

- 19.12.0 HEARING OFFICER - THE RECOMMENDATION** - The recommended decisions to the WIAA Executive Director proposed by the Hearing Officer shall be written and shall include specific findings and conclusions that support the particular recommendations. The recommended decisions shall either affirm or reverse the decision of the Eligibility Committee, or take the petition under advisement for a period not to exceed five (5) school business days for the purpose of seeking additional information.
- 19.12.1 The written finding(s) of and recommendation(s) of the Hearing Officer shall be delivered to the Office of the WIAA Executive Director as expeditiously as possible, but in no case later than five (5) school business days of that member school following the date of the conclusion of the hearing or time period for seeking additional information.
  - 19.12.2 WIAA Executive Director - The Decision - The WIAA Executive Director shall review the findings and recommendation of the Hearing Officer and shall either affirm or deny the recommendation of the Hearing Officer. The decision rendered by the Executive Director shall be written and shall include the findings and conclusions that support the particular determination and may include conditions for granting eligibility. The decision of the Executive Director is final.
  - 19.12.3 A copy of the written decision of the Executive Director in each case shall be sent to the petitioner-appellant as expeditiously as possible but in no case later than five (5) school business days of that member school following the date of the conclusion of the hearing or time period for seeking additional information.
  - 19.12.4 Any student who remains aggrieved by a decision of the WIAA Executive Director and/or WIAA Executive Board may appeal to the Superior Court pursuant to RCW 28A.645.010 through RCW 28A.645.030, as now or hereafter amended.
- 19.13.0 PROTESTS OF ELIGIBILITY** - Any member school, which has reason to believe that a student is not in compliance with WIAA eligibility standards, may protest the student's eligibility by written notification to the principal of the school that the student attends.
- 19.13.1 Whenever the eligibility of a student is protested in the manner described above, a representative of the school which the student attends shall notify the student of their protested ineligibility and right to apply to the WIAA District Eligibility Committee as prescribed in Article 19 of the Handbook concerning their eligibility.
  - 19.13.2 In addition to the above, the District Eligibility Chairperson may appoint a Fact Finder to investigate matters pertaining to the protest.
  - 19.13.3 In addition to the above requirements, the District Eligibility Chairperson may, as an added condition of eligibility, require that a transferring student submit a WIAA Previous School Statement. This form must be signed by the principal of the school from which the student has transferred, indicating the principal's approval of athletic eligibility for the transferring student. A copy of the signed form must be retained on file in the school office for the duration of the student's attendance at that school.
  - 19.13.4 Unless such written protest is submitted by that member school at least seven (7) school business days before the student's first opportunity to participate in an interscholastic contest, the student shall remain eligible during the appeal process provided for in Article 19 of this Handbook.

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## **20.0.0 EJECTION FROM CONTEST**

- 20.1.0 EJECTION FROM CONTEST** - Conduct resulting in an ejection from an interscholastic contest administered by game officials, coaches or school administrators shall result in the following:
- NOTE 1: Two (2) technical assessed during a basketball game are considered to be an ejection.
- NOTE 2: Any player who is issued a second yellow card caution in the same soccer match will be disqualified from participating for the remainder of the match. This will not be counted as an ejection and schools will not be required to report it as an ejection.
- 20.1.1 For the remainder of the contest in which the ejection occurred:
    - A. When a student is ejected, the coach continues to be responsible for the student. The student shall remain with the team.
    - B. When a coach or other adult school representative is ejected, the coach or other adult school representative must vacate the playing area (gymnasium, field, and stadium.) If a head coach is ejected, an assistant coach or any school district personnel authorized to supervise students may assume the head coaching responsibilities for the remainder of the contest. If no other school district personnel are on site, the contest will be terminated and forfeiture declared.
  - 20.1.2 The school principal/designee is required to submit an ejection report online to the WIAA office within one (1) school business day following the completion of the contest in which the ejection occurred.

- 20.1.3 The first ejection of the season shall result, at a minimum, in the ejected person (student, coach, other school representative) being **suspended** until after the next school contest in that sport at the same level of competition from which the person was ejected has been completed.

A. An ejection due to violent conduct by a player or a coach shall result in a suspension equal to twenty percent (20%) of the number of allowable contests for that sport as indicated below.				
Number of regular season contests in that sport	1-7	8-11	12-15	16-20
Number of contests to fulfill suspension	1	2	3	4
1. Violent conduct is defined as the commission of a violent act against an opponent, spectator, teammate or other individual(s) when in or out of play. A player or coach is guilty of violent conduct if they use excessive force or brutality against an opponent when not in the play. They are also guilty of violent conduct if they use excessive force or brutality against a teammate, spectator, or any other person. Violent conduct may occur either on the field of play or outside its boundaries, whether the person is in play or not.				

