



NAIA Conduct in Competition Suspension Rubric

In the NAIA, any ejection in any sport carries a mandatory suspension of at least one game (see NAIA Bylaws Article VI, Section B, Item 7). In addition, the specific sport itself may also carry a suspension, as determined by rules of competition for that sport. If both an NAIA and sports rule suspension apply, the two suspensions run concurrently. For every type of ejection found in the rulebook for each championship sport, this rubric details which suspension – NAIA or sports rule – applies, and what options for recourse exist. Please contact the NAIA Officiating or Legislative Services departments with any questions.

	= NAIA rule applies. The NAIA suspension appeal process is available, except as noted .
	= NAIA and sports rule are equivalent. Appeals only available through sport specific processes.
	= Sports rule applies. Appeals only available through sport specific processes.

Protests refer to sport-specific competition rules and the applicable protest procedure (if allowed by the particular sport). To protest an incident, the basis of the protest must align with the requirements as dictated by the sports rule, and the follow the prescribed sports procedure for lodging the protest. When sports rule dictates the basis of the protest must be "misapplication of the rule," a judgment call by the official is not a protestable misapplication.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Soccer				
Fighting or Violent Behavior II	2 games	Suspended for season		5.8.1 A protest may be filed by an authorized representative of an involved institution or governing sports authority providing it relates to: (1) Player identification; or (2) Illegal participation by ejected or suspended student-athletes, coaches and team personnel. Protests shall not be considered for any other reason, including referee judgment, the accuracy of a game official's decision or errors made by a game official. Must be recorded on the soccer protest form http://www.naiaforms.com/?action=form&parameters=200 within 48 hours of the completion of the contest.
Yellow Card accumulation	1 game @ 5 yellows	1 game @ 8 yellows	1 game for every 2 additional yellows	
Red Card/ Violent Behavior I	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Red Card + Fighting	3 games	Suspended for season		
Assault on a referee	3 games	Suspended for season		
<p>Soccer sports rule: 12.8.2 A player or other bench personnel serving a game suspension(s) may be in the team area, provided he/she is not in uniform.</p> <p>12.8.2.1 A player serving a game suspension(s) may not participate in any pregame activities.</p> <p>12.8.3 A coach serving a game suspension(s) shall not be in the venue from one hour before the scheduled start of the game until 30 minutes after the completion of the contest. During the suspension, the coach must be out of sight and sound and is prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches and/or bench personnel until the completion of the contest, including all overtime periods.</p> <p>12.8.3.1 A coach serving a game suspension(s) may participate in any pregame activities up until one hour before the scheduled start time.</p>				

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Volleyball				
Second expulsion	1 match	2 matches	Suspended for season	Allowed for misinterpretation of a playing rule, misapplication of a correct rule, failure to impose the correct penalty. No protest permitted on judgment decisions. Lodged by the court captain or coach to the first referee before the playing of the next point.
Disqualification	1 match	2 matches	Suspended for season	
Individual misconduct	1 match	2 matches	Suspended for season	

Volleyball sports rule:

6.1.2.3.1: Disqualified team members must leave the playing and spectator areas for the remainder of the current match and are restricted from participation in the subsequent match.

6.1.2.3.2: Disqualified team members are permitted up to one minute to pick up belongings from the bench area provided they refrain from further misconduct. If the team member has not departed the team and spectator areas within one minute, the playing captain is warned that further delay will result in a default of the set. If the team member has not departed within 15 seconds after this warning, the set is defaulted.

6.1.2.3.3: In the subsequent match, disqualified players are restricted from any participation, including the timed warm-up activities.

6.1.2.3.4: In the subsequent match, disqualified coaches are restricted from any participation after the referees arrive at the court and begin administration of the match.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Football				
Fighting	2 games#	Suspended for season		None are allowed
Illegal cleats, Disqualification	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
2 Unsportsmanlike conduct fouls in the same game	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Unsportsmanlike if flagrant	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Contacting an Official	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Flagrant Personal	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Use of Tobacco	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	

Football sports rule – 2.27.12: a. A disqualified player is one who is declared ineligible for further participation in the game and is allowed to remain in the team area. 2. A player serving a first-half suspension due to his disqualification in the team’s previous game may participate in pre-game warm-up activities. During the first half he may remain in the team area but may not participate in the first half of the game.

b. Ejected Player: 1. An ejected player is one who is declared ineligible for further participation in the game and is not allowed to remain in the team area. This player must leave the playing enclosure under the escort of team personnel before the next play after his ejection. He must remain out of view of the field of play under team supervision for the duration of the game. 2. A player serving a first-half suspension due to his ejection in the team’s previous game may participate in pre-game warm-up activities. During the first half he must remain out of view of the field of play under team supervision.

