



To: NJSIAA Program Review Committee

From: Paul Popadiuk, Chief Compliance Officer

Date: May 31, 2024

RE: Specific Sport Regulations – Section 4. Disqualification (a) Clarification

Proposal

NJSIAA staff recommends the following clarification be added to Specific Sport Regulations – Section 4. Disqualifications – to ensure that member schools uphold the Association’s long-standing disqualification rule for student-athletes and coaches. This is especially necessary to ensure the rule is upheld when disqualifications occur during competition against non-NJSIAA member schools or while competing out of state.

Specific Sport Regulations – Section 4. Disqualification

4. Disqualification

- a. Any Student-Athlete or coach disqualified before, during or after an interscholastic event for unsportsmanlike and flagrant verbal or physical misconduct will be disqualified from the next two (2) regularly scheduled games/meets, with the exception of football which will carry a one (1) game disqualification, at that level of competition and all other game(s)/meet(s) in the interim at any level in addition to any other penalties which the NJSIAA or a league/conference may assess.

CL 1: Once a coach/player has been disqualified, NO appeals will be honored from the player, coach, official or any other party. Disqualification is a judgement call and officials must be certain the act warrants disqualification. All complaints against an official must be directed to the official’s Chapter Secretary and the NJSIAA.

CL 2: Scrimmages are not considered part of the disqualification rule.

CL 3: The National Federation Rules do not permit a wrestler to continue to participate in a tournament if there is a flagrant disqualification. The NJSIAA rule requires a two-match sit-out. Even though the wrestler is not permitted to wrestle in the remainder of that tournament, said wrestler may fulfill the two-match disqualification, provided his team continues to wrestle in scheduled events.

CL 4: A second disqualification for an individual in any game/meet/match supersedes NFHS rules in this regard.

CL 5: Member schools are responsible for upholding the disqualification rule. It is the responsibility of the coach to report any disqualification (student-athlete or coach) to the athletic director. It is the responsibility of the athletic director to report the disqualification to NJSIAA staff if a disqualification notice is not received from the notification system by noon the next day. This includes disqualifications that may occur during competition against non-NJSIAA member schools, irrespective of where the competition occurs.