MAIS Policy Concerning Player, Coach and Fan Ejections

Player Ejection Rule As It Pertains To Players

- Schools will be responsible for disciplining an athlete after his/her **first** ejection.

- Any player that is ejected from an athletic contest for the **second** time in a school year will not be allowed to participate in athletics for two (2) weeks.

  Note: This is interpreted to mean that an athlete receiving his/her second ejection on a Monday, would be eligible to play on the Tuesday two weeks later.

- Any player ejected from an athletic contest for the **third** time in a school year will be banned from participating in athletics for the remainder of the school year.

Player Ejection Rule As It Pertains To Schools

- The fine for schools receiving their first, second, third, fourth and fifth ejections during a school year will be as follows: $0, $100, $300, $500 and $1000 respectively.

- Schools that have a third player ejected will be required to appear before the Affairs Committee.

- Schools that have a fourth player ejected in a school year will be required to appear before the Affairs Committee. The right to participate in post-season play could be taken away should a fourth ejection occur.

Minimum Sanctions For Coaching Ejections

The ejection of a coach from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will **automatically** result in the following minimum disciplinary action:

a. Coach will be placed on probation for at least one (1) year.

b. Coach will be fined a minimum of $250.00; maximum of $1000.00.

c. Coach will be suspended for the next game; he/she will **not be allowed to attend**.

   For further clarification, the Affairs Committee has interpreted this to mean the next regularly scheduled game at the time of the ejection. For example, if an additional game is scheduled, said game cannot be used to satisfy the "sit out" portion of this sanction. In addition, a suspended coach is not to have ANY kind of input (cell phone, text message, etc.) in the game.

d. Case will be reviewed by the Affairs Committee, with possibility of coach being excluded from coaching all-star game.

e. School will be placed on probation for at least one (1) year.

f. School will be fined a minimum fine of $300.00.

Minimum Sanctions For Fan Ejections

Any fan ejection from a game for unsportsmanlike conduct will **automatically** result in the following minimum disciplinary action:

a. Fan will be fined a minimum of $250.00, and will not be allowed to attend any further MPSA athletic events. Note: Upon payment of the fine, and receiving a letter of apology to the MPSA, the attendance ban will be lifted.

b. School will be placed on probation for at least one (1) year, and be fined a minimum of $300.

Memo To All MAIS Officials
Procedure For Dealing With Abusive Fans

Should a fan become abusive to the extent that it is affecting the flow of the ballgame, the Academy Activities Commission expects the matter to be handled in the manner outlined below:

A) When a fan becomes abusive, game officials should notify the host school administrator that he/she should warn said fan, that if the abusive behavior continues, an ejection could occur.

Note: A warning by the game administrator to a fan as a result of an official's request shall serve as a "warning in general" to all fans in attendance.

B) If any abuse by any fan(s) continues after the warning, the official shall notify the host school administrator to eject the fan(s). It is the host school administrator's responsibility to see that the fan(s) is removed from the facility in a timely manner.

MAIS officials should **NEVER** become engaged in any type of confrontation with fans.

The AAC seeks to create an environment in which sportsmanship is a top priority by all involved. In addition, it is the desire of the committee to properly support all parties participating in the administration of an athletic contest. Having said that, **it is essential that all MAIS officials understand that the Affairs Committee expects the policies established for dealing with spectator conduct be followed**.

In order for our association to run efficiently, we **must** be able to give our administrators guidelines as to what to expect from our officials. **Any official that chooses to ignore the aforementioned procedure is subject to disciplinary action by the Affairs Committee**.

Note: Both game administrators and officials should note that some acts of unsportsmanlike conduct can result in the immediate removal of a spectator. These acts would include, but not be limited to, throwing objects, using profanity or entering the field (or court) of play.

Responsibility To Report

The AAC has required that ALL unsportsmanlike incidences be reported to the MPSA office within 72 hours. This is to be done via the "Incident Report Form" on the home page of the MAIS website (www.msais.org). If, for some reason, the website is down, officials should email a description of the event to Les Triplett (ltriplett@msais.org) and David Drake (ddrake@msais.org). Should email not be an option, our fax number is 601-932-8265.

Please note that the AAC has mandated that a $100 fine be levied against any party (school or official) that fails to send in a report within 72 hours.

Spectator warnings and/or ejections should be reported to our office. In addition, all player and coach ejections should be reported.

Please… be a problem solver, not a problem creator!!!

Unsportsmanlike Incidents

Events/Situations to Report on MAIS Web Site

(Incidents should be reported within a 72-hour period; any incident that occurs over the week-end should be reported by the following Monday)

WHAT should be reported?

1. Player Ejection
2. Coach Ejection
3. Fan Ejection
4. Coach Confronting Officials After Game
5. Fan Confronting Officials After Game
6. * Any other situation (of an unsportsmanlike nature) that happens

* If you are not sure whether to report an incident, it is best to go ahead and report it.

WHO should report an incident?

