SECTION 8- RULE MISAPPLICATION POLICY

Section 8.1 Game Assignments

TASO is constantly seeking to improve the officiating services provided to their customers, the schools, coaches and student athletes of Texas. In order to achieve this goal, there must be some method to identify areas where this service does not meet the high standards expected of each TASO member.

TASO is recognized for providing outstanding training programs for all its members. This policy will assist each sport's division in identifying and implementing improvements to its existing training programs.

This policy is approved by the TASO Board of Directors and is to be used in all TASO Divisions and by all TASO Chapters. This policy is directed only to misapplication of rules. Judgment calls or non-calls are not subject to this policy.

Section 8.2 Reporting

An alleged Rule Misapplication may be reported to TASO by athletic directors, Head Varsity Coaches, UIL or TAPPS staff or other TASO members. At the option of the TASO Executive Director and Division President, the reporting individual may remain anonymous. The report must be written (e-mail, FAX or paper) and submitted to the TASO Executive Director within, 30 days of the alleged rule application error. The report must include the following information:

1. Date and time of the Contest
2. Location of the Contest
3. Home Team
4. Visiting Team
5. Level of Contest
6. TASO Chapter Providing Officials
7. Rule that was allegedly misapplied
8. Details of the game situation when the event in question occurred
9. Game video if available
10. Name, title and contact information of person reporting the event

Section 8.3 Process

The Executive Director, Division President and Division Rule Interpreter will review the report to determine if a rule may have been misapplied.

If in their opinion the rule was enforced correctly, the Executive Director will advise the reporting party in writing citing rule book section, case book section and/or other documentation supporting the decision.

If it is determined a rule may have been misapplied, the information will be referred to the Chapter for investigation.

The Chapter will submit a written report back to the TASO Executive Director within two weeks. The report will at a minimum provide the following information:

1. If it is the position of the Chapter that the rule was enforced properly:
    a. The rule book section, case book section and/or other documentation that is relevant.
    b. Their description of the official's actions and why they were correct.
2. If it is the position of the Chapter that the rule was misapplied:
    a. What the officials did that was incorrect
    b. What the proper rule enforcement should have been
    c. What corrective action has or will be taken
    d. What educational and/or training action has or will be taken
    e. What clinics or other educational forums the officials attended during the current season
    f. What, if any, disciplinary action has or will be taken

The Chapter's report will be reviewed by the Division Board of Directors and will determine within two weeks if:

1. The Chapter actions are appropriate.
2. The Chapter actions were deficient and prescribe what additional action will be taken.

Any disciplinary action taken by a Chapter may be appealed to the Division Board of Directors

Any disciplinary action taken by a Division Board of Directors may be appealed to the TASO Board of Directors

Decisions by the TASO Board of Directors are final and there is no further appeal

The Executive Director will provide a written report to the reporting party that will include:

1. TASO believes the rule was enforced incorrectly
2. Corrective action was taken which may have included additional training, counseling and disciplinary action. NO DETAIL OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION OR OFFICIALS NAMES WILL BE PROVIDED.

Section 8.4 Records and Reports

Each reported incident and the disposition will be kept on file for a minimum of five years at the TASO office. This file will contain:

1. The initial report
2. All relevant correspondence and reports

The Executive Director will monitor reports for multiple offenders (officials and Chapters) where additional training may be necessary.

The Executive Director will provide an annual report at the Division's off-season Board meeting that will include:

1. The number of reported incidents
2. The number where the rule was enforced correctly
3. The number where the rule was enforced incorrectly
4. A summary of corrective action. No names of officials will be provided.

At the conclusion of the school year a report will be provided to the UIL and TAPPS of reports pertaining to their organization, as well as the sports' coaches association. This report will include:

1. The number of reported incidents
2. The number where the rule was enforced correctly
3. The number where the rule was enforced incorrectly
4. A summary of corrective action. No names of officials or chapters will be provided.

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