



## MEMORANDUM

May 29, 2023

### VIA EMAIL

TO: Directors of Athletics and Head Baseball Coaches of Participating Institutions in the 2023 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship.

FROM: John Cohen  
Division I Baseball Committee, chair.

SUBJECT: Sportsmanship during the 2023 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship.

On behalf of the NCAA Division I Baseball Committee, congratulations on your team's selection to the 2023 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship. The opportunity to compete for a championship is a tremendous honor and reflective of your success during the season.

Postseason competition brings heightened excitement and passion as teams have their sights set on Omaha. Postseason also amplifies emotion and intensity. Please remind your coaches, student-athletes, and team personnel of their obligations to exhibit sportsmanship and remain in their designated positions at all times.

Rule 5-16-c prohibits team personnel from leaving their position as determined by where the individual was located at the time a confrontational situation develops (e.g., in the dugout, bullpen, coaching box, on base, at bat, on deck, at a defensive position, etc.). While head coaches and assistant coaches may leave their position to bring their own players under control, anyone else who leaves their position shall be ejected and suspended per the playing rules.

It is incumbent upon head coaches and their staff to ensure that ejections do not factor into the outcome of postseason competition. Rule 5-12-g requires teams without at least nine eligible players to forfeit the competition.

We also want to remind you about Rule 5-17 (page 56 of the 2023 and 2024 NCAA Baseball Rules Book):

### **Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

Game personnel shall not use language that will, in any manner, refer to or reflect negatively upon opposing players, coaches, umpires or spectators. Any orchestrated activities by any player or dugout personnel designed to distract, intimidate, or disconcert the opposing team or reflect poor sportsmanship shall not be allowed.

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This includes, but is not limited to, activities such as:

- Negative comments directed at an opponent (e.g., taunting) or umpires;
- Bench jockeying;
- Bat flips near or toward an opponent or umpire; and
- Use of props or signs directed at an opponent or umpiring decisions.

The NCAA Division I Baseball Committee appreciates your continued commitment to ensuring student-athletes compete in an equitable championship experience.

JC:jjr

cc: NCAA Division I Baseball Committee  
NCAA Division I Baseball Site Representatives