

Sportsmanship/ Citizenship Manual



“Our inspiration is not to outdo others, but to outdo ourselves.”

Kansas State High School Activities Association

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Kansas State High School Activities Association

Mission Statement

Adopted September 2009

The Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) serves students by providing leadership for the administration of education based interscholastic activities.

Belief Statements

We believe...

- Member schools are the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA).
- The KSHSAA is a student-centered organization.
- The KSHSAA is the recognized state authority on interscholastic activity programs.
- Our Association is strengthened by equity and diversity.
- Each school choosing membership in the KSHSAA is equally important and has a direct voice in governing the organization.
- KSHSAA is best governed by representatives of the member schools and its affiliated organizations.
- Each KSHSAA sponsored activity is equally important.
- Student participation in interscholastic activity programs and competitions is a privilege.
- Participation in interscholastic programs promotes student academic achievement.
- Interscholastic activity programs promote positive school/community relations.
- Safety, quality, and fairness in interscholastic activity programs are essential.
- Fiscal responsibility by the KSHSAA benefits member schools.
- Participation in interscholastic programs promotes good citizenship, improves life skills, and builds character.
- Honesty, integrity and sportsmanship are the fundamentals upon which all interscholastic programs are built.
- All professionals that are in contact with students should be knowledgeable and properly trained.



National Federation Mission Statement

“The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior and integrity permeate our culture. The values of good citizenship and high behavioral standards apply equally to all activity disciplines. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, an awareness is expected of the impact of an individual’s influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity.”

—National Federation of State High School Associations—

**“Sportsmanship
is an expectation.**

**Let the players
play, let the
coaches coach,
let the officials
officiate, and let
the spectators be
positive!”**



Be A Good Sport!

KSHSAA

Sportsmanship/Citizenship Manual

The ideal of sportsmanship permeates virtually every aspect of our culture. The ethic of fair play may be witnessed in all facets of life. However, its origin has been firmly established in sports, as a training ground for good citizenship and high behavioral standards.

The Kansas State High School Activities Association, through its member schools, defines sportsmanship as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Further, an awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on others' behavior as well.

On November 17, 1988, the KSHSAA Board of Directors adopted Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52. A need to make sportsmanship a primary role and to restore placement of interscholastic activities in an educational perspective was the catalyst for the adoption of Rule 52. The challenges are quite evident and will require a maximum effort by everyone involved in order to achieve the desired outcomes. The modes of behavior contained in this manual explicitly define what is expected. Compliance is imperative to accomplish the real purpose: imparting the value of good sportsmanship upon the other components or portions of education.

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**Good Players
Inspire
Themselves**

**Great Players
Inspire Others**

Rule 52 - Sportsmanship/Citizenship

Introduction

The effective American secondary school must support both an academic program and an activities program. We believe that these programs must do more than merely coexist - they must be integrated and support each other in "different" arenas. The concept of "sportsmanship" must be taught, modeled, expected and reinforced in the classroom and in all competitive activities. Therefore, all Kansas State High School Activities Association members stand together in support of the following sportsmanship policy.

Philosophy

Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in American schools. They provide an arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand and to value the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP and teamwork. They are an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach and model SPORTSMANSHIP, to build school pride and to increase student/community involvement; this ultimately translates into improved academic performance. Activities are also an opportunity for the community to demonstrate its support for the participants and the school, and to model the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP for our youth as respected representatives of society. Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action!

All ACTIONS are to be FOR, NOT AGAINST; POSITIVE, NOT NEGATIVE or DISRESPECTFUL!

Section 1: General Regulations (apply to grades 7-12)

Art. 1: SPORTSMANSHIP is a general way of thinking and behaving. The following sportsmanship policy items are listed below for clarification:

- Be courteous to all (participants, coaches, officials, staff and fans).
- Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions.
- Win with character and lose with dignity.
- Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school.
- Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities.

Art. 2: Enforcement Procedure:

- It is encouraged and recommended by the Kansas State High School Activities Association that local boards of education adopt these regulations and reinforce them as indicated herein.
- The Executive Board of the Kansas State High School Activities Association shall be responsible for the interpretation of these regulations, including "desirable and unacceptable behavior" and shall publish them in the association's *Sportsmanship / Citizenship Manual*.

Rule 52 Interpretations

*The following interpretations and policies were adopted by the KSHSAA Executive Board on November 17, 1988, in regard to **Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52**. These are meant to clarify and assist member schools in their enforcement of this regulation (revised June 9, 2014).*

Desirable and unacceptable behavior illustrations are "examples" and are not to be considered all inclusive. These examples can occur prior to, during and after the game or contest.

In regard to 52-1-1a - Be courteous to all (participants, cheerleaders, coaches, officials, staff and fans):

Desirable Behavior – Host cheerleading squads welcome visiting squads; **respect shown during National Anthem (hats removed, no talking, never change lyrics or yell mascot at the end)**; opposing coaches and contestants shaking hands before/after contest; applause during introduction of contestants, coaches and officials; contestants shaking hand of opponent fouling out while both sets of fans recognize contestant's performance with applause; all showing concern for injured contestant; respectfully addressing officials during competition and thanking them for their performance regardless of agreement with all calls; helping opponents up during a game; host school extending hospitality to visiting contestants, coaches, cheerleaders and fans; any supportive chants and cheers which are directed toward your team, i.e. "I believe we can win," "we've got spirit-how about you," "defense-defense" and other such supportive expressions.