ARTICLE 6. a. Any coach, player or identified squad member in uniform who commits two unsportsmanlike conduct fouls in the same game shall be ejected. b. A player ejected from the game (Rule 2-27-12) must leave the playing enclosure under team supervision within a reasonable amount of time after his ejection. He must remain out of view of the field of play under team supervision for the remainder of the game. c. A player serving a first-half suspension due to his ejection in the team’s previous game may participate in pre-game warm-up activities. During the first half he must remain out of view of the field of play under team supervision. d. A coach ejected from the game must leave the playing enclosure within a reasonable amount of time after the ejection and must remain out of view of the field of play for the remainder of the game. e. A head coach ejected from the game may designate a new head coach.

Football Exception 8/18/17 - Player(s) suspended under (Rules 9-1-3 and 4)- targeting-.may be restricted to the sidelines if the suspension is to be served while the team is on the road and no other suitable supervisory options are available. In this case, while the suspended player(s) may still take part in warm-ups pre-game, the suspended player(s) helmet must remain under the control of the athletic trainer during the first half while serving a suspension.

NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition: A player or coach serving a game suspension shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, bench personnel and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including any overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.

Half-game suspension is required by sports rule (not appealable through NAIA process); 2 game suspension is only required by NAIA bylaw and therefore is appealable through NAIA process.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Basketball				
2 "Class A" technical (M)	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	None are allowed
1 "Class A" technical + 2 "Class B" technical (M)	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
3 "Class B" technical (M)	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
2 technical fouls (W)	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Flagrant 2 foul	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Leaving the bench for a fight	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Fighting	2 games*	Suspended for season		

Basketball sports rule: In addition to being disqualified, an individual who is ejected shall leave the playing court and floor area and report to her team's locker room until the game is over.

NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition: A player or coach serving a game suspension shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, bench personnel and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including any overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.

* 1 game suspension is required by sports rule (not appealable through NAIA process); additional 1 game suspension is only required by NAIA bylaw and therefore is appealable through NAIA process.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Wrestling				
Flagrant misconduct	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	Flagrant misconduct: The referee may review the official mat-side video. The review shall occur before the next match and/or before the bout sheet leaves the score table. Unnecessary roughness: Appeal for misapplication of the rule.
Unnecessary roughness	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	

NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition: A player or coach serving a game suspension shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, bench personnel and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including any overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.

	1st Ejection	2nd Ejection	3rd Ejection	Protests
Baseball				
Unsportsmanlike, player/coach, (no appeal) head coach (may appeal)	1 game	3 games	Suspended for season	Allowed if there is an alleged misapplication of the rules; no protest permitted on judgment decisions. Notify umpires at the time of play or before the next pitch.
Prolonged arguing or expressions after an ejection	2 games added to present total	2 games added to present total	Suspended for season	
Post-participation -unsportsmanlike	2 game –H/C 1 game-Pitcher-4	4 games – HC 4 games.	Suspended for season	
Physical Abuse of participants and umpires	4 game	5 games	Suspended for season	
Leaving Position to participate in a fight	4 games	Suspended for Season	N/A	
Failure to leave sight and sound of the playing field and grandstands after ejection	3 games added to any other penalty	3 games added to any other penalty	Suspended for season	
Throwing at a batter	4 games	8 games	Suspended for season	
Verbal Abuse – Bench Jockeying	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Coach's misconduct – removing the team from the field	2 games	2 games	Suspended for season	
Collision Rule	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Participating in a fight	4 games	5 games	Suspended for season	
Tobacco Use	1 game*	2 game	Suspended for season	

