

## Section 23 Penalties the District Executive Committee can Impose

2011-  
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Subject to the provisions below, the following constitute the penalties that may be imposed by the district executive committee following a determination of a violation of the TAPPS constitution, by-laws and contest rules. School personnel covered by this section are all TAPPS contest sponsors.

- A. **FOR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES.** The penalties that may be imposed by a District executive committee on a student representative of a participant school for violations of ethics, sportsmanship codes, eligibility rules, contest plans or reporting practices are: reprimand, individual suspension, and disqualification of individual district and state honors.
1. *Reprimand:* A reprimand shall be in writing and shall state the violation found, with one copy going to the school and one copy being attached to the minutes of the meeting. A reprimand may include a probationary period of up to three years, and may include any reasonable conditions, which if not fulfilled, may result in a more stringent penalty.
  2. **Individual suspension:** If an Executive committee finds that a student has failed to comply with the rules it may suspend the participant student from competition, including practice, in all germane activities for one day to three years. Suspension may include a probationary period of up to three years and may include any reasonable conditions, which if not fulfilled, may result in additional suspension.
  3. **Disqualification of individual district and state honors:** The disqualification of individual honors shall deny the awarding of all-district and all-state honors for one year. **NOTE:** A student representative may appeal penalties imposed by the district Executive committee through the membership school of the student to the Athletic Executive Committee.
- B. **FOR PARTICIPANT SCHOOLS.** The penalties that may be imposed by a district executive committee on a participant school for violations by participant school student representatives, fans, patrons or personnel, of ethics, sportsmanship codes, eligibility rules, contest plans or reporting practices are: private reprimand; public reprimand; probation; forfeiture of contest; disqualifications from germane activity; and suspension recommended.
1. *Probation.* A given period of time during which a member school, employee(s) of the member schools or a specific program of the member school is subject to critical examination and evaluation to determine if the subject on probation is in compliance with the TAPPS constitution, By-Laws, and contest rules. If the component, while on probation, is found to be in violation of the TAPPS constitution, By-Laws or contest rules, that component will be subject to more stringent sanctions.

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2. *Private Reprimand.* A private reprimand may be oral or in writing and shall not be posted on the TAPPS web site. A penalty stronger than private reprimand to the school should be strongly considered in cases involving patron or fan misconduct.
3. *Public Reprimand.* A public reprimand shall be in writing, posted on the TAPPS website, and state the violation found. A public reprimand may include a probationary period of up to three years, and may include any reasonable condition, which, if not fulfilled, may result in a more stringent penalty.
4. *Forfeiture of Contest.*
  - a. *Minimum Penalty for Ineligible Contestant.* A district executive committee shall forfeit the contest won by the individual or school, as a minimum penalty, if finds that an individual contestant was not eligible to participate in the contest.
  - b. *Mandatory Forfeiture for Participation of an Ineligible Student Under Court Order.* If a student who is finally determined to be ineligible participates in a TAPPS contest under a temporary or other court order, the district executive committee shall forfeit the contest.
  - c. *Violations by Personnel or Participants.* The district executive committee may order contests to be forfeited prior to or after the competition for violations of rules by covered school personnel and/or participants if an unfair advantage was gained.
5. *Disqualification.*
  - a. *Disqualification from district Honors.* Disqualification from district honors shall deny the awarding of district championship honors and deny participation in TAPPS contest beyond the district level for a period of up to three years. Disqualification from district honors may include any reasonable conditions, which, if not fulfilled, may result in an extension of the disqualification or recommendation of suspension to the Athletic Executive Committee.
  - b. *Mandatory Disqualification.* The district executive committee shall disqualify a participant school or member from all germane activities if the participant school has failed materially and knowingly and intentionally permitted an ineligible individual to represent it in a TAPPS contest.
6. *Suspension Recommended.*
  - a. If in the opinion of the District Executive Committee the offense is of sufficient gravity to warrant suspension in the germane activity, the committee shall make such recommendation and transmit its findings to the TAPPS Athletic Executive Committee. The Athletic Executive

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Committee shall determine whether or not the offending school shall be suspended.

- b. Suspension shall deny participation in specified TAPPS activities for a period of one to three years. Suspension may include a probationary period of one to three years, and may include any reasonable conditions, which if not fulfilled, may result in additional suspension.
- c. A suspended school may not play or scrimmage a TAPPS participant school at the varsity or sub-varsity level in grades nine through twelve in the activity from which it was suspended. A contract for a germane competition by the suspended school with a member school district or one of its member schools shall be null and void.
- d. If a district executive committee finds that a participant school has knowingly completed with a suspended school in a germane contest or scrimmage, it shall submit to the Athletic Executive Committee its findings.

NOTE: A participant school may appeal penalties imposed by the district executive committee to the Athletic Executive Committee. A Final Appeal may be made to the TAPPS Executive Board.

- C. FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL. The penalties that may be imposed by the district executive committee on school personnel found to have caused violations of ethics, sportsmanship codes, eligibility rules, contest plans or reporting practices are: probation, reprimand, public reprimand, game suspension, and suspension recommended.
1. *Probation.* A given period of time during which an employee(s) of the member school is subject to critical examination and evaluation to determine if the subject on probation is in compliance with the TAPPS constitution, by-laws and contest rules. If the employee, while on probation, is found to be in violation of the TAPPS constitution, by-laws or contest rules, the employee will be subject to more stringent sanctions.
  2. *Reprimand.* A reprimand shall be in writing and shall state the violation found, with one copy going to the school and one copy being attached to the minutes of the meeting. A reprimand may include a probationary period of up to three years and may include any reasonable conditions, which, if not fulfilled, may result in a more stringent penalty.
  3. *Public Reprimand.* A public reprimand shall be in writing, published in the TAPPS website, and state the violation found. A public reprimand may include a probationary period of up to three years, and may include any reasonable conditions, which if not fulfilled, may result in more stringent penalty.

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4. *Game Suspension.* The District Executive Committee may issue an order of suspension to a covered school employee suspending the employee from participating in any germane contest plan for one to five games.
5. *Suspension Recommended.* If in the opinion of the district executive committee the offense is of sufficient gravity to warrant suspension in the germane activity for up to three years, the committee shall make such recommendation and transmit its findings to the Athletic Executive Committee, who shall determine whether a or not the employee shall be suspended.

NOTE: School personnel receiving any of the above penalties are ineligible to receive individual TAPPS honors or hold district or state office during the traditional school year in which the penalties are imposed or during a probationary period.

School personnel may appeal penalties imposed by the District executive committee, through the membership school, to the Athletic Executive Committee or Fine Arts Executive Committee as appropriate. A Final appeal may be made to the TAPPS Executive Board.