1. **Both** schools
2. Head Official and possibly any other officials directly involved

Instructions on Reporting and Incident On-Line

1. Go to MSAIS Home Page (www.msais.org)
2. Click on "Incident Report Form" - found on right hand side of page
3. Fill out form with ALL applicable info
4. After all info is filled out, click on "Send Report to Director of Activities" - found at bottom of page

The Coaches Code of Ethics

The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in interscholastic competition. An interscholastic program should be designed to enhance academic achievement and should never interfere with opportunities for academic success. Each student-athlete should be treated as though he or she were the coaches' own, and his or her welfare should be uppermost at all times. Accordingly, the following guidelines for coaches have been adopted by the NFCA Board of Directors.

The coach shall be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student-athlete and, thus, shall never place the value of winning above the value of instilling the highest ideals of character.

The coach shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession. In all personal contact with student-athletes, officials, athletic directors, school administrators, the state high school athletic association, the media, and the public, the coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

The coach shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco abuse.

The coach shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products when in contact with players.

The coach shall promote the entire interscholastic program of the school and direct his or her program in harmony with the total school program.

The coach shall master the contest rules and shall teach them to his or her team members. The coach shall not seek an advantage by circumvention of the spirit or letter of the rules.

The coach shall exert his or her influence to enhance sportsmanship by spectators, both directly and by working closely with cheerleaders, pep club sponsors, booster clubs, and administrators.

The coach shall respect and support contest officials. The coach shall not indulge in conduct which would incite players or spectators against the officials. Public criticism of officials or players is unethical.

Before and after contests, coaches for the competing teams should meet and exchange cordial greetings to set the correct tone for the event.

A coach shall not exert pressure on faculty members to give student-athletes special consideration. A coach shall not scout opponents by any means other than those adopted by the league and/or state high school athletic association.



Code of Conduct for Sports Officials

1. **Officials shall** bear a great responsibility for engendering public confidence in sports.

2. **Officials shall** be free of obligation to any interest other than the impartial and fair judging of sports competitions.

3. **Officials shall** hold and maintain the basic tenets of officiating which include history, integrity, neutrality, respect, sensitivity, professionalism, discretion and tactfulness.

4. **Officials shall** master both rules of the game and mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.

5. **Officials shall** uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interactions with student-athletes coaches, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.

6. **Officials shall** display and execute superior communication skills, both verbal and non-verbal.

7. **Officials shall** recognize that anything which may lead to a conflict of interest, either real or apparent, must be avoided. Gifts, favors, special treatment, privileges, employment or a personal relationship with a school or team which can compromise the perceived impartiality of officiating must be avoided.

8. **Officials shall** prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.

9. **Officials shall** not be party to actions designed to unfairly limit or restrain access to officiating, officiating assignments or to association membership. This includes selection for positions of leadership based upon economic factors, race, creed, color, age, sex, physical handicap, country or national origin.

10. **Officials shall** be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.

11. **Officials shall** work with each other and their governing bodies in a constructive and cooperative manner.

12. **Officials shall** resist every temptation and outside pressure to use one's position as an official to benefit oneself.

13. **Officials shall** never participate in any form of illegal gambling on sports contest, may never gamble on any sporting event in which they have either a direct or indirect involvement, and may never gamble on events involving high school athletics.

14. **Officials shall** not make false or misleading statements regarding their qualifications, rating, credentials, experience, training or competence.

15. **Officials shall** accept responsibility for all actions taken.

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Official's Code of Ethics

- Officials at interscholastic athletic events are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic officials.
- Officials shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.
- Officials shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.
- Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interaction with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.
- Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.
- Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.
- Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student-athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession.
- Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear unreasonably hazardous.
- Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.

National Federation of State
High School Associations

Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion

A concussion is a traumatic brain injury that interferes with normal brain function. An athlete does not have to lose consciousness (be "knocked out") to have suffered a concussion.

Common Symptoms of Concussion Include:

- headache
- fogginess
- difficulty concentrating
- easily confused
- slowed thought processes
- difficulty with memory
- nausea
- lack of energy, tiredness
- dizziness, poor balance
- blurred vision
- sensitive to light and sounds
- mood changes- irritable, anxious, or tearful

Suggested Concussion Management:

1. No athlete should return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a concussion.
2. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion should be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day.
3. Any athlete with a concussion should be medically cleared by an appropriate health-care professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.
4. After medical clearance, RTP should follow a step-wise protocol with provisions for delayed RTP based upon return of any signs or symptoms.

For further details please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion" at www.nfhs.org.

October 2009

Concussion Recognition and Management

(Note that there are some references to football, but the guidelines for concussions are the same in each sport)

- A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function-
- A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body-
- Only 3.2 percent of all concussed athletes lost consciousness during the 2009 football season-
- Neither officials, nor coaches, are expected to "diagnose" a concussion, as that is the job of an appropriate health-care professional-
- Officials, coaches and administrators are being asked to make all efforts to ensure that concussed athletes do not continue to participate

Concussion Recognition and Management (Point of Emphasis):

- Adolescent athletes are particularly vulnerable to the effects of concussion. Once considered little more than a minor "ding" on the head, it is now understood that a concussion has the potential to result in death, or short- and long-term changes in brain function. A concussion is a brain injury that results in a temporary disruption of normal brain function. A concussion occurs when the brain is violently rocked back and forth or twisted inside the skull as a result of a blow to the head or body.