Baseball sports rule: A suspended person must follow the same penalties as those in an ejection (e.g., removed from sight and sound of the contest). Additionally, a suspended person cannot: a. Be dressed in game uniform; b. Communicate with any team personnel or umpires; c. Take part in any pregame activities at the site of competition; and d. Be in the stadium or on the field once pregame activities have started. Procedures for enforcing penalties are as follows: (1) After an ejection and suspension, the offending individual must leave the field and dugout area immediately and is not allowed to communicate with team members or the umpires. (2) Suspended personnel shall not be in uniform, allowed in any team area or perform any team duty while serving their suspensions. (3) It is the responsibility of the institution's head coach and director of athletics to administer and enforce the suspension penalty. If a suspended player or coach is found to have participated in a game during the prescribed suspension, the game will be forfeited by the offending team.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Softball				
Administrative ejection	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	Allowed if there is an alleged misapplication of the rules; no protest permitted on judgment decisions. The coach shall notify the plate umpire of intent to protest before next pitch.
Behavioral ejection	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Post-participation ejection	1 game	2 games	Suspended for season	
Behavioral ejection (with suspension)	2 games	4 games	Suspended for season	

Softball sports rule: An ejected player may remain in the dugout but shall not remain on the playing field or communicate with opponents or umpires. Ejected nonplaying personnel must leave the playing field, dugout and other team areas and be out of sight and sound. Out of sight and sound means unable to view the remainder of the contest and the umpires cannot hear any additional comments. In either case, they shall not communicate (visually, electronically or verbally) further with the teams or umpires.

Note: Suspended student-athletes shall not be in uniform, shall not be allowed in any team area from the time umpires enter the field until after they leave the field, and shall not perform any team duty while serving a suspension. Suspended coaches and other non-playing personnel shall not communicate with any umpire or be in the playing facility once pregame activities have started until the umpires leave the field of play at the conclusion of the game(s). **Exception:** Players suspended under Rule 13 may be restricted to the dugout if the suspension is to be served while the team is on the road and no other suitable supervisory options are available.

EFFECT –If an ejected or suspended student-athlete, coach or other nonplaying personnel violates the conditions of the ejection/suspension and it is discovered during the contest, the game will be forfeited (see Rule 6.20.1.9). If an ejected or suspended student-athlete or other nonplaying personnel violates the conditions of the ejection/suspension and it is discovered once the contest has ended, the suspension (1) for the student-athlete/nonplaying personnel is two games and (2) for the head coach is four games.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Tennis				
Accumulation of points	10 points in a 12-month period results in a 3-month suspension	8 points in the following 12 months (after first suspension) results in 6-month suspension	6 points in the following 12 months (after second suspension) results in a suspension period of no less than one year (to be determined by director)	The appeal must be made in writing within 21 days of the director's mailing the notice of suspension and shall be mailed first class, certified, or registered mail. A player can appeal the suspension to the USTA Grievance Committee.

NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition: A player or coach serving a game suspension shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, bench personnel and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including any overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Cross Country				
Unsporting manner, Disqualification	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	Submitted in writing by the coach or competitor to the referee. The referee decision can be appealed to the appointed jury of appeal, in writing, within 30 minutes of the referee's decision.
Misconduct ejection	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	
<i>NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition:</i> A player or coach serving a game suspension shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, bench personnel and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including any overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.				

	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Golf				
Breach of etiquette, Disqualification	1 match	2 matches	Suspended for season	At the judgment of the tournament committee. Must be made before the close of the tournament.
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	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Swim and Dive				
Unsporting or Unsafe Conduct	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	Allowed for errors in the recording, scoring and non-judgment errors in rules application. Must submit the form and written statement within 15 minutes of the final event.
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	1 st Ejection	2 nd Ejection	3 rd Ejection	Protests
Track & Field				
Unsporting manner, Disqualification	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	Submitted in writing by the coach or competitor to the referee. The referee decision can be appealed to the appointed jury of appeal, in writing, within 30 minutes of the referee's decision.
Misconduct ejection	1 meet	2 meets	Suspended for season	

NAIA NAC Policy Article IV – Conduct in Competition: A player or coach serving a game suspension shall be restricted to the designated spectator areas and prohibited from any communication or contact, direct or indirect, with the team, coaches, bench personnel and/or game officials from the start of game to its completion, including any overtime periods. While the suspended coach or player is allowed on the field and in the bench area during pregame activities, the suspended player may not be dressed in their game uniform, and they may not take part in any warm-up activities.

