

*Dr. Allen.*

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Pers-5-MD  
P10-1(C)

7 September 1945

From: Secretary of the Navy.  
To: Commandants of all Naval Districts and River Commands within Continental United States, and  
Commanding Officers of Major and Minor Shore Stations in Continental United States.  
Commandant U. S. Marine Corps.  
Commandant U. S. Coast Guard.

Subj: Participation in Athletic Contests.

Ref: (a) Sec Nav ltr. Pers-52-RI P10-1(c) of 29 July 1943.  
(b) Articles E-7201, E-7202 and E-7203, BuPers Manual.

1. Reference (a) is hereby cancelled.

2. Athletics in the Navy are organized for the primary purpose of enabling Naval personnel to receive the maximum benefit, either as participants or as spectators. There is no objection to any station or ship participating in athletic games and contests with whatever talent may be available on that station or ship, provided such participation does not interfere with primary Naval duty.

3. Reference (b) sets forth the Navy Department's policy regarding athletic competition in general. Only to the extent that this directive may affect reference (b), the articles contained therein are hereby modified. Naval personnel may compete as members of Navy teams or as representatives of the Naval service in athletic contests under the following conditions:

- (a) As a general rule, contests should be scheduled with other service teams or individuals and played on the home field of one of the participating commands in order that the maximum number of service personnel may witness the contests. Home field is interpreted as that which is found on a Naval reservation or an outside field which has been authorized as a home field by the District Commandant.
- (b) Absence of teams or individuals from the duty station shall not exceed 48 hours.
- (c) When other service teams are not available for scheduling games, contests with high school, college, or other bonafie amateau teams are permitted providing the contest is played on a Naval reservation or the opponent's home court or field. When such games or contests are played on the opponent's home court or field only such reimbursement may be accepted by the Navy teams as to cover actual travel and other expenses incurred. Every possible arrangement should be made to permit Naval personnel attached to the competing Naval station to attend without cost games or contests played on the opponent's court or field.