

CIF BASKETBALL POLLS

You may be wondering how the CIF Top 16 Basketball Polls are compiled and their origin. Historically, a “Top 10” poll was conducted by the prep sportswriters throughout Southern California and this format was used as a reference basis in developing the respective playoff bracket draws. This system was utilized until the late 1980s when a change in a number of the prep writers found little interest in continuing the process.

The CIF-SS Office then contacted the SCIBCA Coaches Association for possible interest and as an outcome; SCIBCA was given the charge of compiling the weekly polls. In more recent years, the “Top 10” has been increased to a “Top 16” in order to more align with a 32-team bracket draw and where possible – depending on the official 1-2-3 league finish designations – teams are then seeded 1 through 16 as closely as possible, following the established CIF guidelines for school placement in the respective draws.

The actual polls are developed by head varsity coaches for five consecutive weeks over the course of the league season in January and February, leading to the development of the playoff draws. Coaches may volunteer to serve on the respective 1AA, 1A, etc. panels that vote each week but **one major condition is that the coach must hold current membership in SCIBCA.**

If you are interested in contributing to this process, please contact the designated division coordinator listed under the *About SCIBCA* button link on the home page. Further questions may be directed to the current SCIBCA President, Jerry DeFabiis of Colony High School.