

RGV ETHICS AGREEMENT

NFHS OFFICIALS CODE OF ETHICS

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 interactions with student-athletes, coaches, athletic directors, school administrators, colleagues, and the public.

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.

TASO ETHICS POLICY

Each member of TASO shall:

- A) Put loyalty to the highest moral principles and to TASO above loyalty to persons or individual gains.
- B) Uphold by Bylaws and legal regulations of the TASO and support members therein and never be a party to their evasion.
- C) Never discriminate unfairly by the dispensing of special favors or privileges to anyone, whether for remuneration or not, and never accept, for self or family, favors or benefits under circumstances which might be construed by reasonable persons as influencing the performance of TASO duties.
- D) Engage in no business with nonmembers, either directly or indirectly which is consistent with conscientious performance of TASO principles.
- E) Expose corruption wherever discovered.
- F) Every members' conduct, speech, and actions during or enroute to and from a game shall be above reproach and should always demonstrate the example of sportsmanship, courtesy, and self control.
- G) The official should arrive at the game with sufficient time to inspect facility and equipment, discuss ground rules, instruct supplementary officials, and discuss any pertinent information with the coaches.
- H) **NO OFFICIAL** shall criticize any other official or any individual association within TASO in the presence of coaches, players, spectators, or the news media before, during, or after a game.

- I) **NO OFFICIAL** shall discredit the ability or performance or criticize the assignment of another official or team of officials to gain the opportunity of assignment themselves.
- J) **NO OFFICIAL** shall seek to influence a coach for the purpose of promoting personal officiating opportunities.
- K) **NO OFFICIAL** shall engage in scouting activities or engage in conversation with coaches regarding officiating assignments.
- L) **NO OFFICIAL** shall cancel an officiating assignment to accept another more advantageous UIL sanctioned assignment.
- M) **NO OFFICIAL** shall fail to honor an officiating contract. Whenever it becomes impossible to fulfill any officiating assignment, the official involved shall notify the chapter assignor in sufficient time that a replacement may be obtained.

TASO STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Each member of TASO must avoid any action, whether or not specifically prohibited by this code, which might result in or create the appearance of a violation of these standards of conduct which include but are **NOT** restricted to:

- A) Giving preferential treatment to any person.
- B) Losing complete independence or impartiality.
- C) Affecting adversely the confidence of the public, schools, and universities in the integrity of TASO.
- D) Solicitation of, or accept any gift, favor, entertainment, meal, loan, or anything of value from any person seeking contractual or other business with TASO and supporting members.
- E) Use of intoxicating beverages or tobacco products while engaged in officiating activities.
- F) Use of illegal drugs which may be grounds for removal from TASO.
- G) Consume alcohol the day of the game.
- H) Consume alcohol in public after a contest.
- I) An official shall not compromise the integrity of the Association while in any article of clothing identifying themselves as an official following a game/match.

RGV CHAPTER CODE OF ETHICS

- A) As the TASO states, use of non TASO members to officiate any scrimmage, tournament, non-district, or district games whether it be varsity or subvarsity is strictly prohibited.
- B) Officials should enter the field of play immediately prior to the competing teams taking in and out practice.
- C) Maintain a professional attitude with coaches, players, and trainers at all time while on the field of play.
- D) No physical contact should be initiated with coaches by a TASO official during the course of the contest.
- E) No communication whether physical or verbal shall be permitted between any TASO official and fans.
- F) Avoid any type of socializing between coaches, players, or trainers and TASO officials before, during, or after a scheduled contest.
- G) All TASO officials should leave the playing field **IMMEDIATELY** following the conclusion of the scheduled contest, no lingering around after the game.
- H) A courtesy handshake initiated by coaches after a contest is acceptable but not to be prolonged by any TASO official with lengthy conversation.

PENALTIES FOR ANY PROVEN VIOLATION OF ANY AFOREMENTIONED CODE OF ETHICS SHALL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE BOARD TO INCLUDE A LOSS OF A 1 OR 2 GAME ASSIGNMENT.

