

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE RECOGNITION OF CRICKET BY THE  
CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION**

**SANTA CLARA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION  
RESOLUTION NO. 2451-3**

**WHEREAS**, in August 2024, the California Legislature adopted [ACR 211](#) in support of the recognition of Cricket as an official sport in California schools; and

**WHEREAS**, cricket, the second most popular global sport, is a sportsmanship game played around the world in the open air by tens of millions of people, especially young people; and

**WHEREAS**, games like cricket were played by early English settlers in America. In the United States, cricket and similar games morphed into modern-day baseball. The current baseball terms bat, fielder, and inning all come from the game of cricket; and

**WHEREAS**, cricket's popularity never declined in the countries that make up the United Kingdom; many of the Commonwealth and other countries that play top-level cricket to this day, including Australia, Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan; and

**WHEREAS**, in the nations that play cricket, the game is celebrated to demonstrate skill in both athleticism and mental poise where calmness and patience are as essential to the game; and

**WHEREAS**, the rules of cricket enable the game to be played and enjoyed by both men and women all over the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the game of cricket is overwhelmingly associated with fair play and good sportsmanship; and

**WHEREAS**, [studies show](#) that youth who play sports, such as cricket, have better health outcomes, improved mental health, higher graduation rates, and higher wages as adults compared to non-athlete peers; and

**WHEREAS**, many California state residents, especially youth, who were born or have family origins in the countries, nations, and cultures where cricket is played as a principal sport would like this sport to receive official state recognition; and

**WHEREAS**, the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) is a member-driven organization with an established process for sanctioning new sports; and

**WHEREAS**, in this process, a CIF member school presents a proposal to the league with which they are associated and the league commissioner may then present the proposal to their local CIF Section Office for adoption; and

**WHEREAS**, upon adoption by the local CIF Section Office, and review by the CIF State Office and Executive Committee, the proposal is submitted to the CIF Federated Council for vetting, first readings, and a final vote; and

**WHEREAS**, cricket, typically played at the club level, is a growing sport in American colleges and universities; and

**WHEREAS**, other states, such as Illinois, have passed supportive resolutions for the sport of cricket; and

**WHEREAS**, cricket will be included in the 2028 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles, the first time the sport will be featured in the Olympics since the 1900 Paris Olympic Games; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clara County Board of Education (SCCBOE) and the County Superintendent of Schools support activities that promote the health and wellness of our students, including participation in youth athletics; now

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the SCCBOE and County Superintendent of Schools acknowledge the historical and cultural importance of the game of cricket and urges the CIF to take steps towards officially adding the game of cricket to the list of sports that high school-age pupils can officially play and enjoy, should the proposal be brought forward from a CIF member school.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Santa Clara County Board of Education at a meeting held on November 6, 2024, by the following vote:

AYES: President Berta, Vice President Rocha, Trustees Chon, Di Salvo, Lari, Mah and Sreekrishnan

NOES: none

ABSTAIN: none

ABSENT: none



Maimona Afzal Berta, President  
Santa Clara County Board of Education



Charles Hinman, Ed.D.  
Interim County Superintendent of Schools