

**NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION  
SECTION IV**

***MISCONDUCT REPORTING FORM***

Name of Reporting Party \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Your Position \_\_\_\_\_  
(Official, Athletic Director, Other)

Date of Contest \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_

Schools Involved \_\_\_\_\_

Sport \_\_\_\_\_ Level of Play \_\_\_\_\_ Boys \_\_\_\_\_ Girls \_\_\_\_\_  
(Varsity, JV, Modified)

Outcome of Contest \_\_\_\_\_

Officials Working Contest \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Coach or Player Cited \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Coach or Player for mailing of notice (to be provided by Athletic Director of School) \_\_\_\_\_

School Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description of Conduct (use additional sheet if necessary): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken by School \_\_\_\_\_

School (only): Was this the final game of the season?       yes       no

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Reporting Party)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Report Date)

**Instructions for Officials:**

1. Complete this form as soon as possible after the game and forward by email, FAX or mail to the Athletic Director with which the offending player or coach is affiliated.
2. On the day of the incident or the next school day, contact Bill Bryant by telephone, FAX or E-mail to report the matter to him and then forward by email the form to Bill Bryant at the address indicated below.

**Instructions for Athletic Director:**

1. Investigate and report to Bill Bryant, Executive Director
2. See "New Sportsmanship Standard." (NYSPHSAA)

***See reverse for description of violation and definitions.***

This form should be emailed and/or FAXED to:

Mr. Bill Bryant, Executive Director, 276 State Hwy 7, Sidney, NY 13838.

FAX: 607-561-2344      Phone: 607-561-2347 (W)      E-mail: [mcweenej@dcmoboces.com](mailto:mcweenej@dcmoboces.com)

White: Executive Director

CC: School

CC: Official

Because Section IV believes that the purpose of interscholastic athletics is to help promote sportsmanship and also believes that coaches, athletes and officials should be setting examples by their behavior, it is recommended that the following policy be implemented:

#### **MISCONDUCT POLICY**

Any coaches or players should refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct. Any specific act of misconduct of the kind described herein by any coach or player from the modified level through the varsity level in any sport shall result in action by the Section as set forth below.

#### **COACHES AND PLAYERS:**

Any school whose coach or player is ejected from an interscholastic competition for having used profanity, engaged in unsportsmanlike conduct, or who physically assaults an official shall be sanctioned for such conduct on the part of such coach or player in the following manner:

#### Disqualification for Use of Profanity or Unsportsmanlike Conduct

##### **A. COACH:**

1. Any coach excluded by a certified official from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, is ineligible to coach any interschool competition in that sport until after the next previously scheduled contest at the same level (e.g. junior varsity, varsity, etc.) has been completed. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation. The coach may not be present at the game site nor communicate in any manner during the contest with any person present at the site. **NOTE:** "Not being physically present at the site" means the disqualified coach is not to be present in the locker room, on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the game/meet. (see Taunting, p. 91, Next Previously Scheduled Contest, p. 90) Any coach that does not serve the penalty for violating the Sportsmanship Standard will be ineligible to participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests. If the coach continues to not serve the penalty, the matter will be referred to the Section for further action. If the coach is involved in the NYSPHSAA play-offs, the matter will be referred to the Executive Director of the NYSPHSAA.

##### **Any coach:**

1. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;
  2. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and
  3. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the disqualification penalty takes place in the last contest of the season (regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.
2. A coach who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate another person (e.g. official, another coach, player, fan) shall be expelled immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense.

##### **B. PLAYER:**

1. Any member of a squad disqualified by a sport official for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, or for a flagrant foul shall not participate in that sport in the next previously scheduled contest with a member school or in NYSPHSAA tournament play. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. The contest in which the athlete was disqualified must count in the total maximum number of contests permitted. Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season of participation. (see Taunting, p. 91, Next Previously Scheduled Contest, p. 90)

##### **Any player:**

1. Who receives a disqualification penalty in a sport shall not participate in the next regularly scheduled contest;
2. Who receives a second disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season shall not participate in the next two regularly scheduled contests; and
3. Who receives a third disqualification penalty in the same sport in the same season will not be allowed to participate for the rest of the season. If the third ejection takes place in the last contest of the season

(regular season or post schedule play), the Section Athletic Council will assess the penalty carrying over into the next season of participation.

2. Any member of the squad who strikes, shoves, kicks or makes other physical contact with the intent to annoy, harass or intimidate an official shall be expelled from the game immediately and banned from further participation in all sports for a period of time to be determined by the section not to exceed one year from the date of the offense. NOTE: Member of the squad includes player, manager, score keepers, timers, and statisticians.

