

5.100 PENALTY FOR VIOLATING RULES

5.101 Any player ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible:

- **First offense:** For the next two (2) interscholastic contests at that level of competition (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim). In addition the player must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online prior to regaining eligibility. Receipt of course completion must be acknowledged by the IESA Office prior to the player regaining eligibility.
- **Second Offense:** For the next five (5) interscholastic contests at the level at which the ejection occurred (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim), in addition to a \$100.00 fine.
- Player may also be subject to other penalties the IESA or the school may assess.

Examples:

1. A basketball player is ejected twice during the course of the season. That player is not allowed to participate in the next five basketball contests (at that level of competition and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim) following the second ejection and must pay a \$100.00 fine.
2. A player is ejected one time during the baseball season for unsportsmanlike conduct and one time during the basketball season also for unsportsmanlike conduct. Following the second ejection, that player is not allowed to participate in the next five basketball contests following the second ejection and must pay a \$100.00 fine.

5.102 Any coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible:

- **First offense:** For the next two (2) interscholastic contests at that level of competition (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim). In addition the coach must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course online and pay a \$100.00 fine prior to regaining eligibility. Receipt of course completion must be acknowledged by the IESA Office prior to the coach regaining eligibility.
- **Second Offense:** For the next five (5) interscholastic contests at the level at which the ejection occurred (and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim), in addition to a \$250.00 fine
- Coach may also be subject to other penalties the IESA or the school may assess.

Examples:

1. A basketball coach is ejected twice during the course of the season. That coach is not allowed to attend the next five basketball contests (at that level of competition and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim) following the second ejection and must pay a \$250.00 fine.
2. A coach is ejected one time during the baseball season for unsportsmanlike conduct and one time during the basketball season also for unsportsmanlike conduct. Following the second ejection, that coach is not allowed to participate in the next five basketball contests following the second ejection and must pay a \$250.00 fine.

5.103 Any fan ejected from a contest shall not be allowed to return to future contests until he/she has completed the NFHS Sportsmanship course online and has presented proof of completion to the school administration. Any fan ejected from an IESA state finals tournament may not return to the tournament if there are games remaining to be played in that tournament.

5.104 Any player or coach ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct who fails to sit out the remaining interscholastic contest(s) as required in By-Laws 5.101 and 5.102 shall cause the team(s) to forfeit that contest and possibly receive other penalties as determined by the Executive Director.

5.105 Any school that receives two ejections in a school year (which includes players, coaches, and fans) shall be required to communicate in writing through the school's administration with the Sportsmanship Review Panel on the steps the school is taking to address the issue. The panel may recommend additional sanctions to the Board of Directors if they deem necessary. The Sportsmanship Review Panel shall consist of an IESA administrative staff member, a member of the sportsmanship advisory committee as well as no less than one member of the Board of Directors.

Illustrations for Section 5.100

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control.

Q. May a coach who has been ejected pay the fine with a personal check?

A. No. Whenever there is a fine involved because a player or coach has been ejected, a school check must be used to pay the fine and the school check must be received in the IESA Office before the player or coach can play or coach.

Q. I have a player/coach/fan that needs to take the NFHS Sportsmanship course. How much does that cost and how do I notify IESA that the course was completed?

A. The course is free from the NFHS website which is nfhslearn.com. Upon completion, a certificate of course completion is available. That certificate must be sent to the IESA Office before the player/coach/fan can return.

Q. May a coach who is ineligible for a contest due to a suspension for unsportsmanlike conduct travel with the team to the contest or attend the contest?

A. No.

Q. If a player is ejected from a 7th grade game, when is he/she eligible to participate?

A. A player ejected from a 7th grade contest may not play in the 8th grade contest scheduled on the same evening. Furthermore, whenever the next 7th grade contest is scheduled, the player is required to miss that contest and all contests between.

Q. What is the definition of two ejections in a school year?

A. Two ejections is literally interpreted as two ejections by any player, coach, or fan during a given school year. It does not matter if the two ejections occurred on the same day, different days, two fans, or any combination. If a school has two ejections in a given school year, then they are subject to the provisions of By-Law 5.104.

