



## OHSAA WRESTLING BULLETIN

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### Ejection and Ejection Report Protocol

A flagrant misconduct penalty or two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties administered to a coach, a wrestler (not competing in a match) and other team personnel come with significant consequences. The attendant penalties include team point deductions, the forfeiture of earned team points and contest ejections mandated by NFHS rules. Furthermore, the OHSAA imposes additional contest ineligibility penalties barring participation in a defined number of future competition events. If the ejection penalty is for fighting the OHSAA contest ineligibility penalty becomes more stringent. Given the seriousness of such penalties, it is incumbent upon all officials to become intimately familiar with the NFHS rules that govern flagrant misconduct and unsportsmanlike conduct acts, as well as the reporting requirements to the OHSAA office so the penalties can be adjudicated in an expeditious manner.

Unsportsmanlike conduct and flagrant misconduct penalties imposed on coaches and other team personnel are defined by NFHS Rules 7-5-3 and 7-5-5, respectively. Unsportsmanlike conduct of contestants during a match is defined (partially) under NFHS Rule 7-4-2 and the penalty administration is set forth in NFHS Rule 8-1-3. The forgoing penalties are administered in accordance with the Penalty Chart below.

	Rule	Warning	1 <sup>st</sup> Penalty	2 <sup>nd</sup> Penalty	3 <sup>rd</sup> Penalty	4 <sup>th</sup> Penalty
Unsportsmanlike Conduct by Contestants During a Match <sup>1</sup>	7-4-2, 8-1-3	No	1 Match pt.	1 Match pt.	2 Match pts.	Disqualification
Unsportsmanlike Conduct – Contestants (not during match), Coaches and Other Team Personnel	7-4-2, 7-5-3, 8-1-5	No	Deduct 1 Team pt.	Remove from premises immediately on second penalty and deduct 2 team pts. Removal is for the remainder of the event, day/dual meet or tournament.		
Flagrant Misconduct - Contestants	7-4-3, 8-1-7	No	Disqualify on first offense, deduct 3 team pts. and remove from premises immediately for the duration of the event. Contestant is eliminated from further competition for the remainder of a dual meet, multiple school event or tournament and no team points can be earned in an individual tournament. In dual meet competition, any team points earned shall be negated.			
Flagrant Misconduct – Coaches and Other Team Personnel	7-5-5, 8-1-7	No	Remove from premises immediately on first offense and deduct 3 team pts. Removal is for the dual meet, remainder of a multiple school event or tournament.			

<sup>1</sup>Rule 5-17-2: "A match begins when the proper wrestler reports to the scorer's table in dual matches and tournaments until the conclusion of wrestling. The conclusion of wrestling occurs when the time expires at the end of the third period, when the overtime ends, or when a fall technical fall, disqualification or default occurs".

## Unsportsmanlike Conduct

**Note that an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty administered to a contestant during a match is managed differently than an unsportsmanlike penalty imposed prior to or after the conclusion of a match.** The definition of a match is set forth in NFHS Rule 5-17-2. In general, an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty imposed on a contestant during a match is progressively penalized in accordance with the penalty chart as a match point, while an unsportsmanlike penalty imposed prior to or after the conclusion of a match is penalized as a team point(s).

- Administering a 4<sup>th</sup> penalty during a match for unsportsmanlike conduct or a combination of penalties including unsportsmanlike conduct during a match results in a disqualification from the match and does not result in a deduction of team points, earned team points or an ejection from the contest and removal from the premises. A wrestler disqualified from a match due to penalty chart progression is still eligible to compete in a multiple school event or tournament competition.
- Continuing acts of unsportsmanlike conduct or unnecessary roughness during a match may be construed by the referee as flagrant misconduct.
- The administration of a two unsportsmanlike conduct penalties to a contestant (outside of a match), other team personnel or a coach results in the deduction of one team point on the first offense and 2 team points and removal from the premises for the remainder of the event, day/dual meet or tournament on the second offense.

## Flagrant Misconduct

Contestants - Disqualify on first offense, deduct 3 team points. and remove from premises for the duration of the event. Contestant is eliminated from further competition for the remainder of a dual meet, multiple school event or tournament and all earned team points are forfeited in an individual tournament. In dual meet competition, any team points earned shall be negated.

