

Player/Coach Violations and Minimum Penalties

ACT	PENALTIES
1. First ejection of player from a contest or scrimmage for unsportsmanlike conduct.	Ineligible for the next regularly scheduled UHSAA contest at that level and any intervening levels of play. (Adopted Fall 2018) The following is the definition of a contest by sport: Baseball (7 innings) Basketball (4 Quarters) Cross Country/Track & Field (Meet) Drill (Competition) Football (4 Quarters) Golf (Match) Lacrosse (4 quarters) Soccer (2 Halves) Softball (7 innings) Swimming (Meet) Tennis (Match) Volleyball (Match) Wrestling (Match) An overtime period(s) will not be included in determining the length of a suspension. In addition, contests ended by mercy-rule or early termination count as a contest.
2. First ejection of coach from a contest or scrimmage for unsportsmanlike conduct.	Ineligible for the next regularly scheduled contest at that level and any intervening levels of play. Player contest equivalents do not apply.
3. Taunting, defined as including racial slurs, discriminatory acts, and divisive comments on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, creed, or national origin.	Ineligibility for the following number of regularly scheduled UHSAA contests at the level and any intervening levels of play. Players - 1 st offense (2 contests), 2 nd offense (4 contests) and 3 rd offense (season and all other sports in the school year) Coaches – 1 st offense (2 contests) and 2 nd offense (suspension for season)
4. Second ejection of a player or a coach from a contest during the same season of sport for unsportsmanlike conduct.	Ineligibility for the next two contests as in rule one for players and rule two for coaches.
5. A third ejection of a player or a coach from a contest during the same season of a sport for unsportsmanlike conduct.	Ineligibility for one calendar year (365 days) from the date of ejection.
6. Coaches or players ejected for violent behavior.	Ineligibility for not fewer than two regularly scheduled contests. In addition, the incident shall be reported to the school or district, which may impose additional penalties consistent with the school's disciplinary policies.
7. When a player leaves the "bench" area to begin a confrontation or leaves these areas during an altercation.	Ejection from contest for those players designated by the officials. The officials may terminate the contest. One or both teams may forfeit the contest.
8. Illegal participation in the next contest by a player ejected in previous contest.	Ineligibility for remainder of the season for the player. Forfeiture of contest.
9. Illegal placement of ejected player or illegal participation by coach ejected in previous contest.	Ineligible to coach until the decision of a hearing with the UHSAA ejection appeals panel.
10. Any acts of a more serious nature by individuals or teams or situations not specifically covered by this policy or the UHSAA Handbook.	Executive Committee may determine and implement penalties for individuals and teams not otherwise specified by UHSAA By-Laws.
11. If an act occurs in the UHSAA Finals and both teams are charged with a forfeit.	After deliberation by the UHSAA and a double forfeit is in order, there will be no champion.
12. Ejections occurring on the final contest of the season will carry over for all coaches and underclassmen to the first contest of the succeeding season in that sport. For senior students who participate in multiple sports, they will be required to serve their suspension in the subsequent sport season.	
13. A player who is restricted or ejected shall remain in the bench area with the team. A coach who is ejected shall leave the vicinity (out of sight and sound) of the playing or contest area immediately and is prohibited from any further contact (direct or indirect) with the team for the remainder of the contest or contest.	
14. The UHSAA Executive staff is empowered to enact suspension penalties for flagrant or violent acts whether detected or not by officials. For the purpose of this policy, the UHSAA Executive Committee considers taunting as described in Rule 3 to a flagrant act.	
15. A one-contest suspension may be enacted against any coach or player who approaches an official at the conclusion of the contest in an unsportsmanlike manner. A thirty-minute cooling off period is in place after a contest where coaches and players are banned from approaching officials. This includes the dressing room areas, parking lots or any other area where contest officials are located. The official will make the report to the UHSAA and the ejection notice will be forwarded to the school through the administration.	
16. Schools are not allowed to schedule a contest to avoid the ejection policy penalty.	
17. Sportsmanship conduct rules apply to all competitions (i.e. preseason, region and post-season play).	

APPEALS PROCEDURE – Coaches

Please refer to the UHSAA Handbook for the procedure to appeal. **Reminder that PLAYER EJECTIONS ARE NOT APPEALABLE.**

PHYSICAL ASSAULT

Any student or coach who physically assaults the person of a contest or event official shall be banned from interscholastic athletics for the remainder of the student's eligibility. A contest or event official is defined as a referee, umpire or any other official assigned to interpret or enforce rules competition at an event. A student may, after a lapse of 18 calendar months from the date of the incident, apply for reinstatement of eligibility to the UHSAA office.

Fan/Spectator Policies and Minimum Penalties

ACT	PENALTIES
1. Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Not Involving Taunting)	Game Administrator gives a Yellow Card to participant in question. The names of individuals who receive Yellow Cards will be tracked by the school to ensure on-going compliance. An individual's record will be expunged if they complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Course.
2. 1 st Ejection because of Taunting/Unsportsmanlike Behavior	Three-game suspension from UHSAA activities. The ejected party must complete the NFHS Sportsmanship Clinic and meet with their school principal before reinstatement. Taunting/racist language do not require a yellow card warning before ejection from the facility.
3. 2 nd Ejection because of Taunting/Unsportsmanlike Behavior	Ejection for the remainder of the sport season (All UHSAA activities).
4. 3 rd Ejection because of Taunting/Unsportsmanlike Behavior	Ban for one calendar year from UHSAA activities.
Yellow-Card Protocol: The yellow card will be given by a game administrator who notes a fan that is breaking protocol but isn't engaging in acts of taunting. The administrator is responsible to track the name of the individual receiving the card and is responsible to notify them that if their behavior continues, school administrators/law enforcement will remove them from the facility. The penalties in Act 1 will be enforced as part of the protocol.	
Red-Card Protocol: The red card will be given to fans who receive their second warning from a game administrator due to unsportsmanlike behavior or to fans who engage in acts of taunting. Fans who receive a red card will be asked to leave the facility immediately. School administrators will be responsible for tracking of individuals who receive red cards and enforcement of their behavior expectations as part of the protocol. The penalties in Act 2, 3, and 4 will be enforced as part of the protocol.	

Sportsmanship General Policy

a. General Statement of Policy

- i. The Utah High School Activities Association believes that all individuals should be treated with respect and dignity. Students should be able to participate in UHSAA-sponsored activities in an environment that is free from racial slurs, racial harassment, and racial discrimination. Furthermore, the UHSAA disapproves of any form of taunting which is intended to embarrass, ridicule or demean others under any circumstances including on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, creed, or national origin. It shall be a violation of this policy for a participant in UHSAA activities to engage in racial harassment, racial violence, or taunting. For the purpose of this policy, the UHSAA considers participants to include student-athletes, coaches, parents, and fans.

b. Definitions

- i. Racial Harassment: Racial Harassment consists of conduct relating to an individual's race when the conduct:
 1. Has the purpose or effect of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment
 2. Has the purpose or effect of emotionally or unreasonably interfering with an individual's performance
- ii. Racial Violence: Racial violence is a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonable related to race.
- iii. Taunting: Taunting includes any actions or comments by coaches, players or spectators which are intended to bait, anger, embarrass, ridicule or demean others.

c. Responsibilities

- i. While each participant in UHSAA activities is responsible for playing a role in creating a safe, educational experience, the UHSAA believes as a matter of policy that school principals and administrators are ultimately responsible for the conduct of groups associated with their school community during the regular season and postseason. It shall be the responsibility of each member school principal to exercise control over all individuals to the extent necessary to ensure safety and fair play for all participation and adherence with these standards.