C. **OFFICIAL:**

1. Unprofessional conduct on the part of the official such as, but not limited to, taunting, baiting, use of profanity, shall be reported by a school administrator from the aggrieved school to the section executive director. A request will be made to the appropriate sport officials chapter to investigate the incidence and to report their action to the section in a timely manner

**General Rules:**

Any player or coach cited for misconduct which occurs before or after the contest is played, and if found guilty, shall subject the school to the same penalties as if the offense occurred during the game. Events occurring away from the site of the contest shall not be handled under this policy, but may be reviewed by the Ethics Committee under its general authority.

Although multiple acts may be cited as evidence of the offense, for purposes of the sanctions set forth above, no more than one offense shall be deemed to have occurred in any one game, except that if a coach or player is ejected from a contest by an official for unsportsmanlike conduct or the use of profanity, any continuation of such unsportsmanlike conduct or profanity following ejection may be cited as an additional offense.

**DEFINITIONS**

**Player** - Any student athlete participating in an interscholastic sport at any level from modified to varsity.

If a player has been accepted for an Individualized Education Program prior to the time of the offense, and the hearing panel determines that the offense arose out of the particular condition which rendered the student eligible for an Individualized Education Program, such player shall not be deemed to have committed an offense and neither the student nor the school shall be penalized under these rules.

**Coach** - Any person serving in the role of coach including, but not limited to, assistant or associate coaches, J.V. coaches, or other persons performing in a role commonly deemed to be that of a coach, regardless of the name or title afforded to such person and regardless of whether they perform at a modified, freshman, junior varsity or varsity level. The fact that a coach is not functioning in an official capacity at the time of the offense shall not exempt a school from the sanctions contained herein.

**Participate** - Participate shall be defined for purposes of this policy as being present on the school grounds of the school where the contest is being held.

**Profanity** - Profanity for purposes of this policy shall be defined as the use of language commonly considered to be swear words and/or obscenities including, but not limited to, any words or phrases generally regarded by officials as meriting ejection, regardless of the tone of the utterance or the context in which the language is used. A list of typical words and phrases which is not intended to be all inclusive but is illustrative of profanity has been placed with the Executive Director. Any coach who has any concern or doubt about the words or phrases deemed to constitute profanity should contact the Executive Director for clarification.

**Assault** - The actual physical contact of an official by a player or coach where such contact occurs with intent.

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct** - Any misconduct or unprofessional behavior generally deemed to violate accepted norms of sportsmanship for coaches or players which would ordinarily justify ejection from a game or event and/or which in this instance did result in such ejection.

**Technical Offense** - An incident which might arguably be deemed unsportsmanlike, but which occurs as part of the normal flow of the game or contest (e.g. illegal hold in wrestling, illegal tackle or block in football, running into a catcher), even though it may result in ejection, will not be deemed unsportsmanlike conduct unless it is flagrant and is deemed to have been committed with intent to injure.

**Calendar Days** - Calendar days as used in this policy for the purpose of calculating certain notice periods shall not include Saturdays, Sundays or State Holidays.

## **PROCEDURES**

Any ejection occurring during the course of a game shall be presumed to be based upon misconduct or assault unless one or more of the officials involved in the game or both athletic directors certify to Section IV that the ejection was not based on such grounds.

Within twenty-four hours of the contest in question it shall be the duty of the official to provide by phone call, fax or email a report of the misconduct. Within two calendar days of the contest in question, it shall be the duty of the athletic director for the school district in which the coach is employed or the player attends to report said incident to the Executive Director of Section IV.

Failure to provide a report by the official within the above stated time frames may render an official ineligible to work post-season games. Failure to report such incident by the athletic director shall not serve as a defense for the school, coach, or player in question. Placing a report in the mail, e-mail or faxing the same by the athletic director to the Executive Director within the two day period shall be timely.

Any other coach, athletic director, building principal or other appropriate school official may report such misconduct or assault of which they are aware, even if no ejection has occurred, and such reports shall be deemed to have the same force and effect as an ejection by an official.

Although only one signature is needed on the misconduct reporting form, any party submitting such form may at his or her election include the signature of other game officials or school representatives who can attest to the facts evidencing the misconduct.

Where a player or coach is ejected from a game or he or she is reported to the Section as having been guilty of misconduct or assault by a school official, the Section shall forward to the coach or player notification that he or she has been reported as having been guilty of a particular offense. Such determination shall become final unless within two (2) calendar days of receipt of the notification, the player or coach or the school with which they are affiliated forwards by Certified Mail (Return Receipt Requested) to the Executive Director a request for review.

If any player or coach fails to fulfill a sanction imposed under misconduct policy, that player or coach shall be ineligible to participate until such sanction has been fulfilled. Any game in which an ineligible player or coach participates shall be forfeited.

