SPORTSMANSHIP/EJECTION POLICY - The policy applies to all persons involved in an athletic contest, including student-athletes, coaches, managers and game administrators. The following examples include behavior or conduct which will result in an ejection from a contest:

- **fighting**, which includes, but is not limited to, combative acts such as:
  - an attempt to strike an opponent with a fist, hands, arms, legs or feet
  - an attempt to punch or kick an opponent, regardless of whether or not contact is made
  - an attempt to instigate a fight by committing an unsportsmanlike act toward an opponent that causes an opponent to retaliate
  - leaving the bench area to participate in a fight (contact or no contact)
- **biting observed by an official**
- **taunting, baiting or spitting toward an opponent**
- **profanity**, directed toward an official or opponent
- **obscene gestures,** including gesturing in such a manner as to intimidate
- **disrespectfully addressing (physically contacting an official is subject to automatic expulsion and can result in ineligibility for remainder of career) an official**

Penalty for an ejection for the above reasons:

- football - ejection from the contest, miss the next contest at that level and all contests in the interim **(miss the next two contests for fighting)**
- all other sports - ejection from the contest, miss the next two contests at that level and all contests in the interim **(miss the next four contests for fighting)**

INDIVIDUALS: **Players receiving two ejections for unacceptable behavior as defined above will be suspended from all sports for the remainder of that sport season**. Receiving a third ejection in a school year will result in suspension from athletics for one calendar year (365 days from the date of the third ejection).

TEAMS: **Teams in the following situations will not be allowed to participate in the playoffs:**

- **a team whose players and coaches accumulate six or more individual ejections**
- **a team whose players and coaches accumulate three or more individual ejections for fighting** (note: if a situation occurs where three or more players on one team are ejected during one fighting incident, those three individual ejections will cause the team to lose its playoff privileges)

If a team hits either threshold (total ejections or ejections for fighting) during the playoffs, it will be disqualified from further participation in the playoffs.

Penalties are cumulative from sport to sport and from sport season to sport season, but not academic year to academic year. Ejections in the last game of the season carry over to the next sport season in which the individual participates that year. Ejected players may practice during their suspensions but may not play. Ejected coaches may not be on the premises for a contest. The coach must leave the premises (press box, bleachers, adjacent field, etc.) and must not have any type of contact with the team.

If no member of the school's coaching staff is present to assume the ejected coach's duties, the contest in terminated by a forfeit.

Anytime a student/coach is ejected from a game/meet, he/she does not participate/coach the remainder of that day. The student/coach is also suspended from the next two scheduled, rescheduled or contracted date at that level of competition (one in football) and all games/meets in the interim at other levels of competition.

The coach is not permitted to be at the game site during his/her suspension, but the student is allowed at the game site.

Any student athlete/coach/administrator who is ejected or disqualified from a contest is required to complete the STAR Sportsmanship Program before being eligible to return to competition.

CLARIFICATION:

FOR SOCCER ONLY:

Coaches and athletic directors will be responsible for tracking yellow cards accumulated by their players.

- Five yellow cards accumulated by the same player will result in a suspension (miss next contest at that level and all contests in the interim)
- An additional five yellow cards accumulated by the same player (season total of 10) will result in an ejection. The player will be suspended from all sports for the remainder of that season on the 15th yellow card (or second ejection).
- A red card disqualification that is not an ejection is the equivalent of two yellow cards. Penalties are enforced at the conclusion of the game, and an ejection report must also be filed at the appropriate time for accumulation of yellow cards.
- Yellow cards are reset to zero once playoffs begin (all previous penalties must be served).
- With three yellow cards in playoffs, player is suspended for next game. A total of five yellow cards and any player is out for remainder of playoffs and may carry over to other sports.

FOR WRESTLING, TRACK, TENNIS, GOLF, CROSS-COUNTRY AND SWIMMING:

Any individual ejected from an individual event or individual tournament may not participate for the remainder of the event (entire day(s) of competition or tournament) from which he or she was ejected. Additionally, the individual may not participate in the next scheduled two events or any other events, in any sport, at any level, in the interim.

Athletes are expected to sign the sportsmanship pledge, and coaches are expected to sign the code of conduct for coaches.