

# STUDENT/COACH/SPECTATOR EJECTIONS

Chapter II, Part 1, Section 9 of the SDHSAA By-Laws states “Any student or coach ejected from an interscholastic contest by game officials will be ineligible for the next regularly scheduled contest at that level of competition and all other contests in the interim at any level of competition.”

A second violation in the same sport’s season carries a mandatory four-contest period of ineligibility/suspension. A third ejection during a single sport season results in that coach or student being suspended from the remainder of that given sport’s season.

Games that are forfeited or not played due to postponements, cancellations, etc. do not count toward serving the penalty for an ejection. In those instances, a student or coach would have to miss the next contest that is actually played.

If penalties for a first or second ejection are imposed at the end of a sport season and no contests remain, the penalty is carried over to the next school year to be served in that particular sport. If the ejected individual is in his or her senior year, the penalty shall instead carry over to their next season of competition.

**Student:** Anytime a student-athlete is ejected from a contest, they are not allowed to participate for the remainder of the contest or event they were ejected from, as well as any other/further competitions held on that same calendar day. The student is also suspended from the next scheduled, rescheduled, or contracted contest, meet or event at that level of competition, which is to include all games/meets in the interim at other levels of competition. If the ejection occurs during the last regular season contest at the sub-varsity level, the student is suspended from all competition that day plus the next regular season contest at the varsity level or the first post-season contest; whichever occurs first. **NOTE: A suspended player may travel with the team, be in the locker room, sit on the sidelines, etc. but may not be in uniform during the suspension.**

**Coach:** Anytime a coach is ejected from a contest, he/she shall not coach the remainder of that calendar day at any level. The coach is also suspended from the next scheduled, rescheduled, or contracted contest, meet or event at the level of competition in which the ejection occurred, as well as all contests held in the interim at any level of competition. If the ejection occurs during the last regular season contest at the sub-varsity level, the coach is suspended from all competition that day plus the next regular season contest at the varsity level or the first post season contest; whichever occurs first. **NOTE: Suspended coaches may not travel with the team or be at the venue during any contest(s) while under suspension.**

NOTE: In the sport of basketball, if a coach is coaching both boys and girls and an ejection occurs during a boys’ and girls’ double header, the coach is ejected for the remainder of the evening and will also miss the next contest of the gender which the ejection took place.

Any school who allows an ineligible coach or athlete to participate following an ejection shall be in violation of this section, and forfeiture of the contest in question shall be mandatory.

**SPECTATOR:** Anytime a spectator is ejected from a contest, he/she shall not be allowed to attend any contests for the remainder of that calendar day at any level. The spectator is also suspended from the next scheduled, rescheduled, or contracted contest, meet or event at the level of competition in which the ejection occurred, as well as all contests held in the interim at any level of competition. If the ejection occurs during the last regular season contest at the sub-varsity level, the spectator is suspended from all competition that day plus the next regular season contest at the varsity level or the first post season contest; whichever occurs first. A second violation in the same sport’s season carries a mandatory four-contest period of suspension. A third ejection during a single sport season results in that spectator being suspended from the remainder of that given sport’s season. In order to be eligible to return to games or activities the spectator must meet with local administration and must watch the NFHS Sportsmanship Course on the NFHSLearn website and show proof of course completion to the SDHSAA Office prior to returning to any level of competition. A school District’s fan ejection policy may be stricter than the SDHSAA policy, but must at least meet the minimum requirements of the SDHSAA policy.

**New, 2019: In addition to the game suspension, when an athlete or coach is ejected from a contest due to sportsmanship fouls/concerns/issues, he or she must watch the NFHS Sportsmanship Course on the NFHSLearn website and show proof of course completion to the SDHSAA Office prior to returning to any level of competition.**

**New, 2019: In the sport of football only, any player ejected/disqualified for specifically violating the provisions of “Illegal Personal Contact” as outlined in NFHS Rule 9-4-3, sub-sections (a) through (i) and (k) through (o):**

- (1) Shall be disqualified only for the remainder of the current game if the foul occurs in the first half of a contest, or,
- (2) Shall be disqualified from the remainder of the current game, as well as all competition through the first half of the next varsity contest, if the foul occurs in the second half of a game.

#### EJECTION REPORTING PROCEDURE:

If there is an ejection the following procedure must be followed:

1. The administration from the school where student is enrolled or coach is employed must file a written report, using the appropriate, online form, notifying the SDHSAA of the ejection.
2. The SDHSAA Office will contact the official involved with the ejection and ask for an officials' report.
3. A copy of the Official's written report may be forwarded to the school administration for their review.

#### APPEALS:

A student may appeal his/her ejection to the SDHSAA only if it can be verified that their actions did not contribute to the disqualification. This applies only to a student-athlete who was wrongfully ejected due to the recording of an incorrect number by the officials. A coach may appeal the penalty only when they are incorrectly disqualified for improper administration of indirect technical or unsportsmanlike conduct fouls. A spectator may appeal the penalty if they can prove that the wrong person was ejected.

If there is an appeal the following procedure must be followed:

1. In the case of a student/coach ejection, the student/coach must make a written appeal to his/her local administration using the appropriate form (Ejection # 1). If they agree, the local administration must sign and forward the form to the SDHSAA Office.
2. The SDHSAA Executive Staff will review the appeal and make the final decision whether to overturn the ejection or uphold the ejection.

**Ejection Forms found in Bound forms/School Ejection Form.**