Unacceptable Behavior – Any **non-supportive** chants, cheers, or actions which are directed toward the opposing team; chants or actions **which single out individuals**; fans or cheerleaders reading newspapers, turning their backs, making disrespectful actions, etc. during introduction of opponents or shooting of free throws; yelling, waving, etc., during opponent's free throws; derogatory/disrespectful yells, chants, songs, gestures, including "goodbye," "you let the whole team down," "air ball," "scoreboard," "you can't do that," "this is our house" at a

visitor event, “dribble-dribble-pass,” “bong-bong-bong-whooo” while opposing team has ball, and other such expressions directed toward opponents.

In regard to 52-1-1b - Know the rules, abide by and respect the official’s decisions:

Desirable Behavior - Utilize every opportunity to promote understanding of the rules of the contest within the school and community; contestants utilize the team captain or coach for clarification of the call to maintain 6 “Be A Good Sport” positive rapport with officials; accept the decisions of the officials; hand ball to officials; cheerleaders lead fans in positive school yells in a positive manner; cheerleaders lead by coordinating signals and timing of cheers with student body section leaders; cooperate with the news media in interpretation and clarification of the rules.

Unacceptable Behavior - Booing or heckling an official’s decision; criticizing the merits of officiating; displays of temper and arguing with an official’s call; derogatory remarks toward the official, coach constantly questioning calls.

In regard to 52-1-1c - Win with character and lose with dignity:

Desirable Behavior - Handshakes between opposing contestants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome; opposing contestants, coaches and fans engaging in friendly conversations before and following contest; treating competition as a contest, not a war; applause at end of contest for performance of all contestants.

Unacceptable Behavior - Chants or actions which single out individuals; yells that antagonize opponents when you feel you have won the contest; refusing to shake hands or give recognition to winner for good performance; blaming loss on officials, coaching, individual contestant’s performance, or other rationalizations; rushing the field/floor or victory celebration on the playing surface/field.

In regard to 52-1-1d - Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team:

Desirable Behavior - Coach/contestants search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching; all fans recognize an outstanding participant’s performance by applause, regardless of its impact on the contest; discuss outstanding performance of opponent with visiting and home fans.

Unacceptable Behavior - Laughing, pointing finger, name calling, yelling player name or number, etc., directed at opponents in an attempt to distract; to degrade an excellent performance by opponents.

In regard to 52-1-1e - Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school:

Desirable Behavior - Support the activity by learning yells of cheerleaders and displaying total unity as fans in following their lead; cheerleaders leading by coordinating signals and timing of cheers with student body section leaders to redirect crowd from a controversial call.

Unacceptable Behavior - Displays of anger, boasting, use of profanity, bouncing beach balls, antics which draw attention to you instead of the contest; doing own yells instead of following lead of the cheerleaders; doing

unsportsmanlike yells/gestures, such as “you can’t do that” while pointing finger at opponent; singling out individuals.

In regard to 52-1-1f - Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities:

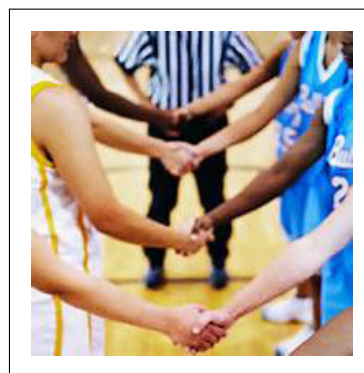
Desirable Behavior - Positively encourage those around you to display only sportsmanlike conduct; report poor sportsmanship to school officials; member schools insist that sportsmanship be a priority; administrators help coaches teach, model and reinforce sportsmanship; recognize coaches for sportsmanlike conduct; coaches playing those who exhibit positive sportsmanship; administrators taking appropriate action to ensure sportsmanlike behavior.

Unacceptable Behavior - Fans’, cheerleaders’, contestants’, coaches’, administrators’, or member schools’ unwillingness to get involved and take a stand to defend one of the main tenets of school activities - teaching and promotion of SPORTSMANSHIP.

Rule 52 Violations

Violations of the Code of Ethics, KSHSAA Rules and Regulations or Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52 by member schools and/or individuals shall be subject to review and consideration by the KSHSAA.

- Action may result in the form of a reprimand, probation or suspension of the school and/or individual depending upon the degree of the violation.
- If a member school is not willing to impose disciplinary measures acceptable to the KSHSAA, a hearing (informal or formal) will be held and restrictions imposed by the KSHSAA.
- Schools/coaches are encouraged to use Form S to call attention to unusual situations, positive or negative, immediately following the contest. This form is to be submitted to the KSHSAA (login to www.kshsaa.org>Entry Forms>Yearly-Letter Forms>Form S).
- If a problem is severe, then the KSHSAA should be notified by telephone so the situation can be followed up immediately.