- The NFHS has been at the forefront of national sports organizations in emphasizing the importance of concussion education, recognition and proper management for the past several years. In 2008, the NFHS Sports Medicine Advisory Committee (SMAC) advocated that a concussed athlete be removed from play and not allowed to return to play on that same day. In 2009, this position was adopted by the leading group of sports medicine experts and the National Football League (NFL).

- To highlight the continuing importance of this issue, the NFHS SMAC and each sport's rules committee has taken the unprecedented step of including Concussion Recognition and Management as a point of emphasis in each NFHS sport rules book for the 2010-11 year. The purpose of this point of emphasis is to explain the change in verbiage in the NFHS Football Rules Book regarding the official's recognition of a player exhibiting the signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion and to emphasize the importance of proper concussion management.

- Concussions at all levels of sports have received a great deal of attention in the past few years. Attention has increased even more so over the past year, culminating with the NFL, NCAA and NFHS testifying before the United States Congress about what each organization is doing to protect athletes from concussion.

Change in verbiage

- Previous rules books for most sports included language directing officials to remove an athlete from play if "unconscious or apparently unconscious." That language has been changed to the following: *Any athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the contest and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.* The common signs, symptoms and behaviors of concussed athletes may be found in Appendix B on page 100 of the 2010 NFHS Football Rules Book.

- We now know that a person does not have to lose consciousness to suffer a concussion. In fact, according to our most recent data from the High School Reporting Information Online (RIO) and the National High School Sports Related Injury Surveillance Study, only 3.2 percent of all concussed athletes lost consciousness during the 2009 football season.

- Given that most concussed athletes do not lose consciousness, yet they often show other common signs, symptoms and behaviors of concussion, the NFHS SMAC strongly believes that officials must be empowered to remove these athletes from play, thus protecting them from potential further injury. Continued participation in any sport following a concussion can lead to worsening concussion symptoms, as well as increased risk for further injury to the brain, and even death.

- Neither officials, nor coaches, are expected to "diagnose" a concussion, as that is the job of an appropriate health-care professional. The previous rule called upon officials to determine "apparently unconscious" which appeared to expect some level of medical judgment. Officials are now being asked to use their best judgment again in observing the signs, symptoms and behaviors as listed above, but are no longer being asked to make what could be perceived to be a medical opinion. The well-being of the athlete is of paramount concern during any athletic contest. Officials, coaches and administrators are being asked to make all efforts to ensure that concussed athletes do not continue to participate. Early recognition of concussion and removal of the injured athlete from activity (game or practice) is a shared responsibility. Thus, coaches, players and administrators should also be looking for signs of concussion in all athletes and should immediately remove any suspected concussed athlete from play.

Concussion Recognition and Management (Point of Emphasis cont.)

The game official is not responsible for the sideline evaluation or management of the athlete after he or she is removed from play. The responsibility of further evaluating and managing the symptomatic athlete falls upon the head coach, appropriate health-care professional or other individual designated by school administrators. If an appropriate health-care professional on the sideline determines that the athlete HAS NOT suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to play. If there is no appropriate health-care professional available to evaluate the athlete, the athlete SHOULD NOT be allowed by the coach to return to play. Please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in Sports" at www.nfhs.org for further information on sideline management.

- The official does not need written permission for an athlete to return nor does the official need to verify the credentials of the appropriate health-care professional. Ensuring compliance with the Suggested Management Guidelines is a health and safety issue and should be the responsibility of the head coach and school administration, NOT the game official.

Suggested Concussion Management

- 1. No athlete should return to play (RTP) or practice on the same day of a concussion.

- 2. Any athlete suspected of having a concussion should be evaluated by an appropriate health-care professional that day.

- 3. Any athlete with a concussion should be medically cleared by an appropriate healthcare professional prior to resuming participation in any practice or competition.

- 4. After medical clearance, RTP should follow a step-wise protocol with provisions for delayed RTP based upon return of any signs or symptoms.

- The suggested guidelines for concussion management fall outside the realm of game management, but are clearly a health and safety issue for coaches and administrators. These guidelines should also be applied to practices and scrimmages. The position of the NFHS SMAC is that no athlete should return to play or practice on that same day after suffering a concussion. Studies have shown medical professionals that the school-aged brain does not recover quickly enough for a high school athlete to return to activity in such a short time.

- An "appropriate health-care professional" must be determined by each member state association and/or school district with respect to state laws and local preferences. Such individuals should be knowledgeable in the evaluation and management of sports-related concussions and may, depending on controlling law, include MDs, DOs and certified athletic trainers.

- Athletes with continued concussion symptoms are at significant risk for recurrent, cumulative and even catastrophic consequences of a second concussive injury. Such risks are minimized if the athlete is allowed time to recover from the concussion and return to play decisions are carefully made. No athlete should return-to-sport or other at-risk participation when symptoms of concussion are present and recovery is ongoing.

- For further details, please see the "NFHS Suggested Guidelines for Management of Concussion in Sports" at www.nfhs.org.