

Resolution In Support of Title IX

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District (VCCCD) is committed to upholding fairness, safety, and equal opportunities for all student-athletes; and,

WHEREAS, Title IX of the Federal Education Amendments of 1972 was enacted to prohibit sex-based discrimination in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance, ensuring that female athletes have equal opportunities to compete and excel in sports; and,

WHEREAS, Title IX has played a critical role in expanding opportunities for female athletes, promoting fair competition, and increasing access to scholarships and other athletic advancements; and,

WHEREAS, biological differences between male and female athletes create inherent advantages for men in competitive sports, particularly in categories explicitly designated for women; and,

WHEREAS, many intercollegiate sports are contact sports, in which physical strength, power, leaping ability, and aggressiveness create competitive advantages and increase risk of injuries, including concussions; and,

WHEREAS, in many sports, the equipment and/or playing field is adjusted to accommodate the differences in height, jumping ability, hitting strength and speed, among others, between male and female athletes¹; and,

WHEREAS, studies show that suppressing testosterone does not mitigate male biological advantage², which manifests pre-puberty³; and,

WHEREAS, the California Community College Athletic Association (3C2A) is responsible for governing interscholastic athletics for the colleges of the VCCCD and must ensure that policies align with the principles of safety, fairness, and equal opportunity as outlined in Title IX; and,

¹ For example, in volleyball, the women's net is 7.5 inches lower than the men's net, i.e., 7 feet, 4 1/8 inches (2.24 meters) vs. 7 feet, 11 5/8 inches (2.43 meters). In basketball, the women's ball is 1 inch smaller in circumference than the men's, i.e., 28.5 inches vs. 29.5 inches. In track and field, the women's hurdle height is 6 inches lower than the men's in the 400 meter hurdles (30 inches vs. 36 inches) and 9 inches lower than the men's in the 100 meter hurdles (33 inches vs. 42 inches). The women's 100 meter hurdles race is also shorter, with the men's distance set at 110 meters. The women's shot put weighs 8.8 pounds while the men's shot put weighs 16 pounds. The women's discuss weighs 2.2 pounds while the men's shot put weighs 4.4 pounds.

² [Journal of Sports Medicine](#), December 2020

³ [Medicine & Science in Sports and Exercise](#), August 2024

WHEREAS, protecting the integrity of women's sports is essential to maintaining an even playing field for female athletes and preserving the intent of Title IX. Now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees affirms its unwavering support for Title IX and calls on the 3C2A, the 3C2A's member conferences and other athletic governing bodies to uphold Title IX's protections by ensuring fairness in women's sports; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the State of California, the California State Legislature, the Superintendent of Public Instruction of the State of California, the 3C2A Board of Directors, the 3C2A Appeals Board members, the 3C2A Academic and Athletic Standards Review Committee members, the 3C2A Constitution Committee members, the 3C2A Policy Committee members, the 3C2A Student-Athlete Health and Wellness Committee members, the 3C2A Management Council members, the 3C2A Competition Committee members, the 3C2A Equity and Inclusion Committee members, the 3C2A Gender Equity Committee members, the 3C2A Postconference Competition Review Committee members, the 3C2A Bylaw 2 Review Committee members, the, the 3C2A Conference Commissioners and Presidents, the 3C2A Sport Coaches Association Presidents, the athletic directors of each 3C2A member institution, each Title IX administrator at each 3C2A member institution, and each Board of Trustees member for each 3C2A member institution to demonstrate the VCCCD's commitment to protecting female student-athletes.