

To: Fall Season Sport Commissioners

Subject: CIAC Ejection Report Reminders and other Information

***ALERT** – *There is not a requirement that an athletic trainer be at a game for it to start.* The provision of medical services and equipment at athletic contests during the regular season is the responsibility of the local school district.

DQ POLICY AND INFORMATION

Please share this important information with your members and emphasize that an ejection should be the last resort. Preventative officiating works well. Since the player or coach will be suspended for the next game(s) in accordance with the CIAC Disqualification Rule, it is especially important to take all reasonable steps to be certain that the ejection is warranted. The entire DQ / Ejection regulation is on pages 95 to 100 in the CIAC Handbook and can be accessed at this link. <https://ciac.fpsports.org/resources/Resources/Handbook.pdf>

Please Note – pages 96 and 97 in the Handbook 4.6.A. #4 and #8

4. When a coach is ejected from any CIAC contest the coach is ineligible to participate in the next two contests at the same level of play (even if the next two contests do not occur until league or CIAC tournament play or next year). If one or more different level contests are scheduled prior to the next two contests at the same level of play, the coach shall be ineligible to participate in the next two contests at each level of play. The ejected coach cannot be in attendance at the games for which he/she is serving their suspension. In addition, all coaches who are disqualified at any level will be suspended for the next two games, take two NFHS coaching courses (“Teaching and Modeling Behavior” and “Sportsmanship”) and the school will pay a \$50 fine. In addition to the two-game suspension and fine, the CIAC reserves the right to review any incident that results in a coach’s disqualification and may assess additional game suspensions up to and including a one-year ban. The fine and proof of taking the coaching courses must be submitted to the CIAC office before the coach can resume his coaching responsibilities.

8. Any CIAC varsity team that accumulates five (5) or more disqualifications in more than one contest during the regular season including the league’s tournament will be barred from CIAC post-season competition. In the event that five or more disqualifications occur in a single game, CIAC staff will evaluate whether schools will be barred from CIAC post-season competition. All disqualifications must be reported to CIAC by the school and the officials group. Any misconduct or disqualification of a coach will count towards the team’s total number of disqualifications. Multiple disqualifications during CIAC tournaments are subject to disciplinary action by the CIAC sports committee and the CIAC Board of Control.

It is good practice to have a conference with your partner(s), if applicable, to discuss the ejection, before finalizing the call and to be certain of the identity of the ejected player or coach. *If the ejection is confirmed, the referee / umpire should inform the head coach and explain the reason for the ejection, so there is no misunderstanding.* There are NO appeals on ejections, once the officials leave the game site. Disqualification is a judgment call by an official and as such is not appealable. Until the officials leave the game site, they are in charge

and may take any action deemed to be appropriate, even to the extent of reversing an earlier decision to eject a player or coach. Therefore, if the head coach and / or athletic director requests, in a courteous manner, to further discuss the ejection after the game, we suggest that officials entertain that discussion, since once the officials leave the site all decisions by the game officials are final. Whenever possible, both schools (coaches on site) must be made fully aware of all final decisions on game disqualifications. *Lastly, NFHS rules prohibit the use of video to review the call.*

When the report is completed, the disqualifying official should email it within 24 hours as an attached word document to the commissioner or the person designated by your board to handle this task. Officials should NOT send the report to CIAC. The commissioner or board designee should review the report and email it as an attachment to CIAC at this address ejectionreports@casciac.org

- Reports must be filed for ALL ejections on the freshman, JV, and varsity levels. A separate report must be filed for each ejection. (It is not necessary to report ejections that occur in Middle School games, scrimmages or jamborees).
- The CIAC Ejection Report form is the only form that can be used. Officials can obtain the ejection / disqualification report on the CIAC website. Click on the official's tab and then select the cards/ejection tab. Then click Disqualification Form.
- Do not submit the report without the name of the ejected player or coach, because it is useless to us. The number is not good enough. Mistakes in identifying the ejected person(s), misspelled names or listing the wrong school is embarrassing and time consuming for everyone.
- When applicable, please specify under "sport" whether it is a boys or girls sport, (i.e. boys' or girls' Lacrosse).
- The report must be an attachment and not included in the body of the email.
- Please note that the report cannot be handwritten or faxed.

Important Note: When you email the report to ejectionreports@casciac.org five (5) people in our office, including me, will see the report, so please do not make any comments in your email that you don't intend to have everyone read. The following are suggestions for written reports offered by Alan S. Goldberger, J.D. from "Sports Officiating: A Legal Guide".

1. The unsporting acts complained of are set forth unemotionally and without any exaggeration or commentary.
2. The official does not take a defensive position.
3. The official indicates he or she has followed proper officiating mechanics.
4. The official indicates he or she has enforced the letter and the spirit of the rules.
5. The official sticks to the facts.

Thanks for reviewing this information with your officials and for your anticipated cooperation in submitting the reports in a timely manner.

Lastly, there is still a substantial shortage of bus drivers and shortfalls in transportation budgets, and this impact looks to be long term. **Therefore games having to be postponed due to bus cancellations will be categorized as Weather or Emergency Related requiring only a minimum of two hours notice for officials and assignors prior to the game start time.** This adjustment in our agreement between member schools and officials groups will be in effect for the 2025-26 school year.

Have a great season and as always please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,

Dan