Any school whose player or coach is charged with misconduct or assault, and/or the player or coach themselves, shall be entitled to a review of the charge by the Executive Director of the Section. The Executive Director will review any written materials submitted and, where available, any video or audio tapes of the events in question, and shall determine whether the citation should be sustained or dismissed. The determination of the Executive Director shall become final unless he/she grants further leave to appeal to a three member panel of the Sportsmanship Committee or within two days of receipt of notification of the decision of the Executive Director, the school with which the player or coach is affiliated forwards to the Executive Director by hand delivery or certified mail (return receipt requested) a request for a hearing by a three member panel of the Sportsmanship Committee. Every request for a hearing must be accompanied by a check from the school district in the sum of \$500.00 payable to Section IV, which deposit will be returned in the event the decision of the official is modified or revised. The hearing shall be held as soon as practicable.

In any matter where the Executive Director is required to recuse himself/herself, any member of the Sportsmanship Committee may be designated to fulfill the roll of the Executive Director under this policy. Any such member of the Sportsmanship Committee serving in the place of the Executive Director would be ineligible to serve as one of the three members of the hearing committee should a further appeal in such matter be taken.

Requests for review and/or hearings relating to an official's judgment of the facts will be permitted, but such determinations will only be reversed if the evidence of misjudgment on the part of the official is clear and convincing.

In appointing the members of any such hearing panel, the Chairman or Executive Director shall consider both the availability of committee members and any potential conflicts of interest which might exist relating to the issue, the teams and/or the personalities involved. Where a request for a hearing is made, the hearing panel shall meet within ten days of receipt of the request for such hearing. They shall render a decision within one week of the closure of the record with respect to such hearing.

In the event that the hearing panel reaches a determination which is favorable to the school, coach and/or player, the matter shall be stricken from the record and shall not be treated as an offense.

If the hearing panel determines that the coach or player was guilty of misconduct or assault, then the offense shall remain a part of that person's record and the penalties prescribed herein shall be imposed.

The decision of the hearing panel shall be forwarded in writing to the player or coach and his or her school district, and shall become effective upon receipt by the school district.

Unless otherwise requested by the player or coach, any penalties to which the player or coach might otherwise be subjected shall be stayed pending a determination by the Executive Director or the hearing panel.

In the event that the player or coach does not waive the automatic stay herein, the hearing panel shall determine whether or not the request for a hearing was frivolous or groundless. If the hearing panel determines that it was frivolous or groundless, then the school, player or coach may be subject to such other and additional penalties as the hearing panel deems appropriate including, but not limited to, the forfeiture of games previously played and/or extended bans on participation in games to be played in the future.

Any ejection of a player or coach occurring in a game or contest held outside of Section IV must be reported to the Executive Director of the Section by the athletic director of the school district of the coach or player ejected. Failure to file such report within two days after the team returns to the local area may subject the school to penalties.

Any school which is not a member of Section IV but which participates in a league based in Section IV shall be subject to the same rules and procedures described herein for any offenses occurring in a contest within said league. Any offenses by a player or coach of a school district outside of league competition shall be reported to an appropriate official of the Section wherein said school district is based for such action as that Section deems appropriate.

Notwithstanding any provision set forth herein, the Sportsmanship Committee of Section IV reserves the right to review either on its own initiative, or at the request of a parent, athlete, coach or school, the facts and circumstances involved in any incident and make such decision as the interests of fairness and justice require.

If any coach, athletic director or player needs clarification of any of the rules and policies set forth herein, the Executive Director of the Section will endeavor to respond to such inquiries. However, all inquiries must be set forth in writing.

10/2018

9/2012

Effective 9/1/92

Approved by Athletic Council on 6/24/92 (Revised 6/23/93 and (3/8/95)

Effective 8/15/95

**MISCONDUCT POLICY FOR SPECTATORS:**

Any spectator (Student, Parent, or other Fan) should refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct. Any specific act of misconduct of the kind described herein by any spectator from the modified level through the varsity level in any sport shall result in action by the member school and supported by the Section IV Athletic Conference as set forth below. These are the minimum standards and any school district has the right to impose further sanctions.

**SPECTATORS:**

Any spectator (Student, Parent, or other Fan) who is ejected from an interscholastic competition for having used profanity, engaged in unsportsmanlike conduct, or who physically assaults an official shall be sanctioned for such conduct in the following manner:

**Disqualification for Use of Profanity or Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

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SP

SPECTATOR:

431575384. Any spectator excluded by a certified official or a school approved supervisor from an interschool competition for unsportsmanlike conduct, including taunting, is ineligible to attend any contest hosted by a Section IV affiliated school, in that sport until after the next previously scheduled contest at the same level (e.g. junior varsity, varsity, etc.) has been completed. In individual sports a multi-day contest is considered to be a contest. Disqualification from one season carries over to the next season of participation. The spectator may not be present at the game site. NOTE: "Not being physically present at the site" means the disqualified spectator is not to be present on the sidelines, in the stands or site area before, during or after the contest. Any spectator that does not serve the penalty for violating the Sportsmanship Standard will be ineligible to participant in the next two regularly scheduled contests of their affiliated school.

Any SPECTATOR:

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Who

receives an ejection penalty in a sport shall not attend the next regularly scheduled contest hosted by Section IV

