



Official Drop Game Guidelines

Policies

These guideline policies pertain to Varsity Teams only. They are not offered as a stand-alone “Drop Game” request. We want to encourage schools to exhaust every effort to reschedule games that might have forfeit potential, so that both schools are accommodated.

I. Guideline Policies

Certain sports are exempt in regard to qualifying for these guidelines. The exempted sports are; cross country, tennis, wrestling, swimming, golf and track.

II. Upon Determination a School Has Forfeited a Game/Match:

1. First Offense

- a. The forfeiting school shall reimburse the opponent affected for expenses (i.e. officials, buses, worker costs...) up to \$250.00
- b. The school’s principal shall be notified in writing.
- c. The school’s Director of Athletics will be required to attend a meeting with the Drop Game Committee for the purpose of “Fair Warning” if forfeit Second Offense occurs as well as for him/her to explain the circumstances of the initial forfeit.

2. Second Offense

- a. The forfeiting school will be dropped from the scheduling matrix for the next year.
- b. The school shall prove that they were able to fulfill an entire season’s schedule (at least 80% of the maximum allowable games prior to the start of the NJSIAA Tournament) before being reinstated into the scheduling matrix following the dropped schedule.
- c. The school’s Director of Athletics shall meet with the Drop Game Committee detailing changes that have been made and assuring the committee that his will not happen again.
- d. If a school is forced to drop a program mid-season *and* ample notice is given to opponents, they will be skipped to “Second Offense” thus eliminating the reimbursement cost.

III. Minimum Rosters to Start a Season:

It is in everyone's benefit to play games/matches and not to forfeit. We encourage schools to field teams. Since schools with small rosters are the most susceptible to incur forfeits the following has been established:

A Varsity team must have a minimum of two (2) players beyond the sport's starting number on the roster going into the start of the regular season. For example, a basketball team should have seven (7) players in the program. If they do not meet this requirement they *must* notify all SEC scheduled opponents at least one week prior to the start of the regular season, informing them that they are below the minimum roster size.

The SEC opponent school may:

1. Reschedule another opponent and take a divisional win, which would give the opponent a divisional loss.

Or

2. Attempt to keep the game knowing that the game might not be able to be played. If the game is not played a forfeit **WILL NOT** be granted; just a victory and a loss for Divisional Championship purposes only.

If a team does not play two (2) SEC games because of lack of players, they will become a "Second Offense Team" and all Second Offense sanctions will apply.

By allowing teams to "pre-report" using their small roster size, they save the reimbursement costs and there is no "forfeit" label to be reported to the state.

IV. Reporting Procedures:

1. Both schools involved in requesting a divisional win must complete a Drop Game Form accessible on the SEC Web Site.
2. The form, upon completion, must be immediately forwarded to Dan Romano, Drop Game Committee Co-Chair and Ron San Fillipo, Executive Director.

Approved for recommendation to SEC Membership on April 10, 2018

Passed by Membership on May 8, 2018

Submitted by:

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