- B. The WIAA staff and/or WIAA Executive Board may increase a suspension based upon the aggressive conduct, inappropriate language, and/or circumstances following an ejection.
- C. Even though a jamboree does not count as a contest for the purposes of meeting the suspension period, the suspended person is not allowed to participate in a jamboree.
- D. A student who is on suspension may be on the team bench, but not in the school uniform, during the suspension period.
- E. Any coach ejected shall not be involved in coaching to any degree during the contest from which they are suspended and shall not be allowed into the facility (gymnasium, field, stadium, locker room or hallway, etc.) during a contest during the suspension period.

Whenever a baseball coach is ejected, a two-part plan that is meant to reduce the number of baseball coach ejections must be completed, which requires an ejected coach to complete the NFHS "Teaching and Modeling Behavior" online course and develop a plan to reduce ejections overall with their athletic director, principal, and superintendent/designee <u>before the coach may be allowed to return to coach</u> .
There is a fee for the course which can be found at <a href="https://nfhslearn.com/courses/teaching-and-modeling-behavior">https://nfhslearn.com/courses/teaching-and-modeling-behavior</a> as well as a link on the WIAA baseball page under "helpful links". The certificate of completion and the plan to reduce ejections must be received by Cindy Adsit, <a href="mailto:cadsit@wiaa.com">cadsit@wiaa.com</a> , <u>before the coach may be allowed to return to coach</u> .

- 20.1.4 Should a participant be unable to complete a suspension during the sports season in which the ejection occurs, the suspension shall be carried over into the participant's succeeding season of participation. In order for the suspension in the succeeding season of participation to meet this requirement, the participant must be a member of the team for the entire season for that sport.

- A. The suspension for violent conduct will be based upon the maximum number of contests allowed to be played in that sport, not the number of contests scheduled or played by the school in that sport.

	Regular season contest limitation during subsequent season			
<b>Served 0 during season ejected</b>	1-7	8-11	12-15	16-20
1-7 regular season contest limitation	1	2	3	4
8-11 regular season contest limitation	1	2	3	4
12-15 regular season contest limitation	1	2	3	4
16-20 regular season contest limitation	1	2	3	4
<b>Served 1 during season ejected</b>	Regular season contest limitation during subsequent season			
1-7 regular season contest limitation	0	n/a	n/a	n/a
8-11 regular season contest limitation	1	1	2	2
12-15 regular season contest limitation	1	1	2	3

16-20 regular season contest limitation	1	2	2	3
<b>Served 2 during season ejected</b>				
8-11 regular season contest limitation	0	0	0	0
12-15 regular season contest limitation	0	1	1	2
16-20 regular season contest limitation	0	1	2	2
<b>Served 3 during season ejected</b>				
12-15 regular season contest limitation	0	0	0	0
16-20 regular season contest limitation	0	0	0	1

20.1.5 The second ejection in the same sport and season for that individual shall result in being suspended for the remainder of the season of that sport.

20.1.6 For aggressive physical contact with an official the individual will be suspended from further competition for a period not to exceed one (1) calendar year.

20.1.7 Any school with five or more ejections during a school year must follow the protocol below:

A. The first year that a school has five (5) or more ejections, the school must submit a written plan of action to reduce the number of ejections prior to the proceeding September WIAA Executive Board meeting.

The written plan must include the following elements: Accountability, Action Plan, Evaluation Plan, Specific Expectations and Timeline.

B. The second year that a school has five (5) or more ejections, the school principal/designee shall meet with a designated WIAA executive staff member at the WIAA office and present the school's sportsmanship plan.

C. The third year that a school has five (5) or more ejections, the school principal/designee, coaches and student athletes representing the school must present the school's sportsmanship plan to the WIAA Executive Board during the September WIAA Executive Board meeting.

## 21.0.0 EJECTION AND/OR SUSPENSION AS A RESULT OF AN EJECTION MAY BE APPEALED

Q&A	21.1.0	<b>EJECTION AND/OR SUSPENSION AS A RESULT OF AN EJECTION MAY BE APPEALED</b>
	21.1.1	An ejection and/or suspension as the result of an ejection based on a judgment call made by a contest official(s) may be appealed. Only a school approved video, submitted by the principal or designee, will be used to determine whether an ejection was due to incorrect or poor judgment on the part of the ejecting contest official(s.)
	21.1.2	Ejections resulting from a misinterpretation or misapplication of a playing rule on the part of the ejecting contest official(s) may be appealed. Video cannot be used as evidence when appealing a misinterpretation or misapplication of a playing rule.
	21.1.3	<b>IF THERE ARE TWO (2) OR MORE SCHOOL BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE NEXT REGULAR SEASON CONTEST FOR THE INDIVIDUAL THE APPEAL WILL BE REVIEWED BY THE WIAA ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF</b>
	21.1.3.1	For appeal of an ejection due to incorrect or poor judgement on the part of the ejecting contest official(s).

