

## **CUMULATIVE CARD SYSTEM**

It is the responsibility of each school to monitor the number of cards given to athletes and coaches and to follow the guidelines that have been developed. MASO has established a card reporting system, but at times there are technical problems or input errors. Players and coaches are to be held accountable for the cards that they have received, even if it doesn't match the total in the MASO system.

To help with the accurate reporting of cards, all teams will be required to maintain a scorebook at each match. The Officials will sign the scorebook at the end of each match to certify the assessment of yellow or red cards.

Indirect yellow cards that are assessed to a coach for an illegal equipment violation (shin guard, uniform) will not count toward the cumulative total for the coach. Any card given to an athlete for such a violation, which occurs after the first card has been given to the coach, will count toward the total.

Cards received during the preseason will not count toward the cumulative total. Any athlete or coach that receives three yellow cards or 1 red card during the preseason will be suspended for the remainder of the preseason as well as the first regular season contest.

Any red card given during the season, including the playoffs, suspends the athlete or the coach for the next game at the same level where the card was given. All yellow and red cards will count as one card in the cumulative card policy. It is important to note that any athlete that receives a yellow card must, by NFHS rule, be removed from the game. The length of time that the athlete is held from the game is now a local decision.

Below are the guidelines that will be in place during the 2025 regular season and the playoffs. Yellow and red cards will be separated in card counts:

3<sup>rd</sup> Yellow Card                      1 Game Suspension  
6<sup>th</sup> Yellow Card                      1 Game Suspension  
All Subsequent Yellow Cards Beyond 6 is 1 Game Suspension for each card

Red cards will not be included in the card count as those will follow the MPA Ejection Rule of a one game sit out (2 games for fighting) for each of the first two cards. Any player or coach receiving 3 red cards will be suspended for the remainder of the season.

Two yellow cards in the same game result in a red card. For the purposes of card counting, they would be reported as one yellow card and one red card for that game.

Any player or coach with less than 3 yellow cards will be reset to zero for the playoffs at the conclusion of the regular season. If the coach or player has 3 or more yellow cards during the regular season their card count will not reset for the playoffs.