Coaches and Other Team Personnel - Remove from premises on the first offense and deduct 3 team points. Removal is for the dual meet, remainder of a multiple school event or tournament.

## Ejection Protocol

Contestants and other student-athletes who are penalized for flagrant misconduct or twice for unsportsmanlike conduct (not during a match) are to be removed from the premises only if there is an authorized school representative available to supervise the ejected contestant/student-athlete. Otherwise, the offending contestant/student-athlete must remain with the team under the direct supervision of the head coach.

If a head coach is penalized for flagrant misconduct or twice for unsportsmanlike conduct resulting in removal from the premises and no other authorized school representative is available to supervise the team, the event shall be terminated and the team whose coach was removed forfeits to the opponent.

Tournament managers, site administrators and other referees at the event have no authority to rescind or modify the consequences attendant to an ejection penalty. The penalizing official cannot rescind the penalty.

### OHSAA Ejection Reporting Protocol

For the OHSAA to expeditiously adjudicate the disposition of an ejection penalty, it is imperative for the penalizing official to timely file a Game Report.

The OHSAA Ejection Reporting Protocol is set forth in the Handbook for Officials Section IX(3)(A.-F.) (see page 20 of the 2020-2021 edition). The following bullets are pertinent to the protocol.

- Officials **must** file a Game Report within **48 hours** of the ejection with the OHSAA office.
  - Communicate with the offender's principal or athletic director no later than the first school day following the ejection to apprise the administrator of the circumstances that led to the ejection.
  - Submit the Game Report electronically via the myOHSAA portal.
    - In the upper right-hand corner of the Dashboard click on "Official". On the left-hand menu side of the page scroll down to "Submit New Game Report" and open. Populate the appropriate fields (the "Report Topic" from the drop-down menu is: "Ejection"). In the "Details" text box describe the situation that led to the ejection. Report the facts and not conjecture. In your description of the situation **be detailed as possible** and **quote the appropriate NFHS Rules citation(s)** supporting the ejection.
    - If the ejection was the result of fighting, please specify. The definition of fighting is found in the OHSAA General Sports Regulations and is defined as follows: "Fighting is any attempt by a player or non-player to strike or engage a player or non-player in a combative manner unrelated to the sport. Such acts include, but are not limited to, attempts to strike an opponent(s) with the arm(s), hand(s), leg(s), or foot (feet), whether or not there is contact." An ejection for fighting carries additional contest ineligibility ramifications.
    - Upon clicking the submit button, the school A.D. and OHSAA will automatically be sent copies of the Game Report.
    - Response notifications will be sent to the relevant parties once the protocol has been completed.
    - The OHSAA may contact the official who filed the Game Report if additional information is needed.
    - Failure to file the ejection report may result in a fine.

Do not discuss potential OHSAA imposed contest ineligibility penalties with coaches or school administrators. Contest ineligibility penalties are administered solely by the OHSAA office. Refer all questions relating to contest ineligibility penalties to the OHSAA office.

In addition to ejection reporting, the Game Report portal is used to report concussions, suspected concussions, facility commendations/deficiencies, injury issues **and commendations relating to good sportsmanship**.

Officials are encouraged to file Game Reports that acknowledge acts of good sportsmanship.

### NFHS Wrestling Rules Questionnaire

The NFHS wrestling rules questionnaire is now available for coaches and officials to fill out directly through the link below. Ohio has always been at the forefront of the evolution of rules changes in our sport. By completing this questionnaire, you are providing valuable input to the NFHS Wrestling Rules Committee on behalf of Ohio scholastic wrestling.

<http://www.nfhs.org/sports-resource-content/nfhs-sport-questionnaires/>

Please click the link button above to participate in the rules questionnaire process. This link is to be used only by coaches and officials – Please do not share the link with anyone else. You are NOT required to log in to complete the questionnaire. The OHSAA thanks you in advance for your participation.

**THE QUESTIONNAIRE WILL CLOSE ON MARCH 1, 2021**

If any questions arise contact your local rules interpreter, any of our SRIs or me.

Toby Dunlap  
OHSAA Director of Officiating Development - Wrestling