ARTICLE FOUR

SOCCER

4.1 STARTING DATE:

- **4.1-1** Practice for boys and girls, with no limitations, may begin on the day determined by the Section by-laws.
- **4.1-2** If the first day of practice falls on a Saturday or Sunday, practice may begin on Monday of the following week.

4.2 OFFICIAL RULES:

4.2-1 The official rulebook shall be the National Federation of High School Association rule book.

4.3 GAME BALL:

- **4.3-1** The game ball shall be any high-grade regulation ball.
- **4.3-2** During Section play, the game ball used will be the ball approved according to the Section by-laws.

4.4 CONTACTS:

- **4.4-1** The number of contacts allowed is twenty-eight (28).
- **4.4-2** Contacts will follow the Sac-Joaquin Section rule 1206-D.
- **4.4-3** Definition of a tournament and game count can be found in rule 1206 in the section by-laws.
- **4.4-4** League contacts will be ten (10). Each school will play each school two (2) times.

4.5 GAME TIMES:

- **4.5-1** Night games JV games will begin at 5:00 with the Varsity game to follow at 7:00.
- **4.5-2** Game time changes can be made by mutual agreement of both schools.

4.6 GAME RESULTS:

4.6-1 The home school shall be responsible to notify the media and the Athletic Director in charge of Soccer with the results for the Varsity and Junior Varsity games.

4.7 CHANGE IN CLASSIFICATION:

4.7-1 In league play, a player may move to a higher or lower classification throughout the season.

4.8 SCHEDULE AND ROSTER CHANGE:

- **4.8-1** The league's preseason meeting will occur the Monday before the first day of practice, as determined by the Section.
- **4.8-1a** All rosters and schedules will be posted on MaxPreps by the coach on or before the date specified by the league.

4.9 CHAMPIONSHIP:

- **4.9-1** The league championship will be awarded to the team who finishes the year with the most points. No champion will be recognized below the varsity level.
- **4.9-2** Teams are awarded points in the following manner:

Win = 3 points

Tie = 1 point

Loss = 0 points

4.10 PLAYOFFS:

- **4.10-1** The number of teams qualifying for participation in the playoff shall be determined by the section.
- **4.10-2** Soccer is the only sport that routinely allows ties in the game, which necessitates an addition to general rule 1.24. A tie will be broken using the following:
 - 1. Head-to-head competition
 - 2. Total league wins
 - 3. Descending head-to-head competition with the tie
 - 4. Coin Toss

4.11 ALL LEAGUE SELECTION:

- **4.11-1** The All-League meeting will occur the Monday after league play concludes, unless agreed upon by the league's coaches.
- **4.11-2** All League positions awarded will number fifteen (15) patches.
- **4.11-3** Schools will be awarded automatic positions on the All-League team for the first twelve (12) positions, in accordance with their finish in League competition. Each school will make their own determination as who will be placed on the All-League team.

FINISH SELECTION:

- 1st 4 positions
- 2nd 3 positions
- 3rd 2 positions
- 4th 1 position
- 5th 1 position
- 6th 1 position
- **4.11-4** Each school represented at the meeting by Varsity coach will have an opportunity to nominate players from his/her own team to fill the remaining three (3) positions. The team's final position will determine the number of nominations submitted. Explanations and statistics are expected.

FINISH NOMINATION:

- 1st 6 nominations
- 2nd 5 nominations
- 3rd 4 nominations
- 4th 3 nominations
- 5th 2 nominations
- 6th 1 nomination
- **4.11-5** A ballot will be taken to name the league MVP offensive and defensive players. Each school represented at the meeting by a Varsity coach will have an opportunity to nominate a player from his/her team previously selected to the All-League team. A school may not vote for its own candidate(s).
- **4.11-6** Coach of the year will be voted by all coaches.
- **4.11-7** All League selections shall be forwarded to the league commissioner by the AD in charge. All coaches are responsible to submit information to the media.
- **4.11-8** Honorable Mention selections will be determined by each individual school.
- **4.11-9** Patches will be given to the All-League Team. An award pennant will be given to the school which wins the league championship.

4.12 MISCELLANEOUS - ACTIVITY SPECIFIC:

- **4.12-1** When possible, team areas and fans shall be located on opposite sides of the fields.
- **4.12-2** Three (3) officials will be used for all Varsity games. If 2 officials are present, games may begin until the additional official arrives. At least two (2) officials may be used for JV games.
- **4.12-3** Game lengths for both Varsity and JV games will be two forty (40) minute halves.

- **4.12-4** If conditions are not playable, the home team is to notify the visiting team and officials.
- **4.12-5** Make-up games must be played within two (2) weeks of the regularly scheduled game.
- **4.12-6** League schedule must be completed by the date determined by the section.
- **4.12-7** If a player is red carded, the school's Athletic Director, is required to notify their next opponent and the Athletic Director in charge of soccer, of the player not ejection. The red card rule will also apply to coaches. Failure to sit a red-carded player will result in a forfeiture of the contest played. This also applies to the coach. A player or coach receiving a 2nd red card, anytime during the season, will sit out a 2-game suspension. It is important that the AD in charge of soccer be notified of all red card ejections.
- **4.12-8** Sportsmanship should be always displayed, from all players, coaches and fans/spectators.