

November 16, 2022

## **Collegiate Coach Conduct and Judging Procedures**

This document was prepared to provide judges with guidance when considering the use of a yellow card.

### **Code of Ethics for Coaches**

Coaches are required to act in a sportsmanlike, positive, polite, respectful and disciplined manner, with complete integrity. It is their responsibility to see that their teams handle themselves in a sportsmanlike manner (*Appendix II, NCAA Rules Modifications & Meet Procedures, p. 15*).

### **Unsportsmanlike Conduct by Coaches**

Collegiate gymnastics coaches are typically models of good sportsmanship. On the rare occasion that a coach demonstrates unsportsmanlike conduct, a judge may consider the possibility of issuing a yellow card. The yellow card is a warning (information provided to head coach). If a second yellow card is then issued, this will result in a 0.10 deduction from the team score as a neutral deduction (*2023 Rules Modifications & Meet Procedures, page 1*). The procedures for issuing a yellow card are on page 11-12 of the *2023 Rules Modifications & Meet Procedures*.

Judges might consider issuing a yellow card if a coach:

- Addresses an official in a disrespectful manner.
- Attempts to influence an official's decision by words, expressions, gestures, body language, or similar behaviors.
- Objects to an official's decision by words, expressions, gestures, body language, or similar behaviors.
- Uses a loud voice and hostile gestures when talking to a Meet Referee, when submitting an inquiry, or when submitting routine summaries.
- Incites undesirable crowd reactions.
- Uses profanity or language that is abusive, vulgar, obscene; makes derogatory remarks about officials, athletes, or spectators.
- Makes comments relating to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
- Flaunts the issuance of a yellow card issue a second yellow card and take -.10 deduction from team score.
- Other behaviors considered to reflect poor sportsmanship.

An athlete may be issued a yellow card for unsportsmanlike conduct. If a second yellow card is issued, a .10 deduction is taken from the gymnast's score. (Note: if the gymnast did not compete on the event in question, the MR will need to use judgment in determining how to apply this deduction. The 2023 Rules Modifications do not yet address this situation).

The Meet Referee notes the issuance of a yellow card on the official score sheet at the end of the meet and submits a written report describing the behavior that resulted in the yellow card. The Coach's Ethics Committee reviews all yellow card events.