

**VIOLENCE IN SCHOOL SPORT****Category:** Health and Safety**Effective:** August 2017**Policy Statement**

One of the primary mandates of the Anglophone West School District is to create a positive environment where students are free of abuse, violence and of other activities that degrade the individual. Interscholastic sport is an activity that is promoted, organized and carried out by schools to benefit their students. Anglophone West School District is committed to fostering high quality of athletic experiences for all participants through:

- fun, fair play and sportsmanship
- quality coaching
- safe and healthy environments

It is understood that there is a high standard of behaviour expected from all persons who participate in interscholastic competition including: athletes, coaches, managers, parents, volunteers and officials. Behaviours that are disrespectful, offensive, racist or sexist and/or potentially violent or abusive, will not be tolerated. If these behaviours are exhibited by teachers, adults (coaches) or volunteers, they should be dealt with through school policies and/or Provincial Policies 701 and 703.

Incidents of abuse and violence that occur during competition should have the same consequences as if a similar behaviour occurred during regular school activities.

When/if misconduct occurs sanctions may be administered by the school Principal in accordance with the following procedures.

Procedures

1. It is the responsibility of the coach, following consultation with the Athletic Director, to inform the student athletes and parents of the standards of behaviour and the consequences for inappropriate behavior or acts of violence.
 - a. Any athlete that commits an act of violence, or exhibits abusive behaviour towards others that results in an ejection from a game is to be immediately referred, by the coach, to the principal of the school in writing for further disciplinary action. The Principal shall administer sanctions in accordance with the discretion awarded him/her in the Education Act and in support of the Positive Learning Environment. Any sanctions will be consistent with those taken for any other student in the general population given the act would have occurred elsewhere in the school. (see Appendix A)
 - b. If a second offence occurs, the Principal shall review the case and levy increased sanctions as he/she sees fit. Sanctions can include suspension for the remainder of the school year from all interscholastic activities and possibly suspension from school.



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- c. The Principal shall notify the student and parents, in writing, of the appropriate sanctions and file this notification with the Director of Schools and the Superintendent of Schools.
2. The primary objective towards initiating this policy in ASD-W is:
 - a. to reflect and support the mandate to create a Positive Learning Environment for all students, one where they will not be subjected to violent or abusive acts;
 - b. to establish a high standard of conduct for student athletes;
 - c. to provide consistency among Anglophone West high schools towards the application of sanctions against those that do not adhere to expected standards of behaviour;
 - d. to have sanctions administered within the framework of school and district policies.
3. The Superintendent is to monitor the implementation of this policy.

Reference

- Department of Education and Early Childhood Development [Policy 703: Positive Learning and Working Environment](#)
- NBIAA