Next Day of Competition and Contest Ejection Protocol

MHSAA REGULATION

Regulation V, Section 3(D)

1. When a student is disqualified during a contest for flagrant or unsportsmanlike conduct, that student shall be withheld by his/her school for the remainder of that day of competition and for at least the next day of competition for that team (two or more dates for ice hockey. See ice hockey playing rule adoptions).

If a disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament, the next day of disqualification must be served during the next day of that team’s MHSAA tournament participation that season as well as the next non-MHSAA tournament contest (if any) prior to the next day of competition in the MHSAA tournament for that team. MHSAA Tournament disqualification does not carry over to the next MHSAA tournament in another sport.

2. When a coach is disqualified during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct, that coach shall be prohibited by his/her school from coaching for the remainder of that day of competition and from coaching at or attending at least the next day of competition for that coach’s team (two or more dates for ice hockey. See ice hockey playing rule adoptions).

If a disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament, the next day of disqualification must be served during the next day of that team’s MHSAA tournament participation that season as well as the next non-MHSAA tournament contest (if any) prior to the next day of competition in the MHSAA tournament for that team. MHSAA Tournament disqualification does not carry over to the next MHSAA tournament in another sport. That person shall not be present on site or within sight, sound or communication.

3. Failure of the school for any reason to enforce this regulation will prohibit the school from entry in the next MHSAA tournament for that sport, or from the remainder of the current tournament if the disqualification occurs during an MHSAA tournament or during the last regular-season contest.

4. Disqualifications from one season carry over to the next season in that sport for undergraduates and coaches, or the next contest in any other sport for seniors.

5. If the playing rules for a sport specify an additional penalty or more rapid progression, or use of such a progression for other violations, the playing rules apply.

6. Any coach who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times during a season, any player who is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times during a season, and any coach or player who is ejected for spitting at, hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official at any time during that season, is not eligible to participate in the MHSAA tournament for that sport that season. If the tournament disqualifying ejection for that individual occurs during the MHSAA tournament, that player or coach is ineligible for the remainder of that tournament. The disqualified coach shall not be present on site or within sight, sound or communication.
INTERPRETATIONS

General...

1. Q. A coach or player is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct, and when serving the next day of competition, the "penalty" game is suspended and scheduled to be completed on a subsequent day. Must the coach or player also sit out the continuation of the "penalty" game at a later date?
   A. No. Even if only a portion of the next day "penalty" game is played, the penalty requirements are satisfied. In any situation, all playing rules regarding conduct will apply.

2. Q. Can a scrimmage satisfy the next day of competition disqualification requirement?
   A. No.

3. Q. After once disqualifying an athlete or a coach during a day of competition, can an official reverse that action later during or after the contest?
   A. Any change in disqualification rulings must occur within the time frame allowed by the sport rules, which is generally before play resumes following the ejection.

4. Q. Can a school, within the limits of competition, amend the published schedule of a team to avoid imposing the next day of competition disqualification penalty on a day on which an important league contest or an MHSAA tournament is scheduled?
   A. Although such scheduling of convenience is not expressly prohibited, it is not “within the spirit” of the regulation or the interpretation of the regulation or the tenets of fair play promoted by MHSAA member schools.

5. Q. How do ejections get reported in sports where officials are not used (i.e. golf, tennis)?
   A. The host school or MHSAA Tournament Manager must contact the school whose player/coach is ejected and notify the MHSAA in writing. The school in violation must comply with the DQ rule.

6. Q. What happens when a (a) player, (b) coach, (c) spectator is ejected for taunting?
   A. According to MHSAA Handbook Regulation V interpretations in (a) and (b) the person is disqualified from the remainder of this day of competition (and the next day of competition). In (c), spectators who taunt others may be ejected by event security (must be ejected at MHSAA tournaments). Officials will always depend on game management to administer spectator discipline even though it may be at the urging of the officials.

7. Q. If an official or school representative has knowledge of a next day of competition disqualification, which was not enforced by a member school, what action can be taken?
   A. The MHSAA encourages the official or school administrator to contact the school for which there is concern to advise the administration of the concern. A follow-up call to the MHSAA is also appropriate.

8. Q. What is the responsibility of an official to report the next day of competition disqualification of a coach or player?
   A. Officials are required to file the “Officials Report” form with the school and the MHSAA (within 48 hours) and to call schools before noon the next day. However, these efforts by officials do not substitute for the SCHOOL’S RESPONSIBILITY to be aware of and enforce the next day of competition disqualification.

9. Q. In MHSAA hockey games, is there a separate game suspension penalty for game disqualifications?
   A. Yes. In MHSAA hockey, the first DQ for a coach or player results in a two game suspension, the second DQ of the season results in a four game suspension, and a third DQ results in suspension for the remainder of the season for that player or coach (Also see No. 11 for coaches ejected twice in a season). A game misconduct penalty does not carry the same penalty if it is not accompanied by a game DQ penalty.

10. Q: A soccer coach, player, bench personnel or team attendant receives a yellow/red (second yellow) card from the game officials. In addition to being ejected from the game and vicinity of the game as required, does the penalty for the yellow/red card include ineligibility for the next day of competition.
    A: Yes, the penalty for ejection from the game includes ineligibility for the next day of competition. Officials must file a report to the effected school and to the MHSAA when a yellow/red card is displayed.
11. Q. If a coach is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct two or more times in a sport during that sport season, what action must his/her school take to comply with MHSAA Regulations?
   A. For the team/athlete to be eligible to enter or continue in the MHSAA tournament in a sport, the member school must prohibit the coach from being present on the property of the tournament venue for the remainder of the tournament series.

