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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

JUNIOR SPORTS MAGAZINES,
INC., et al.,

Plaintiff,

v.

ROB BONTA, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 2:22-cv-04663-CAS-JC

**S/C Date/Time: 11/4/25 at 1:30 p.m.
Statements Due: 10/28/25**

**ORDER RE ZOOM SETTLEMENT
CONFERENCE**

This case has been referred to Magistrate Judge Jacqueline Chooljian for settlement proceedings.

The **Zoom** Settlement Conference is placed on calendar for November 4, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. **Counsel are directed to notify the Clerk by not later than October 31, 2025 of those who will be attending. The Clerk will thereafter send a link via email to all those attending.**

The Magistrate Judge will not be involved in the actual trial of the case and will assist the parties in an objective appraisal and evaluation of the case. The following are guidelines for the parties in preparing for the Zoom Settlement Conference.

1 1. The purpose of the Zoom Settlement Conference is to permit an
2 informal discussion between the attorneys, parties, non-party indemnitors or
3 insurers, and the settlement judge, of every aspect of the case bearing on its
4 settlement value.

5 2. Settlement proceedings are confidential to the extent permitted by
6 law. No part of a settlement proceeding shall be reported or otherwise recorded,
7 without the consent of the parties, except for any memorialization of a settlement
8 and the Clerk's minutes of the proceedings.

9 3. Counsel who will try the case must participate in the Zoom
10 Settlement Conference. In addition, a person with full settlement authority must
11 likewise participate in the conference. This requirement contemplates the physical
12 presence of your client or, if a corporate or governmental entity, of an authorized
13 and knowledgeable representative of your client. Plaintiff's representative must
14 have full and final authority, in the representative's sole discretion, to authorize
15 dismissal of the case with prejudice, or to accept a settlement amount
16 recommended by the settlement judge down to the defendant's last offer made
17 prior to the settlement conference. Defendant's representative must have final
18 settlement authority to commit defendant to pay, in the representative's sole
19 discretion, a settlement amount recommended by the settlement judge up to the
20 plaintiff's prayer (excluding punitive damage prayers), or up to the plaintiff's last
21 demand made prior to the settlement conference, whichever is lower. The purpose
22 of this requirement is to have representatives participate who can settle the case
23 during the course of the conference without consulting a superior.

24 4. If Board approval is required to authorize settlement, the participation
25 of at least one sitting and knowledgeable member of the Board (preferably the
26 Chairman) is absolutely required.

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1 5. Any insurance company that is a party to the case or is contractually
2 required to defend or to pay damages assessed within policy limits, should have a
3 settlement representative participate in the conference. Such representative must
4 have final settlement authority to commit the company to pay, in the
5 representative's sole discretion, an amount recommended by the settlement judge
6 within the policy limits. The purpose of this requirement is to have an insurance
7 representative participate who can settle the outstanding claim or claims during the
8 course of the conference without consulting a superior. An insurance
9 representative authorized to pay, in the representative's sole discretion, up to the
10 plaintiff's last demand made prior to the settlement conference will also satisfy this
11 requirement. Counsel of record will be responsible for timely advising any
12 involved non-party insurance company of the requirements of this Order.

13 6. The settlement judge may, in her discretion, converse with the
14 lawyers, the parties, the insurance representatives, or any one of them outside of
15 the hearing of the others.

16 7. Prior to the Zoom Settlement Conference, the attorneys are directed to
17 discuss settlement with their respective clients and any pertinent insurance
18 representatives, so that the parameters of possible settlement will have been
19 explored well in advance of the Zoom Settlement Conference. At the Zoom
20 Settlement Conference, each party shall be fully prepared to discuss all economic
21 and non-economic factors relevant to a full and final settlement of the case. The
22 Court strongly encourages the exchange of written demands and counter-offers
23 prior to the Zoom Settlement Conference.

24 8. No later than **October 28, 2025**, each party shall submit a Settlement
25 Conference Statement (the "Statements") via email to [JC_Chambers@cacd.](mailto:JC_Chambers@cacd.uscourts.gov)
26 [uscourts.gov](mailto:JC_Chambers@cacd.uscourts.gov). The parties shall exchange the Statements on the same date. The
27 Statements should not be filed with the Clerk of the Court, and they will not be

1 made part of the case file. The Statements shall be double-spaced and shall not
2 exceed ten (10) pages in length. The Statements shall include the following:

3 A. A brief statement of the facts of the case and of the claims and
4 defenses remaining to be tried, including the statutory or other grounds upon
5 which the claims are founded. This statement should identify the major factual
6 and legal issues in dispute, reflect the position of the submitting party regarding
7 such disputed issues, and cite any controlling authorities.

8 B. A fully itemized statement of the damages claimed, and of any other
9 relief sought.

10 C. A summary of the proceedings to date, including any case
11 management dates/deadlines already set by the District Judge.

12 D. The settlement negotiation history of the case, including a recitation
13 of any specific demands, offers, and/or counter-offers that may have been
14 conveyed.

15 9. Each party shall also prepare a Confidential Addendum to Settlement
16 Conference Statement, which shall be emailed directly to Magistrate Judge
17 Chooljian only, along with the Statement. The Confidential Addendum shall not
18 be filed with the Court or served upon the other parties. The Confidential
19 Addendum shall contain:

20 A. A forthright evaluation of the party's likelihood of prevailing on each
21 of its claims and/or defenses.

22 B. The approximate amount of attorney's fees, time and costs expended
23 to date, and an estimate of the fees, time and costs to be expended for (i) further
24 discovery, (ii) pretrial and (iii) trial.

25 C. The party's evaluation of the terms on which the case could be settled
26 fairly, taking into account the litigation position and settlement position of the
27 other side.

