

NCHSAA Sportsmanship/Ejection Policy

This policy applies to all persons involved in an athletic contest, including student athletes, coaches, managers, and game administrators. The following examples include behavior or conduct which will result in an ejection from contest:

- **Fighting**, which includes, but is not limited to, combative acts such as:
 - o *An attempt to strike an opponent with a fist, hands, arms, legs, or feet*
 - o *An attempt to punch or kick an opponent, regardless whether or not contact is made*
 - o *An attempt to instigate a fight by committing an unsportsmanlike act toward an opponent that causes an opponent to retaliate*
 - o *Leaving the bench area to participate in a fight (contact or no contact)*
- **Biting observed by an official**
- **Taunting, baiting, or spitting toward an opponent**
- **Profanity**, directed toward an official or opponent
- **Obscene gestures**, including gesturing in such a manner as to intimidate
- **Disrespectfully addressing an official** (physically contacting an official is subject to automatic expulsion and can result in ineligibility for the remainder of career)

** Any student athlete, coach, or administrator who is ejected or disqualified from a contest is required to complete the STAR Sportsmanship Program before eligible to return to competition. ***

Penalty for an ejection for the above reasons

- Football- ejection from contest, miss the next contest at that level and all contests in the interim (*miss next two contests for fighting*).
- All other sports- ejection from the contest, miss the next two contests at that level and all contest in the interim (*miss the next four contests for fighting*).

Individuals: Players receiving two (2) ejections for unacceptable behavior as defined above will be suspended from all sports for the remainder of that sports season. *Receiving a third ejection in a school year will result in suspension from athletics for one calendar year (365 days from the date of the third ejection).*

Teams: Teams in the following situations will not be allowed to participate in the playoffs:

- A team whose players and coaches accumulate six (6) or more individual ejections
- A team whose players and coaches accumulate more than three (3) individual ejections for fighting. (note: if a situation occurs where six (6) players on one team are ejected during one fighting incident, those six individual ejections will cause the team to lose its playoff privileges)

If a team hits either threshold (total ejections or ejections for fighting) during the playoffs, it will be disqualified from further participation in the playoffs.

Penalties are cumulative from sport to sport and from season sport to sport season, but not academic year to academic year. Ejections in the last game of the season carry over to the next sport in which the individual participates that year. Ejected players may practice during their suspensions but may not play. Ejected coaches may not be on the premises for a contest. The coach must leave the premises (press box, bleachers, adjacent field, etc) and must not have any type of contact with the team.

If no member of the school's coaching staff is present to assume the ejected coach's duties, the contest is terminated by forfeit.

Anytime a student/coach is ejected from a game/meet, he/she does not participate/coach the remainder of that day. The student/coach is also suspended from the next two scheduled, rescheduled or contracted date at that level of competition (one in football) and all games/meets in the interim at other levels of competition.

The coach is not permitted to be at the game site during his/her suspension, but the student is allowed at the game site.