

SECTION XI
NEW YORK STATE PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
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DATE: August 2025
TO: Section XI Coaches of Officiated Sports
FROM: Thomas J. Combs
RE: **Rating Officials**

Section XI provides a vehicle for coaches to evaluate the performance of game officials. It is our feeling that the system we use is the most comprehensive and effective method possible. We ask for your cooperation in this effort.

Some specifics we wish to reiterate:

1. At the conclusion of each contest, coaches are obligated to rate officials and opponents.
2. Officials DO NOT have access to the sources of their ratings. Confidentiality is a major priority. Even Section Sport Chairs are precluded from having this information. The Presidents of the officials' groups will verify the confidentiality of your ratings. Only the Section office staff has knowledge of rating sources.
3. The success of the rating system is totally dependent on your cooperation.
4. When evaluating each official, carefully consider the keys to each category:

Excellent	(5)	Should be reserved for a truly <u>outstanding performance</u> , a performance you would want on a championship contest. Over the course of a season, there should be very few 5's given.
Good	(4)	Means just that - a <u>good</u> performance, <u>not outstanding</u> , but <u>better than acceptable</u> - no complaints. Generally, we would expect to see more 4's than any other rating.
Acceptable	(3)	Should speak for itself. We would expect a fair number of these.
Poor	(2)	Definite flaws; contest was <u>seriously</u> affected. Hopefully, you will not need to give many during a season.
Inadequate	(1)	Absolutely unacceptable throughout the contest. Hopefully, your need to use this will be rare.

Each individual rating chosen (on each category) is a separate computer entry. The computer "computes" for each official by adding the total points and dividing by 5. This is the overall game rating for the official. This results in overall ratings such as 4.2, 3.4, 3.6, or 3.8 in addition to the whole numbers.

Best regards for an enjoyable and productive season.

Updated 2/2023