

**Article 8:
SCRIMMAGES, REGULAR SEASON CONTESTS, TOURNAMENTS, POSTSEASON PLAY,
AND SANCTIONED EVENTS**

This revised article incorporates applicable operational guidance and best practices adapted for Canyon Athletic Association (CAA) member schools to ensure consistency, accountability, competitive integrity, and effective administration of interscholastic athletics.

8.1 PURPOSE

8.1.1 This article establishes the policies and procedures governing scrimmages, regular season contests, scheduling responsibilities, contest administration, cancellations, forfeitures, tournaments, postseason eligibility, and sanctioned competition for all CAA member schools.

8.1.2 These policies are intended to:

- Promote competitive fairness
- Ensure operational consistency
- Protect student-athlete safety
- Maintain integrity in scheduling and postseason qualification
- Establish accountability standards for member schools

8.2 SCRIMMAGES

8.2.1 Each team shall be permitted a maximum of two (2) scrimmages per sport season.

8.2.2 Scrimmages may only occur prior to the official start date of the regular season for that sport.

8.2.3 Scrimmages shall not count toward:

- Official win-loss records
- Rankings
- Postseason qualification
- Contest limitations

8.2.4 Member schools are expected to ensure scrimmages are conducted under conditions that prioritize player safety, sportsmanship, and proper supervision.

8.2.5 Additional guidance regarding scrimmages may be found in the Appendix section of the CAA Constitution and Bylaws.

8.3 REGULAR SEASON CONTESTS AND SCHEDULING

8.3.1 Athletic Directors are responsible for communicating, confirming, and scheduling all mandatory contests assigned by the CAA.

8.3.2 Once schedules are published by the CAA, those schedules shall constitute a binding scheduling agreement between participating member schools.

8.3.3 Failure to schedule required contests by the published deadline may result in:

- Postseason ineligibility
- Financial penalties
- Additional sanctions outlined in Article 10

8.3.4 Once contests have been mutually agreed upon, the home school Athletic Director shall enter the contest into Bound.

8.3.5 All scheduling requirements must be completed by the deadlines established on the official CAA Calendar.

8.3.6 The CAA utilizes a two-year block scheduling model approved by member schools.

8.3.7 Any contest played against another CAA member school shall count toward standings, rankings, and postseason qualification unless otherwise designated by the CAA.

8.3.8 If a contest is canceled, postponed, rescheduled, or otherwise changed from the published schedule, the Athletic Director must immediately notify:

- The opposing school
- Assigned officials
- The CAA Office

8.3.9 The home school is responsible for providing all necessary contest administration personnel and resources, including:

- Scorekeepers
- Timers
- Announcers
- Security personnel
- Event supervision
- Appropriate medical coverage when required

8.3.10 Member schools shall conduct all contests in a manner that promotes professionalism, sportsmanship, safety, and respect for participants, spectators, officials, and staff.

8.3.11 The CAA reserves the right to require schedule adjustments when necessary to preserve competitive balance, accommodate new member schools, or address operational concerns.

8.4 VENUES AND GAME ADMINISTRATION

8.4.1 Sports designated by the CAA as indoor sports shall be played indoors unless prior approval is granted by the CAA.

8.4.2 Member schools with concerns regarding venue safety or suitability may submit Form I-8 for review.

8.4.3 Host schools are responsible for ensuring all facilities meet minimum safety and operational standards.

8.4.4 A ten (10) minute grace period shall be provided for all regular season contests before a forfeit may be declared.

8.4.5 The home school Athletic Director is responsible for entering final contest scores into Bound within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the contest.

8.4.6 Failure to accurately report scores may result in progressive corrective action, including:

- Written warning
- Program advisement
- Program probation
- Additional sanctions as determined by the CAA

8.4.7 The CAA reserves the right to review venue conditions or game administration concerns and require corrective action when necessary.

8.5 VARSITY CONTEST START TIMES

8.5.1 To promote consistency in scheduling and address officials' availability, the CAA has established standardized varsity contest start times.

8.5.2 This policy applies to:

- Basketball
- Girls Volleyball
- Boys Volleyball
- Football

8.5.3 Varsity contests played in conjunction with a sub-varsity contest shall begin at 5:30 PM unless otherwise approved.

8.5.4 Varsity-only contests shall begin at 6:30 PM unless otherwise approved.

8.5.5 Alternative start times may be approved due to:

- Facility limitations

- Travel considerations
- Weather conditions
- Mutual agreement between schools with prior CAA approval

8.5.6 Failure to comply with approved start times may result in scheduling review or corrective action by the CAA.

8.6 GAME CANCELLATIONS, FORFEITURES, AND CONTRACT OBLIGATIONS

8.6.1 Once schedules are finalized and published, contests shall be considered contractual obligations between member schools.

8.6.2 If a contest is canceled more than forty-eight (48) business hours prior to game time, and the cancellation is not due to weather or circumstances beyond the school's control, neither school shall be financially responsible for costs incurred by the opposing school.

8.6.3 Both schools shall make all reasonable efforts to reschedule canceled contests.

8.6.4 If schools cannot mutually agree upon a rescheduled date, both schools must submit a General Appeal Form within seventy-two (72) hours of the original cancellation.

