



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

**February 6, 2024**

**10:30 AM CT**

**Pierre, South Dakota**

The Board of Directors held a special meeting on February 1, 2024, at the SDHSAA Office Building in Pierre, South Dakota with members present via ZOOM as follows:

Kelly Messmer	Marty Weismantel	Dr. Jeff Daniels
Ryan Rollinger	Eric Denning	Adam Shaw
Dani Walking Eagle	Randy Hartmann	

Staff members present included Dr. Dan Swartos, Jo Auch, and Randy Soma

The meeting was called to order by President Kelly Messmer at 10:30 A.M.

**Item #1-Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Adam Shaw, second by Marty Weismantel, to approve the agenda as presented.

*Motion carried 8-0*

**Item #2- Public Forum**

President Messmer reviewed the SDHSAA Public Forum protocol forum. There was no public forum input.

**Item #3- Consider request from Sioux Falls Christian High School to petition up to Class AA in Boys Soccer, effective the 24-25 school year.**

Following questions by the Board, there was a motion by Ryan Rollinger, second by Adam Shaw, to table Item #3.

*Motion carried 8-0.*

**Item #4- Consider 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of changes to the Racial Harassment, Violence, and Taunting Policy within the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook**

Dan Swartos presented an amended version of the initial policy based on feedback from the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The board had significant conversation about the amended policy.

A motion was made by Ryan Rollinger, second by Dani Walking Eagle, to amend section IIB of the policy to read "Racial Violence, as determined by the school district, is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonably related to, race. Confirmed acts of racial violence shall be referred to law enforcement."

*Motion carried 8-0*

A motion was made by Adam Shaw, second by Randy Hartmann, to approve the updated policy as amended.

*Motion carried 8-0.*

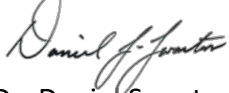
**Approved policy is attached to the minutes as Appendix A.**

**Item #6- Adjourn**

Motion by Marty Weismantel, second by Ryan Rollinger, to Adjourn. *Motion carried 8-0.*

President Messmer Declared the meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Daniel Swartos".

Dr. Daniel Swartos

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, **as determined by the school district**, is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonably related to race.

**Confirmed acts of racial violence shall be 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.