Kansas State High School Activities Association

Rule 52

The Kansas State High School Activities Association, through its member schools, defines sportsmanship as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others.

The excitement of a game can create potential concerns for fans, students and officials. Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52 addresses this by stating:

**“Win with
character & lose with
dignity.”**

Fans and students are asked to stay off the playing surface for reasons which include:

1. Safety
2. Allows time for positive interchange between the players and coaches
3. Avoids confrontation between exuberant fans and downhearted players and fans of the defeated school
4. Preserves citizenship/sportsmanship atmosphere
5. Allows awards where appropriate to be presented within a reasonable period of time
6. Protects the time schedule of tournament contests which are not the last game of the evening
7. Protects the playing surface

“All actions are to be for your school, not against your opponent!”



Supervision of Interscholastic Athletic Events

Expectations of the KSHSAA concerning the sportsmanship that must surround any interscholastic contest.

Responsibilities of Host and Visiting Schools

1. The administrators of both schools are responsible for the general organization, management and supervision of student bodies and crowds before, during and following each event, with the home school assuming the major role.
2. Communicate prior to contest concerning visitors' parking area, entrance and exit locations for fans, seating sections, etc.
3. Provide adequate supervision prior to and during each contest, to continue until at least one-half hour after the contest, or until all groups have dispersed.
4. It is recommended the people representing the participating schools for the purpose of contest administration and/or supervision (principals, superintendents, etc.) meet prior to the contest. They should introduce themselves to the officials and the tournament manager prior to the contest and let them know where they will be located during the contest. The manager and officials should know whom to contact should a problem arise.
5. Faculty supervisors or adults delegated by school administrators should carry some type of identification.



6. The conduct of coaches is the single most important factor in crowd control. Coaches are professional educators and must control themselves under stress in order to set the proper example for the young people on their teams, the student body and the heterogeneous combination of spectators in the stands. It is not enough to be professional when there is no pressure. Coaches are usually the stabilizing influence in an emotionally-charged situation, and they must assume this important responsibility. Coaches must recognize that the future of high school athletics is more important than winning or losing the contest.
7. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
8. Both schools must approve the officials for each regular-season contest prior to the completion of the officials' contracts. Assignments made by league commissioners have the approval of the administration.
9. Any person, school-connected or otherwise, who commits assault and/or battery against students, school employees, or contest officials shall make amends to the offended person or persons, and the Executive Board of the KSHSAA shall be satisfied that the public interest does not require prosecution or further disciplinary action. Unless the person or group has made amends to the offended person or persons, charges should be filed. It is the host school's responsibility to file such charges. Prosecution and action in the courts should enforce ordinary order and discipline at interscholastic events.
10. Administrators and supervisors shall not permit spectators to assemble by the playing area/field/court edge prior to, during or at the conclusion of a contest.
11. The host and visiting school administration and adult supervisors shall make every effort to keep the playing area clear of spectators prior to, during and at the conclusion of each contest. It is their responsibility to prevent the contestants or fans from cutting down the nets, taking down the goal posts, etc., after any contest.
12. It is suggested that school alma maters be sung immediately after each contest.
13. If not participating in the contest, a member school may not film any school's activity.

Responsibilities of Host School

(See additional responsibilities listed under "Responsibilities of Host and Visiting Schools.")

1. Notify visiting school of reserved parking spaces for buses, specific entrance and exits to be used by team and student body, contest time and other important items necessary to conduct the contest.
2. Designate specific seating locations for visiting and host schools.
3. Provide adequate security, police and faculty supervision to begin at least one-half hour prior to contest time and end when all groups have dispersed. Provide instructions to the visiting school and all fans that the

"Be A Good Sport"



playing area/field/court is to remain free of spectators prior to and after the contest.

4. Arrange for the presence of law enforcement officials inside and outside the contest area. Depending on local board of education policies, a general recommendation is: inside supervision be handled by paid security and/or police officers; and outside supervision/security by the local police department.
5. School officials should give specific directions to security and/or uniformed police officers employed. Do not assume they understand their responsibilities! Assign them on a staggered schedule so that all will not arrive and leave at the same time. It may be necessary to have only a small number present prior to contest time, with more as the contest progresses and is concluded. They should be in position to prevent the taking of nets, goal posts, etc., after the contest.
6. Arrangements should be made with local police to direct traffic away from the playing area/field/court so spectators can leave quickly.
7. Any person, school-connected or otherwise, who commits assault and/or battery against students, school employees, or contest officials shall make amends to the offended person or persons, and the Executive Board of the KSHSAA shall be satisfied that the public interest does not require prosecution or further disciplinary action. Unless the person or group has made amends to the offended person or persons, charges should be filed. It is the host school's responsibility to file such charges. Prosecution and action in the courts should enforce ordinary order and discipline at interscholastic events.
8. Reserved parking locations should be set aside for the contest officials; they should be notified of the location prior to the contest.
9. The host school should provide two adult chaperons or security personnel to escort contest officials: to and from their dressing facilities; from playing area/field/court at halftime and following the conclusion of the contest; and to their cars.
10. The officials' dressing quarters are private. No one should be admitted. This includes personnel from the host school. To ensure privacy, use NO ADMITTANCE signs (Form O). To print a copy, login to www.kshsaa.org>EntryForms>Yearly-LetterForms>Form O.

