



**SOUTH DAKOTA HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SDHSAA OFFICE**

February 6, 2024

10:30 AM CST

Pierre, South Dakota and ZOOM

Call the meeting to order

ITEM #1 – Approve the agenda

ITEM #2 – Public Forum

ITEM #3 – Consider request from Sioux Falls Christian High School to petition up to Class AA in Boys Soccer beginning with the 2024-25 school year.

ITEM #4 – Consider 2nd reading of changes to the Racial Harassment, Violence, and Taunting policy within the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook.

ITEM #5 – Adjournment

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Swartos, Ed.D.
SDHSAA Executive Director

RACIAL HARASSMENT, ~~AND VIOLENCE AND TAUNTING~~ IN SDHSAA SPONSORED ATHLETIC AND FINE ARTS ACTIVITIES- **PARTICIPANTS AND SPECTATORS**

I. General Statement of Policy

The South Dakota High School Activities Association believes that all individuals should be treated with respect and dignity. Students should be able to participate in SDHSAA sponsored activities in an environment that is free from racial slurs, racial harassment and racial discrimination. ~~Furthermore, the SDHSAA disapproves of any form of taunting which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin.~~ It shall be a violation of this policy for a participant in **or spectator of** SDHSAA activities to engage in racial harassment, **or** racial violence ~~or taunting~~.

II. Definitions

A. **Racial Harassment:** Racial harassment consists of conduct relating to an individual's race when the conduct:

1. has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment; or
2. has the purpose or effect of emotionally or unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance.
3. **is intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others in a manner that calls attention to or is intended to be demeaning to a specific race.**

B. **Racial Violence:** Racial Violence is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonably related to race. **Acts of racial violence shall be immediately referred to law enforcement.**

III. Violations regarding Racial Harassment

- A. **Spectator Violation-** Any spectator violating the Racial Harassment portion of this policy shall be immediately removed from the facility by contest administration and/or contest officials. The spectator shall be subject to the conditions specified within the SDHSAA Student/Coach Spectator Ejection policy of the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook.
- B. **Student-Athlete/Coach-** Any student-athlete or Coach violating the Racial Harassment portion of this policy shall be immediately ejected from the contest by the contest officials via the rules of that activity under flagrant misconduct. Student-Athletes and Coaches shall be subject to the conditions specified within the Student/Coach/Spectator Ejections policy of the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook.
- C. A report of any ejection made of a spectator, student-athlete, or coach as a result of Racial Harassment must be submitted to the SDHSAA office.
- D. Member schools with **coaches, players, students or spectators who have repeated (two or more)** violations of this policy will be requested to report to the SDHSAA Board of Directors with plans of how to eliminate incidences of these issues within their activity programs.
- E. Incidents that occur and are not handled according to policy should be referred to the SDHSAA for investigation.

SDHSAA Taunting Policy

The South Dakota High School Activities Association believes that all individuals should be treated with respect and dignity, and disapproves of any form of taunting which is intended or designed to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender or national origin. It shall be a violation of this policy for a participant in or spectator of SDHSAA activities to engage in taunting.

Taunting Definition and Violations

Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players, or spectators which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule, or demean others. This includes, but is not limited to profanity, negative chants, trash talk, name calling, or personal attacks. These actions are unacceptable and shall be immediately addressed by school/tournament administration and/or contest officials with consequences up to and including removal from the facility (spectators) or unsportsmanlike conduct/flagrant misconduct (players/coaches). Taunting that is racial in nature (in a manner that calls attention to or is intended to be demeaning to a specific race) would fall under the SDHSAA Racial Harassment policy.