

# IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023, the LIISAA Executive Committee authorized a new LIISAA Bylaw 5.11.12.(1-2) with prescribed authority in LHSAA Constitution *4.4.4 Make special rules to affect the spirit of fair play and good sportsmanship. Any rules or changes in the Constitution or Bylaws made by the Executive Committee after the January annual meeting must be submitted to the membership for ratification at the next annual meeting. Only the LHSAA Membership can amend the Constitution as per Article 7.4.2. The actions of the officers and directors of the LHSAA for the calendar year are hereby ratified and adopted.* (See attached Item I). On January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the LHSAA's Annual General meeting Bylaw 5.11.12.(1-2) was ratified (see attached Item II).

This office has enforced the Bylaw 5.11.13 on 13 occasions during the 2022-2023 fall and winter sports seasons to date. These enforcements were necessitated by incidents of poor sportsmanship that were deemed unacceptable and even ludicrous, involving not only the participants but also the coaches and spectators. As a result of these incidents, games were suspended, and in certain cases, the season ended for entire teams, individual players, and coaches.

We would like to stress that while the cases were similar, each was unique in its own right. We conducted thorough investigations in collaboration with the leadership teams of the LHSAA member school(s) and the assigned LHSOA officials. Every effort was made to ensure the administration of all applicable sportsmanship penalty was swift, appropriate, and consistent.

Please be assured that this office remains fully committed to upholding the absolute highest standards of sportsmanship and fair play in all sporting events under the jurisdiction of the LHSAA. We will continue to closely monitor the conduct of all participants, coaches, and spectators to ensure that they adhere to the guidelines set forth by the LHSAA.