Q. My coach was ejected from a 7th grade basketball game on Tuesday. Our next 7th grade game is not scheduled until two weeks from that day. Our county 8th grade tournament is scheduled to start this coming Saturday. Is my coach allowed to coach in the 8th grade county tournament?

A. No. The coach is required to miss the next two contests at the level at which the ejection occurred and all contests in between. Since your coach was ejected in the 7th grade contest, he/she could not coach in the 8th grade county tournament and would have to also miss the next two 7th grade contests. In addition, the school is fined \$100 and the coach must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. What is the definition of Unsportsmanlike Conduct?

A. Unsportsmanlike Conduct is defined as the following: fighting, verbal abuse/dissent directed toward an official or opponent, racial or ethnic slurs, profanity/obscene gestures, flagrant/violent fouls, taunting/trash talking/baiting, cheating, throwing/abusing equipment, physical intimidation, or abuse of an official or opponent, and unauthorized leaving of the team bench.

Q. If a player is disqualified for committing five personal fouls in a basketball game, must he/she sit-out the next contest?

A. No. By-Law 5.101 only applies when players are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct.

Q. If a girl is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct from the first game of a softball doubleheader, is she eligible to play the second game of the doubleheader?

A. No. She would have to miss the second game that day.

Q. What is the umpire's/referee's role in enforcing By-Laws 5.101, 5.102, and 5.103?

A. Game officials are not responsible for enforcing the By-Law. Officials must report the ejection to the IESA office and the member school within 48 hours of the incident. They should also send a copy of the report to the offending member school. However, due to commitments officials may have, it is possible they will not be able to submit a report within 48 hours. Even if an official does not submit a report within 48 hours of the ejection, it is the school's responsibility to enforce the automatic next game suspensions/penalties if a player, coach, or fan is ejected.

Q. May players who are ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct travel with the team to the next contest or attend the contest?

A. Yes, but the ineligible player may not dress for the contest.

Q. What happens to a player who is ejected during the regional basketball final and the team loses the regional contest?

A. The ejected player must sit out the next two interscholastic contests at that level of competition, and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim, in which he or she participates. Example: A 7th grade boy is ejected in the 7th grade regional basketball championship game. The team loses the championship game. This student also plays on the 8th grade team. This boy would not be eligible to play in any remaining 8th grade basketball contests as the 7th grade season is over and the By-Law states he must sit out the next interscholastic contest at that level and all other interscholastic contests at any level in the interim. He would have to miss the first two track meets of his 7th grade year assuming he participates in track, if he does not participate in track, then he would have to miss the first two contests of his 8th grade year in any interscholastic contest.

Q. Can the decision of the game official to assess an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty be appealed?

A. No. That is a decision of the contest official and By-Laws 2.124 and 5.058 prohibit the decisions of game officials to be appealed.

Q. A coach receives two technical fouls in a game and therefore is required by rule to be ejected from the game. Is the coach required to sit out the next two contests?

A. Yes. Receiving two direct technical fouls is considered being ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct. In addition, the school is fined \$100, and the coach must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. When a student is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct and has to sit out the next game and also becomes academically ineligible for the next game, will the student serve both periods of ineligibility at the same time?

A. No. The student will be academically ineligible for the next week and then the student will serve the penalty for the ejection once the student has regained academic eligibility.

Q. One of my fans was ejected on Saturday at our quarterfinal game in basketball in the IESA state tournament. When can that fan return to watch the tournament?

A. That fan cannot return to the state tournament. The fan is banned from the remainder of games that are played on Saturday as well as any games that are played on Thursday. In addition, that fan is required to watch the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Q. My coach was ejected from the regional game that our team lost. Are the penalties still required?

A. Yes. The coach must sit the appropriate number of contests, the penalty fee must be paid by the school and the coach must successfully complete the NFHS Sportsmanship course.