11. Make arrangements to accept and deliver emergency messages.

12. Any unusual incidents or developments should be reported to the KSHSAA immediately.

Responsibilities of Visiting School

(See additional responsibilities listed under "Responsibilities of Host and Visiting Schools.")

1. An administrator and adequate faculty or adult supervisors should be present at each contest in order to supervise their own students and adult fans. School administrators should introduce themselves to the host administration or tournament managers to let them know whom to contact should a problem arise.
2. Supervise students and fans to prevent unsportsmanlike behavior prior to, during and after the contest. Do not allow the taking of nets or other souvenirs. Explain to your fans prior to attending the contest they are not to be on the floor before, during or after the contest.
3. See that all bus drivers and delegated drivers are informed of any special parking locations and instructions provided by the host school.
4. Inform all student spectators and the team of proper entrance and exit locations.
5. See that supervision is available prior to the arrival of your spectators and that it continues until all groups have dispersed.
6. Report any unusual incidents to the host school administration immediately.
7. Give complete cooperation and assistance to the host school when it is necessary to file charges against any individual causing a disturbance.

Sportsmanship Checklist

I played fair.

I was respectful.

I accepted the outcome of the game.

Principles for Sportsmanship

Everyone involved in interscholastic activities has a responsibility in promoting good sportsmanship for a healthy, educational environment. Each plays a vital role.

Board of Education

The Board is responsible to its community to provide policy direction for the interscholastic program. The Board must constantly reinforce sportsmanship related to educational values. The Board has a significant impact on the implementation of the desired behaviors. It is encouraged and recommended by the Kansas State High School Activities Association that local boards of education adopt Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52 and its general regulations and reinforce them.

Recommended Responsibilities

1. Approve policies (upon recommendation of the administration) which reflect that community's educational objectives and its philosophy toward activities.
2. Adopt a philosophy and objectives for interscholastic activities, prepared and recommended by the administration.
3. Remain a policy making body and allow the administration to do its job. The Board's role is to develop policies, which are interpreted and administered by other school officials.
4. Review minimum qualifications for coaches regularly.
5. Support continuing education for coaches.
6. Exemplify good conduct.
7. Assist administrators by supporting decisions that relate to athletics/activities.
8. Be firm in the commitment to teaching success.
9. Establish standards for participation which reinforce activities are a privilege, not a right.
10. Establish policies expressing the need for supervision and security at interscholastic contests, and support such policies with adequate funding.
11. Give careful consideration to employment practices to make certain the codes and standards established will be strictly and faithfully observed.

Administration

The administration is charged with the responsibility of enforcing Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52 and its general regulations. This involves every population served by activity programs. The quality of behavior or sportsmanship displayed reflects the leadership provided by the administration and the Board. The high school administrator is responsible for leadership in various programs under his/her supervision including behavior and conduct of all groups involved. Each administrator should have all the following materials prepared for implementation and distribution to each respective person occupying identified roles:

Recommended Responsibilities

1. Prepare a statement of philosophy which states objectives and rules with which each group involved must comply. This statement is to reflect the recommended responsibilities of the Board of Education.
2. Outline standards of sportsmanship reflecting the Board's policies, objectives, and the KSHSAA Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52 to be published in the student handbook, teacher handbook and activities programs. Included are behavioral criteria for each student group, spectators, school personnel (coaches, staff, sponsors, etc.) and standards of conduct expected of each.
3. Provide adequate contest supervision. Make faculty aware that problems and potential problems must be reported and dealt with immediately. This may involve securing law enforcement agency assistance. Good sportsmanship procedures must be enforced.
4. Stress that parents, contestants, students and fans must have an understanding of their role and what is expected.
5. Recommend coaches for employment who have a sound understanding of their role and are primarily concerned with the accomplishment of educational objectives.
6. Establish and maintain a working relationship with the media, and encourage their support of good sportsmanship by featuring positive behavior at every opportunity.
7. In those sports where adult supervisors are admitted to postseason contests at the pass gate, be sure to let them know what is expected of them. Cover the information contained in each sports manual. Review school and KSHSAA policy with them. Let them know what their responsibilities are, what to look for and what to do if a problem arises. They are responsible, not just spectators!

Athletic/Activities Director

This person is most responsible for implementation of Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52. The athletic/activities director serves as the leader and catalyst. All details essential to the purposeful educational contest require the efforts of an individual committed to the ideals of sportsmanship. The policies and procedures must reflect the goals established by the administration. All coaches' and spectators' conduct is directly under his/her supervision.

Recommended Responsibilities

1. Schedule opponents who reflect the high standards of sportsmanship.
2. Provide sufficient staff and security supervision for spectator control.

