



**NORTH COAST SECTION, CIF**

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**UNDUE INFLUENCE RULE INTERPRETATIONS**

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|    | <b>SITUATION</b>   | <b>DO'S</b>   | <b>DON'TS</b>   |
|----|--|---|---|
| 1  | Open Houses and/or meetings at high schools with middle school students and/or middle school parents   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Open House: Academics, Student Life, etc.</li> <li>• Athletics can be one component of the total school program at school-wide Open House</li> <li>• Current high school students may participate in the Open House</li> </ul>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sport specific Open House or meeting for middle school students and/or middle school parents</li> <li>• Athletics only Open House or meeting for middle school students and/or middle school parents</li> <li>• Invitation only "Open House" or meeting for middle school students and/or middle school parents</li> </ul> |
| 2  | Direct contact with Middle School students: phone, email, letters, social media, etc.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contact after they have finished with middle school and are enrolled at your school</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches cannot contact middle school students</li> </ul>   |
| 3  | Visitations to middle schools by high school staff   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic Directors and Administrators</li> <li>• Discuss the entire athletic program</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaches and students cannot visit middle schools</li> <li>• Parents/Alumni cannot be involved in these visits</li> </ul>   |
| 4  | How to hold camps for under high school age students   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can be run by high school coaches as a fundraiser</li> <li>• Have school name, nickname, school contact information, etc.</li> <li>• May involve school athletes during the season of sport</li> <li>• Must have principal permission</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have camps for under high school age students to practice or play games with the high school program</li> <li>• Include school athletes outside the season of sport or Sundays</li> </ul>  |
| 5  | How to advertise your athletic program   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School website</li> <li>• Flyers distributed by Athletic Directors to Main Office of feeder middle school</li> <li>• Any school pictures in a newspaper or magazine must include at least 50% picture(s) of non-athletic activities</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct email, phone calls, letters, etc., to students not currently attending your school</li> <li>• Newspaper, website, billboards, etc. that emphasize the athletic programs instead of the total athletic experience</li> </ul>   |
| 6  | Shadowing  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Randomly place students who are shadowing at a high school</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Place students who are shadowing at a high school with a specific student at that school identified for their athletic experience</li> </ul>   |
| 7  | "Pop Warner Nights", community athletic programs, etc. (Students are given free admission to high school sporting events if they wear their jerseys; students are recognized in pre-game and/or halftime ceremonies, etc.)       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Invite the entire student body of a feeder middle school, or schools, and host a Middle School Night at a high school sporting event.</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host "Pop Warner Nights" or other community athletic programs because the invitations are specifically directed to targeted athletes, who are being given benefits and recognition not available to other potential high school students because of their participation in a youth athletic organization</li> </ul>        |
| 8  | Attendance at Pop Warner, NJB, AYSO, etc., games by high school coaches, school athletes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend as a spectator, not as a representative of your high school promoting your athletic program(s)</li> <li>• May speak at such event as a private citizen</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic Directors, high school coaches and athletes should not make contact with under high school age students and parents as a representative of the high school</li> <li>• Wear school identification clothing if speaking</li> </ul>  |
| 9  | High school staff members coaching under high school age students on club teams, youth teams, etc.   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coach under high school age students</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be connected to the high school program in any way</li> <li>• Use high school facilities for practice, games or meetings without securing facilities like any other private citizen</li> </ul>   |
| 10 | Parents of prospective students; incoming 9 <sup>th</sup> graders or potential transfer students, contacting a high school coach to get information on the school's sports program and/or information on how to transfer schools | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer all parents to the school administration; athletic director, assistant principal of athletics, etc. for information on specific sports programs and/or transfer information with no additional comments</li> </ul>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speak directly with parents, or meet parents of students who are not currently attending your school. The only appropriate response, verbal or written, is that you may not address their questions and refer them to the proper school administrator.</li> </ul>  |