

Player Disqualification

The South Carolina Independent School Association believes that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program. High standards of behavior, scholarship, and citizenship are important to a sound athletic program. Students volunteering to participate in athletics must assume the responsibilities of this privilege and are required to meet these expectations. Moreover, adults shall be models of good sportsmanship and will lead by example by demonstrating fairness, respect, and self-control. Athletes, coaches, officials, and fans shall at all times conduct themselves in a reasonable and sportsmanlike manner. Each person will be responsible for his/her words and actions at all SCISA athletic events and will conform his/her behavior in adherence to the Code of Conduct.

Conduct that leads to an ejection/disqualification will be considered as serious unsportsmanlike conduct or a violation of a safety rule. Depending upon the severity of the offense, a player or coach may be warned, fined, suspended or placed on probation. These offenses are cumulative over the student's career. The disqualification of a coach will be considered on a case by case basis.

GUIDELINES FOR A PLAYER DISQUALIFICATION/EJECTION FROM AN ATHLETIC EVENT

FIRST OFFENSE: The student shall receive: an Official warning, in football a one game suspension/other sports a two game suspension, required to complete an online sportsmanship course, and perform community service. If the disqualification is for unsportsmanlike, or flagrant illegal conduct, a \$100 Fine. Note: Additional games may be assessed due to the nature of the offense.

SECOND OFFENSE: a \$200 fine and suspension until an appearance before the Athletic Committee or SCISA staff. Additional online courses and community service will also be assessed by the Association.

THIRD OFFENSE: will result in the termination of eligibility (reinstatement may only be granted by the Athletic Committee and a \$500 Fine if reinstated by the Athletic Committee).

You had a player disqualified from a game, what do you do now?

1. Report the disqualification. Provide the student's name, jersey #, grade, and indicate if the student had ever been disqualified from a game before, at any level.
2. Describe the play or circumstance.
3. Cite action taken by the school.

Can you "appeal" the disqualification?

Yes. The school shall notify SCISA of the intent to appeal the disqualification by 10:00AM of the next school day following the disqualification. *Exception: If the school has another game before the next school day the disqualification must be reported by email (athletics@scisa.org) or by phone (803-308-0330) before the next game.* The school shall file a written appeal brief within 24 hours of the conclusion of the contest to SCISA by e-mail or fax. The appeal must include conclusive video evidence that either the wrong player was identified or that a rule was misapplied. The Review Committee has sole discretion in the video evaluation. The school shall mail a \$100 Appeal Fee. The player may participate during the appeal process. If the appeal is successful, the \$100 shall be returned to the school. If the appeal is unsuccessful, the \$100 shall be forfeited to SCISA.

SCISA Return-to-Play Protocol Following a Disqualification - Student

1. Penalty or Consequence.

The player will be suspended for at least the next game for conduct that led to his or her disqualification. The number of games suspended can be increased based upon the severity of the offense and/or if this is the student's second or third disqualification in the student's SCISA athletic career (from B-Team through varsity participation). A student must appear before the Athletic Committee to seek reinstatement for his or her third disqualification. SCISA may impose a fine in addition to any suspensions once the facts have been reviewed. Termination of athletic participation may be assessed by the Athletic Committee after careful review of any serious incident.

2. Education.

The student will complete the NFHS learn course on Sportsmanship. The NFHS developed this free course to give you a better understanding of sportsmanship, how it impacts the educational process and identifies your specific role in modeling it at all interscholastic athletic events. Insight is shared throughout the course from fans, players, parents, teacher-coaches and officials. This course will help provide schools a more positive game environment. The student shall complete the course within five days of the disqualification and will submit the certificate indicating successful completion of the course.

3. Exhibition of Positive Behavior.

The student will be required to complete a minimum of five (5) hours of community service at his or her school. The AD or school administration will assign service work to complete this requirement within 10 school days of the disqualification.