



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE EAST SIDE ATHLETIC LEAGUE (ESAL)

STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

The ESAL is organized to provide a positive competitive athletic experience for boys and girls in grades 6, 7 and 8 at the middle school or junior high school level. The league shall be designed to expose the athletes to the type of coaching; training, officiating, and competition that will help them grow athletically, socially and emotionally. The coaches are obligated to pursue the highest standards of safety, sportsmanship, and professionalism.

Article 1

This association shall be known as the East Side Athletic League (ESAL)

Article 2

The objectives of this organization are:

1. To promote an opportunity for organized interschool competition.
2. To promote good sportsmanship.
3. To give a thorough knowledge of current game rules to all teams. All rules will be subject to the CIF or NFHS rules unless modified in the by-laws.
4. To provide and promote organizational guidelines at each individual school as a representative of each division.
5. To provide each individual school with by-laws and regulations with special emphasis placed on those situations unique to the schools and age of the students.
6. To encourage each member school to participate in a full sports program.
7. To strive to live by the recommended guidelines for interschool competition.

Article 3

1. The membership is open to any school in our geographical location, pursuant to application to and acceptance by a majority of the league schools. Each member school must participate in a minimum of 5 sports as recognized by the SCCESJHCA. Sports by season are indicated below. During the 1st year of acceptance, a new school cannot qualify for league playoffs. They may only participate in practice games/contests.

Sports by season:

<u>Fall</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>Spring</u>
Coed Cross Country	Girls Basketball	Girls/Boys Volleyball
Girls Softball	Wrestling	Girls/Boys Soccer
	Boys Basketball	Coed- Track & Field

2. Sports seasons are determined by the general membership.
3. A school wishing to participate in the East Side Athletic League must meet the minimum number of sports required in Article 3 in order to request for probationary status in league membership. Probationary status allows a

- school to schedule practice games/matches, but is not a part of the playoffs or championship events. Probationary status must be voted on at the Athletic Director's Council meeting.
4. A school that successfully navigates their probationary year is permitted to request for permanent league status and will be voted on at the Athletic Director's Council meeting.

Article 4- Officers

The Executive Board shall consist of five (5) members from the general membership. The Board shall consist of a President, Past President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The officers shall be elected by a majority vote of the general membership or appointed in a rotating manner among member schools.

President Duties

1. Sit on the executive board
2. Set the agenda for league meetings
3. Coordinate necessary items with the Secretary for conducting league meetings
4. Conduct each meeting by following appropriate, established procedures.
5. If necessary, call special meetings of the board or general membership.

Vice-President Duties

1. Sit on the executive board
2. Preside over league meetings in the absence of the President.

Past President Duties

1. Sit on the executive board
2. Preside over league meetings in the absence of the President and Vice President.
3. Meet with upcoming President to explain duties and responsibilities for the upcoming year.

Secretary Duties

1. Sit on the executive board
2. Preside over league meetings in the absence of the President, Vice-President and Past President.
3. Keep an updated list of all athletic directors at member schools.
4. Record "Minutes" for league meetings and send to all athletic directors.
5. Notify all league schools of any league changes or modifications. This can be done via fax, email or regular mail.
6. Respond to any correspondence.

Treasurer Duties

1. Sit on the executive board.
2. Assure that all dues are collected as specified in the league by-laws.

3. Collect fines from member schools as assessed by the league.
4. Ensure all bills are paid.
5. Provide a line item report to the general membership at each Athletic Directors' Council meeting.
6. Preside over league meetings in the absence of the other four officers.

Article 5

1. This organization shall have regular meetings during the academic school year as agreed upon by the general membership. Emergency meetings may be called by the President or Executive Board.
2. Member Schools must have their Athletic Director (AD) or a designee with voting authority at each scheduled Athletic Directors' Council meeting.
3. A \$100.00 fine will be assessed to the member school which does not conform with Article 5, #2.
4. In addition to the fine for non-representation, the school will be excluded from the regular game schedule, tournaments, meets, playoffs or finals that are scheduled at the missed meeting.

Article 6- General Rules

1. County rules and by-laws shall govern this organization unless specifically amended.
2. An amendment to this Constitution must be presented at a regular meeting of the Athletic Directors' Council. At the subsequent membership meeting it must be passed by a majority vote of the member schools present.
3. Robert's Rules of Order shall be the general guideline used by the President in conducting Athletic Directors' Council meetings.
4. Competition shall be limited to 6th, 7th and 8th graders of a membership school. A school may use 5th/6th graders to play on a 7th or 8th grade team ONLY if they do not have enough 7th/8th graders to field a team.

Student Eligibility

1. In attendance at the membership school.
2. A student may only have one year of eligibility as a 6th grader, 7th grader, and 8th grader at any middle school in the country.
3. Must attain a "C" average during the sport.
4. Seventh graders reaching their 15th birthday may no longer start a new 7th grade sport.
5. Upon reaching 15 years, 6 months and 0 days, the student may no longer start a new sport.

The association may waive the maximum age limit on a case by case basis when the student exceeds the age limit due to repeating a grade or grades as a result of documented disability, and if the waiver would not result in a safety risk or a fundamental alteration to the structure of the athletic program.

6. A repeating 8th grader may not participate.

7. A student retained in the 6th grade at a league school may participate in sports as a 7th grader during his retention year and as an 8th grader the following year. This does not supersede the age requirements stated above.
8. A student retained in the 7th grade at a league school may participate in sports as an 8th grader during his retention year. This does not supersede the age requirements stated above.
9. Students may only participate in 1(one) school associated sport during the school year. For example, if a school offers volleyball in the fall and they participate, then the athlete is not eligible to play in the SCCESJHCA volleyball season in the spring.
10. Students in all sports may only be on the roster on 1 team at a time. If they compete for another team within the same season the result will be a forfeit for the team. For example: If a girl plays on the girls volleyball team but the boys team needs another player, she cannot join the boys team as she is already committed to the girls team. If she plays for the boys team, that team would forfeit the competition
11. On a case by case basis, renewed annually, schools in the same school district and in the same attendance area may merge for financial and logistical purposes. These magnet schools or small schools typically have no sports programs. The combined enrollment must not exceed the student population of the current largest school's enrollment in the league. The application/renewal submission will take place prior to the scheduling meeting. The merger must receive a majority vote of athletic directors present at the first meeting of the school year.