

## Section 29: PENALTIES THE DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CAN IMPOSE.

Subject to the provisions of all subsections below, the following constitute the penalties that may be imposed by the district executive committee following a determination of a violation of the UIL *Constitution and Contest Rules*. School district personnel covered by this section are all UIL contest sponsors. See Official Interpretations #18 and 19, Appendix I. See Sections 50, 51 and 52 for Classification of Violations.

(a) **FOR STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES.** The penalties that may be imposed by a district executive committee on a student representative of a participant school for violations of ethics, sportsmanship codes, eligibility rules, contest plans or reporting practices as provided for in Section 50 are: reprimand and individual suspension.

(1) **Reprimand.** A reprimand shall be in writing and shall state the violation found, with one copy going to the school and one copy being attached to the minutes of the meeting. A reprimand may include a probationary period of up to three years, and may include any reasonable conditions, which, if not fulfilled, may result in a more stringent penalty

(2) **Individual Suspension.** If a district executive committee finds that a student has failed to comply with the rules it may suspend the participant student from competition, including practice, in all germane activities for up to three years. Suspension may include a probationary period of up to three years, and may include any reasonable conditions, which, if not fulfilled, may result in additional suspension.

(b) **FOR PARTICIPANT SCHOOLS.** The penalties that may be imposed by a district executive committee on a participant school for violations by participant school student representatives, fans, patrons or personnel, of ethics, sportsmanship codes, eligibility rules, contest plans or reporting practices are: reprimand; public reprimand; forfeiture of contest; disqualification from germane activity; and suspension recommended.

(1) **Reprimand.** A reprimand may be oral or in writing and shall not be published in the *Leaguer*. A penalty stronger than reprimand to the school should be strongly considered in cases involving patron or fan, misconduct.

(2) **Public Reprimand.** A public reprimand shall be in writing, published in the *Leaguer*, and state the violation found. A public reprimand may include a probationary period of up to three years, and may include any reasonable conditions, which, if not fulfilled, may result in a more stringent penalty.

(3) **Forfeiture of Contest.**

(A) **Minimum Penalty for Ineligible Contestant.** A district executive committee shall forfeit the contest won by the individual or school, as a minimum penalty, if it finds that an individual contestant was not eligible to participate in the contest.

(B) **Mandatory Forfeiture for Participation of an Ineligible Student under Court Order.** If a student who is finally determined to be ineligible participates in a League contest under a temporary or other court order, the district executive committee shall forfeit the contest.

(C) **Violations by Personnel or Participants.** The district executive committee may order contests to be forfeited prior to or after the competition for violations of rules by covered school district personnel and/or participants if an unfair advantage was gained.

4) **Disqualification.**

(A) **Disqualification from District Honors.** Disqualification from district honors shall deny the awarding of district championship honors and deny participation in UIL contests beyond the district level for a period of up to three years. This penalty may include a probationary period of up to three years and any reasonable conditions, which if not fulfilled, may result in an extension of the disqualification

or recommendation of suspension to the State Executive Committee. The penalty of disqualification may be appealed to the State Executive Committee.

(B) *Mandatory Disqualification.* The district executive committee shall disqualify a participant school or member from all germane activities if the participant school or school district has failed materially and knowingly to comply with the *Constitution and/or Contest Rules*, or if the participant school or school district has knowingly and intentionally permitted an ineligible individual to represent it in a League contest, or if the participant school or school district has competed against or participated in a tournament with a non-school team composed of one or more UIL participant high school students with remaining eligibility in that sport, in violation of Section 1208. The penalty of disqualification may be appealed to the State Executive Committee.

**(5) *Suspension Recommended.***

(A) *Competing Against a Suspended School.* If a district executive committee finds that a participant school has knowingly competed with a suspended school in a germane contest or scrimmage, it shall submit to the State Executive Committee its findings and recommend that the participant school be suspended.

(B) *Other Offenses.* If in the opinion of the district executive committee the offense is of sufficient gravity to warrant suspension in the germane activity, the committee shall make such recommendation and transmit its findings to the State Executive Committee. The State Executive Committee shall determine whether or not the offending school shall be suspended.

(c) **FOR SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL.** The penalty that may be imposed by the district executive committee on school district personnel is reprimand. Following a protest or report of violation as provided for under Section 51, the committee may issue a reprimand to a covered school district employee if it finds that the employee violated the *Constitution and Contest Rules*. The deliberations of the committee while in executive session need to remain private; however, minutes shall be taken. A reprimand should remain private at all times and committee members shall refrain from discussing the executive session with anyone unless it is appealed to the State Executive Committee. If a reprimand is appealed to the State Executive Committee, the district executive committee shall provide the State Executive Committee a complete record of the minutes of the meeting and/or executive session wherein the decision was made. If the committee decides that a public reprimand or suspension should be considered, the committee shall transfer the protest or report of violation to the State Executive Committee for disposition.