



www.cifstate.org

State Media Release

State CIF Office, 1320 Harbor Bay Parkway, Suite 140, Alameda, CA 94502

Phone: 510-521-4447

Fax: 510-521-4449

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Contact: Emmy Zack, Director of Communications

ezack@cifstate.org

CIF ESTABLISHES FORMAT AND SCHEDULE FOR 2008 STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP BOWL GAMES PRESENTED BY FARMERS

ALAMEDA – The California Interscholastic Federation, which recently approved increasing its state football games to five divisions, has determined the format for the five games as well as the 2008 game schedule, Executive Director Marie M. Ishida announced today.

The five games will take place over two consecutive days at The Home Depot Center in Carson.

The championship event will feature an “Open Division” in which the Selection Committee, made up of the 10 Section Commissioners, will select the top state qualifying team from Northern California to compete against the top qualifying team from Southern California. The other four games will be enrollment based according to the parameters outlined below:

Open Division	The top team from the north part of the state will play the top team from the south, regardless of school enrollment.	
	<i>NORTH</i>	<i>SOUTH</i>
Division I	1,701+	2,400+
Division II	1,001-1,700	1,101-2,399
Division III	1,000 and below*	1,100 and below*
Small School Division	400 and below **	500 and below**

* All schools, including those that fall within the Small School Division enrollment parameters, will be eligible to be selected to play in the Division III game.

** Only schools that fall on or below the enrollment parameters will be eligible to be selected to play in the Small School Division.

NOTE: If there are fewer than three qualified schools that fall within the enrollment parameters set for the Small School Division in either the north or the south, the Selection Committee has the flexibility to consider another team within the Division III enrollment parameters.

“One of the reasons we increased the championships to five divisions was to ensure that small schools would have an opportunity to be selected to participate, and we believe that will occur with the enrollment parameters that have been set,” said Ishida. “In addition, with the creation of the ‘Open Division,’ fans across the state and the nation will be able to see a game between two of the top high school teams California has to offer, regardless of the enrollment of each school.”

The 2008 state championship bowl games will be played according to the following schedule. The exact game times are subject to change due to potential television commitments.

Friday, December 19, 2008

4:30pm	Small School Division
8:00pm	Division I

Saturday, December 20, 2008

12:00pm	Division III
4:00pm	Division II
8:00pm	Open Division

The championship event will continue to feature ancillary events including The UCA/Macy’s California State Cheerleading Championships and a Coaches Clinic sponsored by NIKE.

After a successful two-year run through its pilot phase, the state football championship bowl games were approved as an on-going championship event by the Federated Council at its January 2008 meeting. The Home Depot Center, which seats 27,000, recently was selected as this event’s host site for at least the next two years (2008 and 2009).

Teams must win their Section championship to be eligible for consideration to be selected to compete in the state football championship bowl games. The Selection Committee will meet and determine the competing teams Sunday, December 14, 2008.