for Boys and Girls Competition shall be followed.

2. STARTING DATE AND PRACTICE

- A. Organized practice shall not begin prior to the starting date assigned to all teams by the Central Coast Section (CCS).
- B. Organized practice shall be defined as a practice which is attended by the coach and players at which the coach directs, instructs and drills the player, players and/or the team.
- C. Days of the week that practice may be held will follow the C.I.F. rules and the general by-laws of the Blossom Valley Athletic League. Saturday practices are allowed. (11/28/07)

3. OFFICIAL COMPETITION

- A. Official competition shall be conducted in the Varsity and Junior Varsity classifications for girls and Varsity and Junior Varsity for boys. (11/17/06)
- B. No seniors will be allowed on the Junior Varsity team.
- C. Once a player moves up to the Varsity in any league game, they must remain at the varsity level for the rest of the season. (12/04/08)

3 C.1 Tournament Play

A player may move up from F/S/JV to Varsity to play in a Varsity tournament and return to lower level play, regardless of when league play begins. However, a varsity player may never play on a F/S or JV team including tournaments. (12/04/08)

- D. All teams will follow the C.I.F. rules and the general by-laws of the Blossom Valley Athletic League.
- E. Any player who receives any subsequent misconduct conduct ejection in a season shall be excluded from participating in the next three (3) regularly-scheduled matches.
 - E.1 Any player who receives his/her second brutality ejection of the season, shall be excluded from participating in the remainder of that sport season, through the conclusion of all C.C.S play.

E.2 A Any player ejected from any CC Play-off contest because of flagrant misconduct or unsportsmanlike behavior shall be excluded from participating in the remainder of the playoff contests in that sport during that season and his/her team shall be subject to further sanctions, as deemed appropriate by the C.C.S Commissioner. If the C.C.S Playoff contest from which the player was ejected is the last contest of the year for that team, the disqualified player shall also be ineligible for at least his/her team's first (1st) regularly scheduled league contest the following year. Official (s) ejecting the player will automatically be required to submit a written report to the C.C.S Commissioner.

E.3. Any school principal may appeal the disqualification to the C.C.S Commissioner if they believe that the student was ejected due to an error in identification or does not believe as a result of flagrant misconduct or unsportsmanlike behavior. The C.C.S Commissioner, in conjunction with the League Commissioner for that school, shall review the case and make a final determination. (12/1/05)

- F. A player may move up from F/S or JV to Varsity for tournament play and return to lower level play, regardless of when league play starts. (5/27/04)
- G. Players changing at a competitive venue should do so in the designated areas. First offense is a warning; second offense is a minor game misconduct. (11/20/07)

4. MEET LIMITATIONS

- A. No team or player, Varsity or Junior Varsity shall exceed 24 contests and 3 scrimmages per season prior to the league championships. (scrimmages per CCS by-laws) 11/20/07

4.A.1 scrimmage is defined as a practice or athletic exhibition wherein teams from different schools participate and compete without the benefit of officials and without regard to score and /or time period.

4.A.2. Each team is allowed by C.C.S three scrimmages that do not count against it's 24 game limit. After using those scrimmages, all additional scrimmages shall count as a game and shall be included in a team's game limit. (11/20/07)

- B. Tournament play: The game count in each tournament will follow the guidelines established by the C.C.S by-laws.

5. DUAL MEET REGULATIONS

- A. The Varsity will play 7 minute quarters and the girls' JV & boys' JV will play 5 minute quarters. (11/17/06)
- B. The recommended game ball is any regulation size ball that is recommended by the National Federation.

- C. CAPS: There will be no forfeit of games for the improper color of caps without prior approval of the BVAL Executive Board.

6. SCHEDULE

- A. A round robin schedule will be played by both the Varsity and Junior Varsity teams. (5/26/05)

7. VARSITY LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

League championship shall be determined by a point system as follows:

- A. Points for round robin competition wins.

1. One (1) point for each round robin win in both the MH & ST divisions. 11/17/06

- B. League champion shall be determined by results from the round robin play and the results of the league tournament. (11/17/06)

B.1. Points for league playoff wins. Points will be adjusted by the number of teams in the league.

B.1.2. Six	(6) points for first place
Five	(5) points for second place
Four	(4) points for third place
Three	(3) points for fourth place
Two	(2) points for fifth place
One	(1) point for sixth place (11/17/06)

B1.3. If there is a tie the team placing highest in the league tournament will be the league champion. (11/17/06)

8. JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS-JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

League championship shall be determined by the results of the dual meet season. (11/06)

9. C.C.S. LEAGUE PLACEMENT

A. The order of placement for at-large openings for C.C.S. post-season tournament shall be based on the point system established by the C.C.S.

10. AWARDS

- A. Championship certificates shall be given to each member of the championship team at both the Varsity and Junior Varsity levels provided four (4) schools or more participated. (12/1/05)

- B. There will be nine(9) first-team and nine (9) second-team All League Awards for both the Varsity, Junior Varsity levels. In addition, the Varsity will receive five (5) special recognition awards: MVP, SR. , JR., Soph, Freshman of the year and coach of the year.

1. All coaches will vote on the 5 special awards and the 9 places for 1st team.(11/17/06)
2. Second team will be placed as follows:

	First Team	Second Team
1st Place	3	2
2nd Place	2	2
3rd Place	2	2
4th Place	1	1
5th Place	1	1
6th Place	0	1

(11/17/06)

11. VARSITY PLAYOFFS

- A. The playoffs shall be organized by the Water Polo Chairman under the supervision of the Commissioner. A budget will be submitted to the Commissioner one month prior to League Finals for approval.
- B. The playoffs shall normally be scheduled one week after the last regular season game.
- C. There will be a single elimination BVAL finals tournament. The following teams will participate. Mt. Hamilton division 1-6 and Santa Teresa division 1 and 2 as established by the round robin results.

The seeding will be a true seed: #1 MH vs #2 ST

#2 MH vs #1 ST

#3 MH vs #6 MH

#4 MH vs #5 MH

In the 1st round the winners will advance and game losers will be eliminated. In the semi finals the winner will advance to the championship game and the losers will playoff for third (3rd) and fourth (4th) to determine C.C.S. entry. (11/17/06)

*** If the STAL teams wins it's games in the MHAL tournament their place in the tournament does not count in point totals for the MHAL placing. Everyone in the MHAL would just move up into the place they finish. However, they have the ability to qualify for a C.C.S playoff spot. (11/17/06)

- D. Admission will be charged for League Finals - Please see constitution for fees. (4-99)

12. METHOD FOR BREAKING TIES IN ROUND ROBIN STANDINGS

- A. Mt. Hamilton and Santa Teresa seeding and tie-breakers:
- For seeding and in case of a tie the following tie breakers will occur:
 - Head to head
 - Point differential in games between tied teams
 - 5 • Goals given up in league competition.
 - In all tie cases the year-end tournaments higher placer will move on as the entry to the MH division tournament as the C.C.S qualifiers. (11/17/06)
- B. More than two teams tied for the same place:
The team with the best goal differential, among the tied teams, shall be the highest placed team. (see 12 A steps 1, 2, & 3) (12/2/04)

Revised 12/04/08