



MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

PROMOTING SUCCESS ON THE COURT, ON THE FIELD, ON STAGE,
AND EVERYWHERE ELSE UNDER THE BIG SKY SINCE 1921

MHSA/MOA Ejection Information and Policy

Applies to: All MHSA-sanctioned regular-season and postseason contests

Policy

- **Game officials shall not remove or eject spectators.**
- **The Game Administrator shall be responsible for the control and removal of spectators.**
- **A warning may be issued at the discretion of the officials; however, a warning is not required when conduct is flagrant or poses a safety concern.**
- **If the Game Administrator is not immediately available, the contest shall be suspended until the administrator is present and the situation is resolved.**

Officials' Procedure

1. Recognition of Unsporting Conduct

Officials should avoid interactions with spectators and work with game administration to address spectator conduct that is unsporting, disruptive, or interferes with the orderly conduct of the contest, including but not limited to: - Profane, abusive, or derogatory language or gestures - Taunting, harassment, or intimidation - Throwing objects or entering the playing area - Continued misconduct after intervention

2. Warning (If Deemed Appropriate)

- Officials **may direct the Game Administrator** to issue a warning to the offending spectator(s).
- Warnings may be communicated verbally or by public address announcement at the direction of game administration.
- A warning is **not required** for flagrant, threatening, or persistent behavior.



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3. Suspension of Play and Notification

- At the next appropriate dead ball, officials shall **suspend play** and request the Game Administrator.
- Officials shall inform the administrator that **spectator removal is required**.

4. Removal of Spectator

- The **Game Administrator shall remove** the spectator from the facility.
- Officials shall not engage in direct confrontation with spectators or escort individuals from the site.

5. Administrator Not Immediately Available

- The contest **shall remain suspended** until the Game Administrator is located.
- **Play shall not resume** until the administrator is present and the spectator has been removed from the facility.

6. Resumption of Play

- Once the situation has been corrected to the satisfaction of the officials, the contest may be resumed.

Special Situations

- **Immediate Safety Concern:** Officials may require immediate removal without warning.
- **Multiple Spectators:** The Game Administrator may remove all involved spectators.
- **Refusal to Comply:** Site security or law enforcement shall be contacted by game administration. The contest remains suspended until resolved.



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Reporting

- Officials shall submit a written report to MHSAA following the contest, documenting:
 - The nature of the spectator conduct
 - Administrative action taken
 - Any delay or suspension of play
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Host School Responsibility

- The host school shall ensure a **clearly identified and readily accessible Game Administrator** is present for the entire contest.
 - Failure to provide adequate game administration may result in contest delays and MHSAA review.
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This protocol is consistent with NFHS principles regarding game administration, sportsmanship, and contest control.

MHSAA Spectator Ejection Policy

Section 2 - General Penalties, Section 2.8.2 (added at the end): Any attendee ejected by mutual agreement of the Official and Administration from a regular season or MHSAA tournament contest will incur a minimum three (3) game/event suspension from that team's games/events and all other MHSAA games/events in the interim at any level of competition. If the ejection occurs with fewer than three (3) games/events remaining in the team's season, the suspension will carry over to the school's sports season which immediately follows. An attendee ejected for a second time during a school year shall be suspended for a minimum of one (1) calendar year from all MHSAA regular and postseason events. MHSAA member schools may increase these minimum penalties at their discretion.

For more information or questions on the Ejection Policy, contact Amy

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**WHEREVER YOU PLAY,
MHSAA IS ON YOUR TEAM.**