3. Provide opportunities for informing students and adult spectators of the rules, strategies and penalties for various sports and activities.
4. Make available opportunities for pre- and post-contest social interaction between teams and coaches of both schools.
5. Assign competent public address announcers who will promote the fundamentals of sportsmanship and who will not elicit undesirable spectator reactions.
6. Supervise and work closely with the band, cheerleaders and sponsors in techniques of crowd management.
7. Encourage and enlist the support of student groups in the implementation of a sportsmanship program.
8. Maintain a positive relationship with the media and keep them well informed of the activities schedule and the sportsmanship theme of your overall program.
9. Have regular staff and coaches meetings to inform, review and enforce sportsmanship policies.
10. Make certain that all representative support groups, which include, but are not limited to, pep clubs, drill teams and bands, conduct themselves in accordance with the sportsmanship theme. Specifically, behaviors such as bands playing during a contest, unauthorized cheers and mascots which taunt opponents or negatively encourage a reaction are not allowed and are subject to sanction by the school and/or KSHSAA.
11. Monitor and provide direction for each event relating to crowd control.
12. Assign trained, adult scorekeepers and timers who can do the job competently, remain under control and exhibit no bias. It is recommended that the personnel used in these roles be required by the school to attend the annual rules meetings (as applicable).
13. Assign a responsible adult to greet the visiting team and show them to their dressing room; treat them as you would like to see your team treated.
14. Faculty members assigned to oversee conduct of fans, cheerleaders, pep squads, bands, etc., should be visible and (when possible) attend away contests as well as home contests.
15. Arrange for uniformed law enforcement officers to be on duty for all contests, if past experience dictates.
16. Identify potential troublemakers (student or adult). If their behavior continues to mar the contest, ban from future contests.
17. Arrange for introduction of principals and athletic/activities directors of competing schools.
18. Insist cheerleaders and pep squad treat visitors as guests.
19. Stress sportsmanship! If each school cooperates, major positive accomplishments can be made.
4. Be at the contest site (home or away) in advance of everyone's arrival and be sufficiently prepared.
5. Have regular, informal sessions with local media and elicit their participation and assistance in the program.
6. Document crowd incidents and report violations of KSHSAA sportsmanship goals and objectives immediately. If possible, film/videotape crowd behavior when there is a concern.
7. Regularly inform administrators on the status of crowd management and any problems that occur.
8. Establish contact with the opponent's athletic/activities director in advance of each contest to offer assistance with arrangements and equipment.
9. Make contact with contest officials approximately one week in advance. Confirm officials' names, arrival time and other pertinent needs.
10. Provide pleasant quarters for officials and opponents. Extend every courtesy to make them enjoy their visit to your school.

Coach

Each coach is responsible to demonstrate and apply leadership, integrity, responsibility, self-control, knowledge of rules and regulations of the sport, honesty and sportsmanship at all times on and off the playing area/field/court. Because the coach represents the school, community, the profession, the faculty and the student body, it is necessary and important to act in a responsible and professional manner at all times.

Coaches must always keep in mind the contest essentially belongs to the contestants. The primary justification for including the athletic/activities program in the total school curriculum is based on the premise that athletics/activities provides both physical and character values for those who participate. Student attainment of these values rests largely with the coaching profession.

Coaching is an extension of the educational process. It is necessary for contestants, coaches and officials to relate and "communicate" when there are concerns about a rule, a regulation or any matter concerning the welfare of all concerned. The coach must show respect and maintain proper sideline conduct before, during and after the contest, thereby assuring common courtesy and honesty when and if problems arise. The coach is probably the most influential person on the playing area/field/court and his/her actions will be reflected in the actions of others.



Preventive Measures

1. Meet regularly with staff in an effort to reinforce and inform them of procedures.
2. Schedule social events which accomplish the interaction objective.
3. Maintain control over student groups involved in activities/athletics and encourage growth in sportsmanship.

General Responsibilities

1. Demonstrate sportsmanship at all times.
2. Be responsible for the conduct of contestants.
3. Help in promoting good crowd decorum.
4. Refrain from the use of any profanity and/or physically abusive actions.
5. Refrain from making any negative remarks to the news media.
6. Have and show respect for the opponent; treat team as guests.
7. Educate student/contestants regarding the rules and regulations of the sport/activity.
8. Maintain proper conduct before, during and after the contest.
9. Inform team members of responsibilities contained in this manual.

Therefore, as a professional educator, the coach must:

1. Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership.
2. Respect the integrity and personality of an individual contestant.
3. Abide by the rules of the sport/activity in letter and in spirit.
4. Respect the integrity and judgment of officials, never baiting or taunting that official in any way. By rule, the head coach is responsible for all bench/sideline personnel.
5. Demonstrate a mastery of and continuing interest in coaching principles and techniques through professional improvement.
6. Encourage a respect for all contestants and their values.
7. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
8. Promote ethical relationships among coaches.
9. Fulfill responsibilities to provide an environment free of health and safety hazards.
10. Encourage the highest standards of conduct and scholastic achievement among all contestants.
11. Seek to inculcate good health habits including the establishment of sound training rules.
12. Strive to develop in each contestant the qualities of leadership, initiative and good judgment.