A. The principal/designee of the ejected person must contact the WIAA administrative staff within one (1) school business day after the conclusion of the contest in which the ejection occurred to verify incorrect or poor judgment on the part of the contest official(s).

B. The video documenting poor judgment must be submitted within one (1) school business day after the conclusion of the contest during which the ejection occurred.

C. The video submitted must clearly document the situation/play in which the ejection occurred.

D. The WIAA administrative staff will have a minimum of two (2) school business days in order to make a decision regarding the appeal.

E. After watching a video submitted by a school to appeal a suspension of its participant(s) and/or coach(es) for incorrect or poor judgment on the part of the official(s), the WIAA administrative staff have the ability to suspend a participant or coach from either team if their behavior warranted ejection but was unseen by the officials working the contest.

- F. The decision of the WIAA administrative staff regarding the ejection is final and may not be further appealed.
- 21.1.3.2 **For appeal of an ejection due to misinterpretation or misapplication of a playing rule**
- A. The principal/designee of the ejected person must contact the WIAA administrative staff within one (1) school business day after the conclusion of the contest in which the ejection occurred to verify a misapplication/misinterpretation of the rule.
- B. **The decision of the WIAA administrative staff regarding the misinterpretation or misapplication is final and may not be further appealed.**
- C. Providing the WIAA administrative staff verifies a misinterpretation or misapplication of the rule, the principal/designee may appeal the outcome of the contest in which the ejection occurred to the school's league.
1. **APPEAL OF LEAGUE DECISION – follow WIAA handbook rule 27.0.0**
- a. If the school is not a member of a league, the appeal will be filed directly with the District Board of the WIAA District in which the school is a member.
- b. **OPPOSING SCHOOL (LEAGUE MEMBER) APPEAL OF LEAGUE - If the opposing school is a member of the same league, they may appeal the decision of the league to the WIAA district board in which the league is located.**
- c. **OPPOSING SCHOOL (NON-LEAGUE MEMBER) APPEAL OF LEAGUE - If the opposing school is not a member of the same league, but both leagues are in the same WIAA District, they may appeal the decision of the league to the WIAA district board in which the leagues are located.**
- d. **OPPOSING SCHOOL (NON-DISTRICT MEMBER) APPEAL OF LEAGUE - If the opposing school is not a member of the same WIAA District, they may appeal the decision of the league to the District Director's Appeals Board.**
- 21.1.4 **IF THE NEXT REGULAR SEASON CONTEST FOR THE INDIVIDUAL WILL BE ON THE SAME DAY OR THE NEXT DAY, THE APPEAL MUST BE HEARD BY A GAMES COMMITTEE**
- 21.1.4.1 Each league and District must have a Games Committee selected and named prior to the start of the season (refer to Article 47.0.0)
- 21.1.5 **FOR LEAGUE/DISTRICT/REGIONAL/QUALIFYING AND/OR STATE EVENTS (POSTSEASON EVENTS), THE APPEAL MUST BE HEARD BY A GAMES COMMITTEE**
- 21.1.5.1 **POSTSEASON APPEAL TIMELINE** - The principal/designee of the ejected person must contact the event manager immediately after the conclusion of the contest in which the ejection occurred to verify a misapplication or misinterpretation of the rule.
- 21.1.5.2 **MISAPPLICATION/MISINTERPRETATION MUST BE VERIFIED BY WIAA STAFF** Providing the WIAA administrative staff finds a misapplication or misinterpretation of the rule, the principal/designee may appeal the suspension to the Games Committee (refer to Article 47.0.0).
- 21.1.5.3 **If WIAA administrative staff review cannot be completed prior to the next contest or a Games Committee is not available, the suspension must be fulfilled.**
- A. If the suspension is fulfilled, an appeal can still be processed by the WIAA administrative staff, for the sole purpose to remove the ejection from the individual's record and the school ejection count.
- 21.1.6 **SECOND EJECTION OR FOR AGGRESSIVE PHYSICAL CONTACT AGAINST AN OFFICIAL** - The severity of the penalty for the second ejection or for aggressive physical contact may be appealed to the WIAA Executive Director upon presentation of rationale and written documentation signed by the WIAA member school principal or superintendent desiring and supporting penalty modification within two (2) school business days after the conclusion of the contest in which the ejection occurred.

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## 22.0.0 GAMES COMMITTEE

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- 22.1.0 Games Committee Defined -Each league/District/Event Manager shall appoint and name a predetermined Games Committee for all regular season events with less than two (2) calendar days between contests and all postseason