

ARTICLE IV

ETHICS/PROTESTS

Section 1 - Duties of the Ethics Chairperson

1.1 The Ethics Chair/Treasurer shall be responsible to act on all protests and appeals.

1.1.1 The Ethics Chair shall form a hearing committee to adjudicate protests and appeals if there is probable merit, in any matter not under the jurisdiction of the Section

1.1.1.1 The committee shall include the Ethics Chair/Treasurer and two others from among Administrators and Athletic Directors employed at any League school. Administrators and Athletic Directors at schools involved in the protest may not be on the committee.

1.1.1.2 In the event the Ethics Chair/Treasurer's school is involved in the protest, either the president or vice president of the league will chair the protest. The League Commissioner shall chair if the President, Vice President/Treasurer and Ethics Chair/Treasurer are all involved.

1.1.1.3 Retired Athletic Directors or Administrators may be appointed to the committee if current Athletic Directors or Administrators are not available.

1.1.2 If the Ethics Chair/Treasurer, in conjunction with the league Commissioner, finds there is no merit to an appeal/protest, or that the supporting documentation is not sufficient to support an appeal/protest it shall be denied.

1.1.3 The Ethics Chair/Treasurer, or an Ethics Committee shall have the authority to rescind a suspension imposed by game officials or to make additional suspensions.

1.1.3.1 The Ethics Chair/Treasurer or Committee may review all available evidence pertaining to the specific protest/appeal, including but not limited to videos, photographs and testimony of officials, coaches, players, administrators, postings on social media and other witnesses.

1.1.3.2 The Ethics Chair/Treasurer or Committee may not review evidence not related to the specific protest/appeal.

1.2 In a situation where a decision must be made before a time deadline, the League Commissioner may collect information and make an immediate decision.

Section 2 - The Appeals Process

2.1 A protest must be filed on the CVC approved protest form with the Ethics Chair/Treasurer, League President and League Commissioner within two (2) school days of the infraction.

2.1.1 The protest form must contain the principal's signature, or the signature of the principal's designee, and be accompanied by all the documentation to support the claim.

2.1.1.1 If the protest alleges a violation by a league school, that school will be given two (2) school days from the receipt of the protest by the ethics chair to provide rebuttal information and documentation.

Revised:

2.1.1.2 Only documentation included with the protest will be considered in rendering a decision.

2.1.1.3 Additional supporting documentation, not available at the original filing, may be considered if it is presented to the Ethics Chair/Treasurer, prior to a decision. No data will be considered after a decision.

2.1.2 Failure of the protesting school to adhere to any part of the procedure will result in the protest/appeal being denied.

2.1.3 If a protest has been denied, another protest by the same school containing any issue brought forward in the previously denied protest will be denied by the Ethics Chair/Treasurer.

2.1.3.1 A similar issue not covered in the denied protest may be filed.

2.1.3.2 An issue in a previously denied protest may be filed by another school.

2.2 If the protest alleges a violation of League or Section Rules.

2.2.1 Before the protest will be accepted the principal of the protesting school must talk with the principal of the offending school. If no solution

can be reached by the two principals, the Ethics Chair/Treasurer will accept the protest.

2.3 If the protest appeals an ejection of an athlete or coach.

2.3.1 Protest must contain a justification to overturn an ejection. (i.e. ejection of the wrong person.)

2.3.2 If the appeal cannot be heard and a decision rendered prior to the next contest, the issue becomes moot, the athlete or coach will be suspended for the contest and the appeal will not go forward.

2.4 Protests which question the eligibility of a student athlete or the participation by an ineligible athlete may be filed within two (2) school days from discovery.

2.5 The Ethics Chair/Treasurer or the committee appointed by the chair will render a decision within two (2) working days. All schools involved will be notified.

2.6 There shall be no appeal to the league of an Ethics Committee ruling or the ruling of the Commissioner.

2.7 Schools may appeal decisions of the Ethics Committee to the Section.

Section 3 – Penalties

3.1 If the penalty for violation of a League by-law is included in the by-law, the Ethics Committee may impose that penalty, or a lesser penalty.

3.2 In the event no specific penalty for violation of a League bylaw is spelled out, the Ethics Committee may assess a penalty which they deem appropriate for the violation, including:

- A. Written reprimand to an athlete or coach
- B. Suspension or disqualification of an athlete or coach
- C. Forfeiture of game (s)
- D. Prohibition from playoffs (one or more years)
- E. A monetary fine ranging from \$25.00 to \$500.00.

3.3 Repeat Violations

3.3.1 A second violation of the same League by-law within three years of an Ethics finding will result in probation for a period of three years and prohibited playoff participation for one year.

3.3.2 Violation of any other League by-law while on probation, may at the discretion of an Ethics Committee result in probation for up to an additional three years.

3.3.3 Continued, multiple or especially egregious violations may result in any of the combination of the following:

A. A probation period not to exceed three years for the sport in violation and prohibited from playoff participation for the entire period of probation.

B. A period of probation for the entire sports program in the school and prohibited from playoff participation for the entire period of probation.

C. Any monetary fine previously levied is doubled, for each succeeding violation up to the \$500.00 maximum.

3.3.4 A school is not eligible to win a championship while on probation.

3.3.4.1 If a single sport is on probation, the school may not win a championship in that sport but is eligible in other sports.

3.4 A school shall forfeit all games played beyond the Section specified contact limit for that sport.

Section 4 – Ejections

4.1 Most ejections are under the jurisdiction of the Section.