*“Let our school
be known for the
highest level of competition
and good
sportsmanship.”*

Preventive Measures

Before Event

1. Read, know and work to understand the rules book.
2. An “open communication” network between coach and official must be maintained.
3. Honesty is the best policy. Before the season, both coaches and officials should discuss differences of opinion, thereby presenting an exchange of ideas and recommendations.
4. Officials should be invited to practice sessions to review new rule changes and go over general rules. On the playing area/field/court demonstration is very important.
5. Discussion sessions with contestants led by the coach and official are very important. Sportsmanship, rules and regulations, and respect must be the main focus of the agenda.
6. Contestants must be made aware of his/her role and responsibility as a school representative. He/she must show respect and courtesy toward officials and opponents. This may be done through team/individual sessions with the coach.
7. Officials need to feel they are welcome when they enter the playing area/field/court. The athletic/activities director, manager or assigned adult chaperon should greet and welcome officials.

During

1. Improper sideline control or unsportsmanlike conduct in any activity is unacceptable.
2. The contestant’s demeanor and conduct is the coach’s responsibility.
3. It is important that the coach assist in maintaining good crowd management. This is accomplished through actions and mannerisms on the playing area/field/court. Actions calm or excite a crowd.

After

1. Never direct frustration over the outcome of a contest to officials, contestants or spectators.
2. It is good public relations for coaches to attend officials’ meetings and vice versa.
3. Write a letter of commendation to the KSHSAA when an official does an outstanding job of officiating.
4. Refrain from making negative remarks to the news media; if problems arise, use the KSHSAA as the investigative body.
5. There should not be a meeting of officials and coach/administrator after a contest.
6. Officials should be paid before the contest, not after. A responsible person should ensure the official is admitted to the dressing room and not left to stand outside.

Participants

The role of the participant in sportsmanship is second in importance only to the coach. Participants are admired and respected by students and adult spectators. Participants have significant influence over actions and behavior of spectators of all ages.

Recommended Responsibilities

1. Accept and understand the seriousness of contestant responsibility and the privilege of representing the school and community.
2. Learn rules thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, peers and elementary students. This assists in understanding and appreciation of the sport/activity.
3. Cooperate with the coach and always exercise good sportsmanship by living the rules.
4. Only the captain may communicate with officials on clarification of rules. It is his/her responsibility to communicate what was said back to teammates and/or coach.
5. Always respect the official's judgment and interpretation of rules. Never argue or make non-verbal gestures, which indicate disagreement. This immature behavior may incite undesirable response from spectators and teammates.
6. Congratulate opponents in a sincere manner following victory or defeat. This is a true measure of character.
7. Exercise self-control at all times, accepting all decisions and unusual occurrences.
8. Treat opponents with respect that is accorded a guest or friend. Many lasting relationships may be developed from competitive situations.
9. Shake hands with opponents prior to the contest and wish them luck.

Preventive Measures

Before

1. Shake hands with opponents and express your best wishes for success.
2. Learn the rules.
3. Practice and live positive character development as outlined by your coaches, parent(s) or other educators.

During

1. Assist participants who are down in getting to their feet.
2. Shake hands after an aggressive exchange.
3. Never gesture to officials, participants, coaches or the fans in a negative manner.
4. Never disagree openly with an official or coach's decision. Carry on ethically and maturely regardless of your true feelings.
5. Shake the opponent's hand, or extend congratulations when he/she is leaving the contest.

After

1. Make every effort to extend a congratulatory handshake to your opponent immediately at the conclusion of the contest.
2. Never debate something that occurred during the contest with anyone.
3. Be objective when communicating to the media about the contest. Don't be controlled by your emotions.
4. Show concern for injured opponents and teammates.

5. Promote sportsmanship and your athletic/activity experience positively whenever and wherever the opportunity arises.

KSHSAA Code of Ethics

For Coaches, Athletic/Activities Directors, Aides, Adjudicators, Judges and Officials

Believing that mine is an important part in the nationwide school activity program, I pledge to act in accordance with these principles:

1. I will honor contracts regardless of possible inconvenience or financial loss.
2. I will study the rules, observe the work of other coaches, athletic/activities directors, adjudicators, judges, or officials and will, at all times, attempt to improve myself and the activity.
3. I will conduct myself in such a way that attention is drawn not to me but to the young people participating in the contest or activity.
4. I will maintain my appearance in a manner befitting the dignity and importance of the activity.
5. I will cooperate with the news media in the interpretation and clarification of rules and/or other areas relating to good sportsmanship, but I will not make any statements concerning decisions made during the contest.
6. I will uphold and abide by all rules of the KSHSAA and the National Federation.
7. I will shape my character and conduct so as to be a worthy example to the young people who participate under my jurisdiction.
8. I will give my complete cooperation to the school which I serve and to the KSHSAA which I represent.
9. I will cooperate and be professional in my association with other coaches, athletic/activities directors, adjudicators, judges or officials and will do nothing to cause them public embarrassment.
10. I will keep in mind that the contest is more important than the wishes of any individual.
11. I will make responsible decisions about consumption of alcohol, including abstinence from alcohol at least twelve (12) hours prior to a contest in which I will be involved.
12. I will not use tobacco products while directly involved in interscholastic activities.



