

CHAPTER VII

ADULTS

1. Adults as referred to in this Article is construed to include coaches, scouts, managers, and parents or guardians of players, anyone involved in the operations of, or present at any NORCALFED function.
2. Adult team coaching personnel shall consist of: One head coach (at least 21 years old) and no more than seven (7) assistant coaches, (at least 17 years old). A 14-year-old in high school may serve as an assistant coach. An Adult coaching application shall be required as well as the medical release found on the back of a player card. The coaching staff under the direction of the head coach shall be responsible for training and organizing the team and directing its plays. High School coaches are not eligible to coach in NORCALFED unless approved by the High School Athletic Director or Varsity Head Coach in writing.
 - a. The head coach is solely responsible for which players will participate in each game and their positions. The head coach is expected to consult with his assistants in this matter.
 - b. An individual may not criticize the head coach's decision. A parent or guardian may request a private explanation of the decision at an appropriate time and in the proper manner.
 - c. Coaches may not engage in any live scrimmage or other violent contact with the players.
3. All adults must register with their Deputy Commissioner prior to participating in the NORCALFED program. Registration will be on a form provided by the Commissioner and shall itemize the individual's name, home and business address, telephone number, Driver's license number and/or Social Security number, Conference, Association, team, birth date (if under 21), schooling and football experience.

All NorCalFed carded Adult personnel having direct contact with the program participants will be required to have a Megan's Law record check by local police authority. An individual found to have been convicted of a charge involving sex offenses shall be ineligible to serve in any capacity. Individuals found to have been convicted of other charges may serve at the discretion of the Association Board.

- a. The Deputy Commissioner may refuse to accept the registration of any individual if he finds the individual has violated any N.C.F. rules.

- b. The Deputy Commissioner may not withhold his acceptance of the registration for a period in excess of four (4) weeks from the date he receives the registration form. The coach in question may not take part in the NORCALFED program during said four-week period.
- c. If the Deputy Commissioner declines to register a coach (“a” above) he must refer the matter to the Conference Board of Directors. After an investigation, he may accept the re-submittal, but must require that the individual serve a probationary term of at least one year.

4. COACH TESTING & CERTIFICATION

- a. NorCalFed shall clinic badge holders on the rules of NORCALFED.
To be certified, each coach must receive a passing grade on an open book N.C.F. online written test. The online test result along with the adult registration form will be presented to the conference deputy commissioner for certification.
- b. Coach certification testing shall be done yearly. Only new coaches shall take the full test. All coaches shall test on yearly rule updates.

5. All coaches prior to participating in the NORCALFED program will be required to sign a statement on the registration form that:

- a. They have read and understand the NORCALFED, Conference, Association and/or sponsor Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and/or Regulations and the playing rules.
- b. They cannot claim participation in the NORCALFED program as training, experience and/or advancement for their livelihood if they have been subjected to disciplinary actions.
- c. They can be subjected to disciplinary action in the form of probation, suspension and/or disablement by Association, Conference and/or NORCALFED Bylaws, Rules and/or Regulations.
- d. They must confine all appeals to actions taken under Chapter VIII of N.C.F. Rules.

6. All coaches must always have in their possession a VISIBLE identification card signed by the Deputy Commissioner authorizing their participation in the NORCALFED program. Said card will itemize name, team, Conference, and carry the Deputy Commissioner’s signature. No persons are allowed on the field without NORCALFED I.D. card and will be removed immediately. Referees and medical persons are accepted. This includes practice or game playing field.

7. Coaches shall reserve criticism for private moments with the player or in the presence of the team if the balance of the team might benefit there from. Criticism must always be constructive.
8. Coaches shall refrain from “running up” the score.
9. A coach may be required to resign, whenever, in the opinion of the Association, Conference, or N.C.F. Board of Directors, the coach in question is not capable of handling players or of properly discharging the duties and responsibilities required of him by said Board of Directors.
10. Adults affiliated with NORCALFED shall always strive to make every activity of the players’ serve as a training ground for life.
11. Individuals affiliated with NORCALFED will not criticize the coaches or fans by improper comments or gestures, will not incite un-sportsman-like conduct, will not strike coach, game official, officer or director of any Conference, Association and/or booster club, parent, guardian and/or spectator. Verbal abuse or physical threats of any kind, will not be tolerated.
12. Adults affiliated with NORCALFED will not permit the unauthorized use of funds committed to their custody in conjunction with their participation in the NORCALFED program.
13. Adults affiliated with NORCALFED will always set a good example in personal appearance and actions while engaged in the NORCALFED program.
14. Any individual whose conduct and/or actions are found to be detrimental to the activities of NORCALFED may be removed from the program. Such removal must be handled in the most discreet manner by the Board of Directors of the Association, conference, or NORCALFED (i.e. unruly fans at practice, games or other activities).
15. Teams that fail to comply with paragraph 3 and 8 of this chapter may be denied the right to engage in games during the current and immediate following season upon the order of the Commissioner. Such an order must be subjected to a mail poll of the Deputy Commissioners as provided in Chapter VIII.
16. All coaches and adults shall refrain from drinking alcoholic beverages, use of tobacco, use of illegal drugs, and using profanity while at any team function.
17. Adults affiliated in an Association of NORCALFED who have violated this chapter may be suspended by the Association Board of Directors from further participation. The suspended adults may appeal the Association decision to the Conference Deputy Commissioner who will arrange an appeal hearing.

18. Adults affiliated with NORCALFED, found to have violated this Chapter may be suspended upon order of the Commissioner or the conference Deputy Commissioner, for the balance of the current and the immediate following season. Such an order must be the result of an investigation as provided in Chapter VIII. An investigation is not required in violations of Paragraphs 3 and 8 of this Chapter, only the mail poll of the Deputy Commissioners.

19. I.D. Cards for adults affiliated with NORCALFED include:

BLUE CARDS:

Issued by the Commissioner to NORCALFED Board of Directors, Deputy Cheer Commissioner, and the Northern and Southern Conference Cheer Coordinators.

ORANGE CARDS:

Issued by Conference Deputy Commissioners to Football Personnel only who are required to be on the football field during a game. This shall include Football Coaches, Association Executive Board Members and Team Photographers. Play Counters and Equipment Managers shall have White cards and will be allowed on the field as necessary. EMT's are exempt.

WHITE CARDS:

Issued by Conference Deputy Commissioner to Association Board of Directors, Cheer Coaches, and other Association workers such as Gate Attendant, Snack bar Coordinator, Team Moms, Play Counters, Equipment Managers, Weighmaster, etc. It has been a courtesy by Associations to allow Blue, Orange and White card holders only into games free. It is not mandatory. If an Association chooses to let all of their own personnel in free at their home game that is their choice. However, do not expect that of the Host Town you are traveling to.

20. High School and College football camps are sanctioned by NORCALFED when they are open to all youth football players, and not just for one particular town. NORCALFED coaches may only instruct fundamental blocking and tackling skills at such camps. NORCALFED Associations gear may be used. All such camps must be brought to conference meetings for approval prior to attendance.

- a. The camp must be a fundamental skills camp only, and not focus on any programs offense or defense.
- b. All camps are limited to one week duration.
- c. All camp fliers must be brought to conference meeting for notification to all associations.

- d. All other types of camps must have N.C.F. Board approval.
- e. Off season parties, picnics, agility camps, movies, pizza parties and similar team gatherings are not allowed without prior conference approval.
- f. Off season group weight training is not allowed.
- g. Violation of this rule by coaches or players will automatically cause ineligibility to participate in NORCALFED for the current season.