12. Q. If a player or coach is ejected for hitting, slapping, kicking, pushing or intentionally and aggressively physically contacting an official, what action do MHSAA Regulations require the school to take?
   A. In addition to the next day of competition disqualification penalty, to be eligible to enter or continue in the MHSAA tournament in a sport a member school must prohibit the player or coach from being present on the property of the tournament venue for the remainder of the tournament series.

13. Q. If a coach or athlete is ejected from the first game of a scheduled baseball or softball doubleheader and then sits out the second game, is that person eligible to coach or participate for the team in its next day of competition?
   A. No. The coach or athlete is also disqualified from the next day of competition.

14. Q. When is the next game suspension for the varsity coach who is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct while sitting with the junior varsity team during a contest in the same sport?
   A. The coach may not attend other competition that follows on the same day, and also may not attend the next day of competition for the varsity team.

15. Q. When is the suspension for the junior varsity coach who is ejected for unsportsmanlike conduct while sitting with the varsity team during a contest in the same sport?
   A. The coach may not attend other competition that follows on the same day and also may not attend the next day of competition for the junior varsity team.

16. Q. When is the next game suspension for unsportsmanlike conduct for the person who serves as both junior varsity and varsity coach in a sport?
   A. The coach of both levels who is ejected from one day of competition may not attend other competition that day and also may not attend the next day of competition for either team.

17. Q. If a coach who is a parent of a team member is ejected from a contest or day of competition, is that coach allowed to attend the event as a parent?
   A. Coaches who are also parents of team members are afforded no special consideration under Regulation V, Section 3(D). They may not coach or attend the next day of competition.

18. Q. When a coach is ejected or disqualified from a contest, where is he/she expected to be for the duration of the contest?
   A. For those sports conducted indoors, the locker room is appropriate. When the sport is conducted outdoors, the options vary. Certainly the locker room is appropriate, but it may be that a coach would be directed by the official to go to a team bus or somewhere out of sight and out of hearing range. An ejected coach may not be allowed to become a spectator.
Student-Athletes...

19. Q. If a player is disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct three or more times in a sport during the sport season, what action is required by MHSAA Regulations?
   A. To be eligible to enter or continue in the MHSAA tournament series in a sport, a member school must prohibit the player from being present on the property of the tournament venue for the remainder of the tournament series.

20. Q. When an athlete is ejected or disqualified from a contest, where is he/she expected to be for the duration of the contest?
   A. Players can remain in the team area as long as their presence does not interfere with the contest in any way. Never should an athlete be sent away from the site without adult supervision. Coaches are responsible for the care and safety of students and should not be placed in a position which does not allow them to provide reasonable care and supervision.

21. Q. If a player is disqualified from a contest for something other than what the rules for that sport define as unsportsmanlike conduct, does the next game disqualification apply? (also see No. 20)
   A. Yes. Part (5) of Regulation V, Section 3(D) states that if the playing rules for a sport specify disqualification for other violations, the playing rules apply and the next day of disqualification is required. For example, some rules codes may require disqualification for fighting, foul language or flagrant fouls, without ever specifically calling such acts "unsportsmanlike." Nevertheless, the next day of competition disqualification must follow.

22. Q. If a student is (a) disqualified from a track event, (b) ejected after a warning for wearing jewelry, is that student disqualified from the next day of competition?
   A. If a student is (a) only disqualified from an event (and not disqualified from the meet for unsportsmanlike conduct), or ejected after a required warning for a playing rule violation, the student is not disqualified from the next day of competition. In (b) the act is insubordination, thus unsportsmanlike, resulting in disqualification for the next day of competition.

23. Q. A student who was disqualified for unsportsmanlike conduct in the last game of that student’s eleventh grade season transfers to another school for his/her senior year. Is that student disqualified from his/her first day of competition in that sport at the new school?
   A. Yes. It shall be the responsibility of the sending school to inform the receiving school of the current disqualification.

24. Q. If an athlete in an individual sport (e.g., tennis) is removed during a match for unsportsmanlike conduct, are the points he/she earned during the meet removed from the team score?
   A. No. Unless the rule book for the sport prescribes specific scoring procedures, all points earned by the athlete previously will remain part of the team score, but he/she will not receive points or awards in the event where disqualification occurred if results have not yet been determined (e.g., in tennis, after match disqualification).

25. Q. A baseball/softball player is restricted to the dugout for deliberate removal of a helmet after the team warning was issued earlier. Is he/she disqualified from the next day of competition?
   A. No. Such a violation is not considered unsportsmanlike by definition in NF playing rules with restriction to the dugout being the penalty. Therefore the action is not unsportsmanlike. However, if the athlete exhibits unsportsmanlike behavior in addition to removing the helmet, the violation may be unsportsmanlike and the next day of competition disqualification may apply.

   NOTE: Student athletes who aggressively confront an official are subject to penalty (SEE NO. 12 FOR SPECIFICS).

26. Q. If a disqualified student is sitting out a contest which begins and later is suspended or canceled due to inclement weather, does this contest count as the date in which the student is withheld?
   A. Yes, if the contest actually began then it is considered the next day of competition.

27. Q. Can the restricted player referred to in question 25 participate in the makeup contest?
   A. Yes.

28. Q. Is a red card offense in soccer, including taunting, a next day of competition disqualification?
   A. Yes, they are ineligible for the next day of competition.

29. Q. When serving the penalty for disqualification on the next day of competition, may the student be in uniform in the team area?
   A. This is a local school decision, but it is not recommended a disqualified student be in uniform. In wrestling, the disqualified wrestler may not weigh in.

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