Officials

Schools have entrusted officials to assist them in the educational development of youth through athletics/activities. The proper operation of such a process requires that officials be independent, impartial and responsible to people they serve. Officials must resist every temptation and outside pressure to use the position to benefit one's self. Under all circumstances, officials must avoid promoting the special interest of any person or group of persons other than the contestants. Every member of the officiating profession must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the avocation in all personal conduct and relations with student participants, coaches, athletic/activity directors, school administrators, colleagues and the public, to be worthy examples.

Recommended Responsibilities

The conduct of any official influences the attitude of the public toward the profession in general and toward the official in particular.

An official is expected to:

1. Accept the role in an unassuming manner. Showboating and over-officiating are not acceptable.
2. Maintain confidence and poise, controlling the contest from start to finish.
3. Know the rules of the contest thoroughly and abide by the established code of ethics.
4. Publicly shake hands with coaches of both teams before the contest.
5. Never exhibit emotions or argue with participants or coaches when enforcing rules.
6. When watching a contest as a spectator, give the same respect to officials that you expect to receive when working a contest.



KSHSAA Official's Code of Conduct

*As a registered official with the KSHSAA,
I agree to the following standards:*

While serving in the capacity of an official,

1. I will not use profane or abusive language.
2. I will not make comments that would degrade fellow KSHSAA registered officials.
3. I will not provide derogatory statements to the news media or make statements to the news media which reflect on the inappropriateness of another official's decision made during the course of an athletic contest.
4. I will not make objectionable or obscene gestures.
5. I will not use alcohol or take illegal drugs for 12 hours prior to a contest that I will be officiating.
6. I will not use tobacco products while directly involved in interscholastic activities.
7. I will keep myself in good physical and mental health.
8. I will keep my officiating uniform clean and in such condition that does not demean from the status of an official.
9. I will not commit any acts or omissions that would be detrimental to the best interests of the KSHSAA, my officiating colleagues, the schools that I am officiating for or the students involved in KSHSAA sponsored activities.

Spirit Groups

(From the National Federation Official High School Spirit Rules Book)

Spirit groups shall serve as support groups for the interscholastic athletic/activities program within the school and as such, play a very important role in the administration of athletics/activities contests.

Spirit activities should center on "leading" or "directing" the cheering of student and adult fans. In this role, spirit groups can become the school's most effective student leaders. These activities should be focused on:

- creating a cooperative spirit among spirit squads, athletes, student bodies, school administrators and community;
- recognizing outstanding plays and examples of good sportsmanship on the part of both teams;
- and, aiding the school and contest officials in the promotion of good sportsmanship and the administration of the contest.

Spirit groups have evolved to include performances and competition. Performing is a secondary role of spirit groups and can effectively promote school spirit when included at appropriate times at interscholastic contests, pep rallies and assemblies.

Being the most visible and recognizable representatives of a school, spirit groups are in a position of great influence; therefore, high standards of conduct are essential. Positive personal behavior and squad cohesiveness demonstrate these standards. Appropriate behavior will help earn the respect of the student body, which is the core of developing effective school spirit and student involvement.