8.6.5 If a school cancels a contest within forty-eight (48) business hours of the scheduled contest time, and the cancellation is not due to weather or uncontrollable circumstances, the canceling school shall:

- Attempt to reschedule the contest
- Pay all applicable officials' fees
- Be subject to fines and penalties under Article 10

8.6.6 Schools canceling contests without mutual agreement may be subject to additional Executive Board review.

8.6.7 A forfeited contest shall count toward a team's overall win-loss record.

8.6.8 Forfeited contests shall not count toward:

- State rankings
- Power rankings
- Postseason seeding criteria

8.6.9 Forfeited contests may count toward minimum contest requirements as determined by the CAA.

8.6.10 Repeated cancellations or forfeitures may result in postseason ineligibility and additional sanctions.

8.7 SEASONAL CANCELLATIONS

8.7.1 Schools canceling an entire team season after schedules have been published must meet with the Executive Board and submit a corrective action plan.

8.7.2 Schools with three (3) or more contest cancellations in a single season without successful rescheduling may be subject to Executive Board review.

8.7.3 Possible sanctions include:

- Contest forfeitures
- Postseason ineligibility
- Independent status designation for the following season
- Additional penalties under Article 10

8.7.4 The Executive Board reserves the right to impose additional corrective actions necessary to preserve scheduling integrity and competitive fairness.

8.8 REGION AWARDS AND TIEBREAKERS

8.8.1 Region champions shall be determined by highest in-region winning percentage.

8.8.2 Schools must meet all minimum contest requirements established by the CAA to qualify for region awards.

8.8.3 In the event of a tie for a region championship, the following tiebreakers shall apply in order:

1. Head-to-head results
2. CAA rankings
3. Additional criteria established by the Executive Board

8.9 CONTEST LIMITATIONS

8.9.1 High School teams are limited to a maximum of twenty-four (24) contests in most sports.

8.9.2 High School Football teams are limited to twelve (12) contests.

8.9.3 Junior High teams are limited to a maximum of sixteen (16) contests in most sports.

8.9.4 Junior High Football teams are limited to eight (8) contests.

8.9.5 The following sports are limited to twelve (12) invitationals:

- Cross Country
- Track and Field
- Swimming
- Wrestling
- Tennis
- Cornhole

8.9.6 Junior Varsity contest limitations shall be governed by Article 5.

8.9.7 Each sport may also have minimum contest requirements established annually by the CAA for postseason eligibility.

8.9.8 The CAA reserves the right to approve limited schedule increases due to scheduling hardships or membership changes.

8.10 NON-CAA COMPETITION

8.10.1 Member schools may participate in no more than two (2) contests, tournaments, classics, or showcases against out-of-state opponents unless otherwise approved by the CAA.

8.10.2 Schools seeking to compete against non-CAA schools within Arizona must submit a Form for approval.

8.10.3 The Executive Director shall review and rule on requests for non-CAA competition.

8.10.4 Non-CAA schools are limited to participating in no more than two (2) contests against CAA member schools unless otherwise approved.

8.11 IN-SEASON TOURNAMENTS

8.11.1 Member schools may host in-season tournaments, invitationals, classics, showcases, or meets.

8.11.2 Host schools must submit a form for approval prior to the event.

8.11.3 Host schools are responsible for:

- Tournament administration
- Staffing
- Facility preparation
- Security and supervision
- Officials coordination
- All operational expenses

8.11.4 Host schools are encouraged to provide awards or trophies at their discretion and expense.

8.11.5 Only approved CAA officials shall be assigned to CAA-sanctioned events.

8.11.6 The CAA reserves the right to review tournament operations and require modifications to ensure compliance with association standards.

8.12 POSTSEASON TOURNAMENTS

8.12.1 The CAA shall organize all postseason tournaments, including:

- Tournament brackets
- Tournament procedures
- Venue selection
- Officials assignments
- Championship administration

8.12.2 High Schools and Junior High Schools may be required to host postseason contests.

8.12.3 Host schools are responsible for:

- Game administration
- Site supervision
- Crowd management
- Officials' fees unless otherwise determined by the CAA
- Compliance with all postseason hosting procedures

8.12.4 Information regarding postseason hosting requirements shall be outlined in the Appendix.

8.12.5 The CAA shall host, at minimum, all State Championship contests.

8.12.6 The number of teams qualifying for postseason play shall be established by the CAA prior to postseason competition.

8.12.7 Schools must meet all minimum scheduling requirements and remain in good standing to qualify for postseason participation.

8.12.8 Independent schools shall not be eligible for postseason consideration unless approved through appeal to the Executive Board.

8.12.9 Teams removed from postseason participation shall not receive a refund of participation fees.

8.12.10 Tournament brackets shall be determined using approved CAA rankings and seeding procedures.

8.12.11 Game time shall serve as official forfeit time during postseason contests.

8.13 SANCTIONED EVENTS

8.13.1 In sports governed by the CAA, member schools shall only participate with or against:

- Other CAA member schools, or
- Approved non-CAA opponents

8.13.2 Unauthorized participation against non-approved opponents may result in sanctions, including:

- Suspension of membership privileges
- Financial penalties
- Postseason ineligibility
- Additional sanctions under Article 10

8.13.3 The CAA reserves the right to determine the sanctioning status of all contests, tournaments, and events involving member schools.