

- (3) 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.
- (e) Penalties are cumulative from sport to sport and from sport season to sport season, but not academic year to academic year.
- (f) Ejections in the last game of the season carry over to the next sport in which the individual participates that year.
- (g) Ejected players may practice during their suspensions but may not play.
- (h) 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 a forfeit.
- (i) Athletes who are disqualified or ejected during a contest will remain in the team area for supervision (Reference 1.2.12.a.1).
- (j) Anytime a student or coach is ejected from a game or meet, he or she does not participate or coach the remainder of that day. The student or coach is also suspended from the next two scheduled, rescheduled or contracted dates at that level of competition (one in football) and all games or meets in the interim at other levels of competition.
- (k) The coach is not permitted to be at the game site during his or her suspension, but the student is allowed at the game site.
- (l) Any student-athlete or administrator who is ejected or disqualified from a contest is required to complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course before being eligible to return to competition. There is no fee for this program. Any coach who is ejected from a contest must take the NFHS "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" (\$20 fee) course before being eligible to return to competition.
- (m) If a team has players ejected due to fighting, the head coach must take the NFHS Learning Course "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" (\$20 fee). It must be completed before coaching in the next game (see Penalty Code 3.2.1.b for additional information on non-compliance with this regulation).
- (n) Clarification For Soccer Only:
  - (1) Coaches and athletic directors will be responsible for tracking yellow cards accumulated by their players.
  - (2) Five yellow cards accumulated by the same player will result in a suspension (miss next contest at that level and all contests in the interim)
  - (3) An additional five yellow cards accumulated by the same player (season total of 10) will result in an ejection. The player will be suspended from all sports for the remainder of that season on the 15th yellow card (or second ejection).
  - (4) A red card disqualification that is not an ejection is the equivalent of two yellow cards.
  - (5) Penalties are enforced at the conclusion of the game, and an ejection report must also be filed at the appropriate time for accumulation of yellow cards.
  - (6) Yellow cards are reset to zero once playoffs begin (all previous penalties must be served).
  - (7) With three yellow cards in playoffs, player is suspended for next game. A total of five yellow cards and any player is out for remainder of playoffs and may carry over to other sports.
- (o) For Wrestling, Track, Tennis, Golf, Cross Country and Swimming:
  - (1) Any individual ejected from an individual event or individual tournament may not participate for the remainder of the event (entire day(s) of competition or tournament) from which he or she was ejected. Additionally, the individual may not participate in the next scheduled two events or any other events, in any sport, at any level, in the interim.

#### **2.4.4 Code of Conduct for Coaches:**

- Coaches are now required to review the NCHSAA power point presentation on eligibility rules prior to the season in which they coach.
- The coach has tremendous influence upon student-athletes and shall never place winning above the value of instilling the highest desirable ideals of character.
- The coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct with the student-athlete, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public.
- The coach shall discipline athletes who display unacceptable behavior.
- The coach shall know the game rules and be responsible for their interpretation to team members. Additionally, the coach shall not try to seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.
- The coach shall promote and work in harmony with the entire interscholastic program of the school.
- The coach shall respect and support contest officials by avoiding conduct which will incite players or spectators against the officials.

- The coach shall actively promote good sportsmanship of spectators by working closely with administrators, cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, and booster clubs.
- The coach shall meet and exchange greetings with the opposing coach before and after contests to set and maintain a positive tone for the event.
- The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse, while stressing the importance of a healthy lifestyle.

#### **Inappropriate Behavior/Misconduct**

- One of the goals of the NCHSAA is to provide a positive experience and safe environment for student-athletes. Therefore, adults, coaches, officials, staffs, and volunteers should maintain professionalism and avoid any appearance of impropriety in their relationships with students. Coaches, in particular, should recognize the influence, power, and position of trust they have with students and should use this only in a student-athlete's best interest.
- Any incident regarding misconduct should be reported promptly to the appropriate authorities. The NCHSAA encourages personnel to create and enforce guidelines against inappropriate behavior and misconduct. Please refer to local LEA policies for more specifics.

2.4.5 **Social Media Policy:** The NCHSAA recognizes, encourages and supports its student-athletes', coaches' and officials' rights to freedom of speech, expression and association, including the use of social media. Social media applies, without limitation, to any web-based and mobile technologies, in use now or developed in the future, that enables individuals or entities to disseminate or receive information, communicate, or otherwise interact. The Association believes that student-athletes, coaches, and officials are role models, and their use of social media should conform to standards consistent with sportsmanlike conduct. Please remember that everything you post is public information, and derogatory, defamatory and otherwise inappropriate social media commentary may result in the imposition of penalties.

2.4.6 **NCHSAA Sports Wagering Position Statement:** The NCHSAA opposes all forms of legal and illegal sports wagering which has the potential to undermine the integrity of sports contests and jeopardizes the welfare of student-athletes and education-based athletics.