

3219 PLAYOFF GROUPINGS – COMPETITIVE EQUITY

Fall Sports – Football, Girls Tennis, Girls Volleyball, Boys Water Polo

Winter Sports – Boys/Girls Basketball, Boys/Girls Soccer, Girls Water Polo

Spring Sports – Baseball, Softball, Boys Tennis, Boys Volleyball

3219.1 Individual schools will be evaluated and placed into divisions on a yearly basis for the sports listed above utilizing a formula which includes the following factors: regular season record, strength of schedule and Southern Section playoff performance over a two-year period. (For example in Baseball and Softball, the data from the 2015 and 2016 seasons will be used to formulate divisions for the 2017 season. After the 2017 season is concluded, the data from the 2015 season will be removed and the data from the 2016 and 2017 seasons will be used to formulate divisions for the 2018 season.) The formula will be applied to each school resulting in the creation of competitive equity power rankings for individual schools, using that school's competitive performance as the only criteria for establishing playoff divisions.

3219.2 Once individual school power rankings for each sport are completed, after the conclusion of each sport season, playoff divisions will be created. Playoff divisions will be published in the Sport Preview for each sport, along with an explanation of the formula utilized in creating playoff divisions for that sport.

3219.3 It is MANDATORY that all Southern Section member schools enter the results of ALL regular season contests and Southern Section playoff contests into the CIFSSHome system by the following dates:

- Fall Sports – December 15, 2015
- Winter Sports – March 15, 2016
- Spring Sports – June 15, 2016

3219.4 Member schools who fail to accurately enter full and complete regular season results and/or Southern Section playoff results into the CIFSSHome system will not be placed into a playoff division for the upcoming season and will be ineligible to participate in the Southern Section Championships in that sport.

3219.5 Leagues are guaranteed their appropriate number of entries into the Southern Section Championships, per current Southern Section Blue Book Rule 3214, with the exception of football. In football, League Champions will have first priority, followed by 2nd place teams, 3rd place teams and so on from each league. Once the total number of guaranteed entries from each league are submitted, the At-Large Selection process outlined in the Football Playoff Bulletin will be used to select at-large teams to fill any byes in the draw, or to eliminate teams from the draw, in order to create a 16-team bracket for each division.

3219.6 Appeals of divisional placements will only be considered regarding inaccurate information provided by schools. If that is the case, the school must send a request, in writing, to the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the particular sport(s), seeking a reconsideration of their divisional placement based upon corrected information provided by the school.