

NYSPHSAA Yellow Card Accumulation Policy

It is the intention of the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Committee to address the issue of the accumulation of Yellow Cards during the soccer season by an individual player. The situations surrounding Red Cards are dealt with directly under the NYSPHSAA Guidelines for Sportsmanship and Misconducts outlined in the State Handbook for all sports. The consequences for the accumulation of excessive Yellow Cards will be as follows:

1. Five Yellow Cards accumulated by a single player in the regular season will result in a one-game suspension. Disqualifications due to an accumulation of five yellow cards occurring in the last game of the season will carry over into the next season of participation if the team does not enter post season play.
2. The continued accumulation of Yellow Cards by the same individual will result in a one-game suspension per additional Yellow Card.
3. In the event that the player receives two Yellow Cards in the same game resulting in a Red Card, the two Yellow Cards will not count toward the season total, since the player will receive a one-game suspension as a result of the misconduct and ejection.
4. The accumulation card total is for regular season play only, and the process will start over again for post-season play. However, any penalties awarded as a result of the last regular season game will carry over into the post season.
5. The post-season policy will provide a one-game suspension after three Yellow Cards and a one-game suspension for each additional card received through the State Final. A one-game suspension resulting from a Yellow Card in a team's last post-season game will carry over into the next season of participation.
6. Section XI Reporting Procedure - The coach is to report all Yellow Cards to his/her Athletic Director. The Athletic Director will keep accurate records of all Yellow Cards received. When an individual soccer player receives the FOURTH Yellow Card and any subsequent Yellow Cards during regular season, the Athletic Director must inform the Section XI Assistant Director. When an individual soccer player receives a SECOND Yellow Card during the post season, the Athletic Director must inform the Section XI Assistant Director. At the end of the soccer season, the Athletic Director will notify the Section XI office, indicating the number of Yellow Cards received by soccer players. A final end-of-the-year report, including data on disqualifications, shall be sent to the NYSPHSAA Sportsmanship Coordinator by the Section XI office.
7. Refusing to report, or failing to report infractions and allowing players to continue play under these circumstances will result in the forfeiture of all games in which the individual in question participated.