**Officials Code Of Ethics NFHS**

Officials at an interscholastic athletic event are participants in the educational development of high school students. As such, they must exercise a high level of self-discipline, independence and responsibility. The purpose of this Code is to establish guidelines for ethical standards of conduct for all interscholastic officials.

* Officials shall master both the rules of the game and the mechanics necessary to enforce the rules, and shall exercise authority in an impartial, firm and controlled manner.
* Officials shall work with each other and their state associations in a constructive and cooperative manner.
* Officials shall uphold the honor and dignity of the profession in all interaction with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.
* Officials shall avoid the use of alcohol and tobacco products beginning with the arrival at the competition site until departure following the completion of the contest.
* Officials shall prepare themselves both physically and mentally, shall dress neatly and appropriately, and shall comport themselves in a manner consistent with the high standards of the profession.
* Officials shall be punctual and professional in the fulfillment of all contractual obligations.
* Officials shall remain mindful that their conduct influences the respect that student- athletes, coaches and the public hold for the profession.
* Officials shall, while enforcing the rules of play, remain aware of the inherent risk of injury that competition poses to student-athletes. Where appropriate, they shall inform event management of conditions or situations that appear unreasonably hazardous.
* Officials shall take reasonable steps to educate themselves in the recognition of emergency conditions that might arise during the course of competition.
* Officials shall maintain an ethical approach while participating in forums, chat rooms and all forms of social media.