General Responsibilities

1. Spirit squad members should be present at all contests to which they are assigned and initiate crowd involvement with chants.
 2. Spirit squads should be on duty in their assigned places throughout the contest.
 3. As representatives of the school, spirit squads must model positive sportsmanship **100%** of the time, regardless of the score.
 4. Spirit squads should be required to arrive a sufficient amount of time before home contests begin. Their duties should include:
 - a. Meeting and greeting the visiting squads and making them feel welcome.
 - b. Assisting visiting squads with questions such as where they are to be located during the contest, where they can put their coats, etc.
 - c. Providing leadership for the spectators as they arrive.
 - d. Allowing adequate time for their warm-up period.
 5. Prior to the start of a contest, a plan between the home and visiting cheerleaders and other spirit groups should be devised whereby all groups have the opportunity to cheer/perform during non-injury time-outs and intermissions. If applicable, "Hello" or "Welcome" cheers could be incorporated. This will eliminate confusion and prevent delays in the contest while officials wait for spirit squads to get off the playing area/field/court.
 6. At contests away from home, spirit squads should enter the playing area in a group and meet the host squads.
 7. Spirit squads should be required to know the contest rules and officials' signals to the extent of understanding when, and what type of, cheers are appropriate.
 8. When the official signals for the contest to begin after a full time-out, the spirit squads should leave the floor at once. Spirit squads shall stay clear of the playing area/field/court during the contest so as not to interfere with the contestants or officials, or increase the possibility of injury.
 9. Spirit squads should accept the decisions of officials and discourage disagreement of fans by initiating positive chants or cheers.
 10. Spirit squads should realize the importance of actively influencing the positive conduct of spectators.
 11. Spirit squads shall adapt their routines to the environmental conditions and playing surfaces for which stunts, pyramids and routines are used (i.e., mounts, pyramids or gymnastics shall not be permitted during rain, on slippery surfaces or where there is not enough space; hot, humid weather may also present problems).
- Spirit groups should always cheer in a positive manner. It is inappropriate to cheer against the other team or to cheer in response to an opposing participant's mistake.
 - Cheers and chants with suggestive words and/or motions shall not be used.
 - Artificial noisemakers (including megaphones) are not to be used while the game is in progress.
1. Placement of spirit squads at contests:
 - a. Spirit coaches should coordinate the placement of the spirit squad with the school administrator in charge.
 - b. When possible, squads should cheer along the sideline close to the intersection of the sideline and end line. If space does not permit that (area), the squad should be located along the end line but not beneath the basket or within the area of the free throw lane extended (basketball).
 - c. In all locations, the squad should be at least 3-4 feet from any boundary line unless the facility does not permit.
 - d. Spirit squads should be aware of actions occurring within the contest and be prepared to move as play advances. They should be aware of the movement of contest officials and not interfere with their contest responsibilities.
 - e. No actions by the spirit leaders should be made to purposely distract the participants.
 2. Spirit leaders should call attention to the importance of sportsmanship at all pep rallies. When permitted, placing sportsmanship posters on the wall of the gym/contest area is helpful.
 3. Spirit leaders should discourage fans from yelling or cheering while an opponent is performing. Intimidation of opponents has no place in high school contests.
 4. Spirit leaders are in a position to preview spirit signs that will be posted for the school's contests (when permitted). Discouraging inappropriate signs from ever being posted can greatly assist the administration and helps to create and maintain a positive crowd atmosphere.
 5. Obnoxious behavior should not be encouraged nor permitted under the guise of school spirit. Opposing participants, officials and fans should be treated with respect and dignity. If inappropriate crowd behavior persists, assistance should be obtained from a school administrator or contest manager.

Recommended Sportsmanship

Good sportsmanship is conduct which imposes a type of self-control involving honest rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of results. School spirit is a reflection of these attitudes and behavior. If a school is to succeed in one of its prime functions, that of developing good citizenship, it is necessary for student groups to radiate appropriate sportsmanlike conduct. The promotion of sportsmanship is a primary responsibility of spirit groups.



Pep Bands

Part of the excitement at many of our interscholastic contests involves the spirited music supplied by the pep band. All attending the contest enjoy the performance of the musical group. The director and performing group should display courtesy and respect to participants, cheerleaders, coaches, spectators and officials by playing at appropriate times. With good planning and cooperation, the school pep band can be an integral part of the excitement and spirit of the contest.

Recommended Responsibilities

To ensure full appreciation of the group's performance, guidelines indicating when to play should be followed. Band directors are reminded that as a courtesy to the teams and cheerleaders of both schools, performances by the band should be limited to appropriate times. The following guidelines indicate appropriate playing times for the band:

1. The band may play before the contest begins. The director should coordinate the schedule so team members may be introduced by the host school.
2. The band may play at halftime of the contest.
3. The band may play at the end of the contest if desired.
4. The band may play during time-outs or between quarters. However, cheerleaders need the opportunity to lead cheers and participants and coaches need to be able to communicate with each other during time-outs.
5. Musical instruments may not be used as noisemakers during the contest. Bands are not to play instruments (including the beating of drums) or taped (electronic) music while the game is in progress.
6. Develop a large repertoire of selections that can be played if the contest is delayed due to emergency situations such as an injury.
7. Avoid selections or routines that may be embarrassing to fans or participants of either team competing



Fans/Spectators

General Responsibilities

- The "High Five of Sportsmanship" is to promote sportsmanship at all of our events. It is important to the educational nature of these events to stress the type of exemplary behavior that should be exhibited by all participants, coaches, directors and spectators at our events.
- The values learned in activities are ones that last a lifetime. The positive actions by a coach, participant or spectator at an event can influence how our school is perceived in our own community and the communities of the schools we compete against.
- We want to raise our level of expectations in our own community, so we continue to take pride in our athletic teams and fine arts programs. Join the "High Five of Sportsmanship."

Artificial Noisemaker Limitations

Artificial noisemakers (including megaphones, cow bells, thunder sticks, air horns, sirens, etc.) are not to be used and bands are not to play (including the beating of drums) while the game is in progress, indoors or outdoors. If the school administration questions the safety or appropriateness of any noisemaker, it shall not be permitted. Please refer to the KSHSAA Music Manual, page 22, relating to when bands can play.

By policy of the KSHSAA Executive Board, use of fireworks, cannons, air concussion cannons, handheld explosives and other devices is not permitted at any KSHSAA postseason athletic event. Member schools have the authority to determine if they permit such devices at their regular-season events.

Recommended Sportsmanship

There are times when fans can become quite vocal at events and loudly critical of both game officials and opposing players and teams. This type of negative behavior is counterproductive to what schools are trying to promote. It creates an uncomfortable environment for the other fans that came to support their team and wish to enjoy the game. This behavior can be an embarrassment to the school and the young people who are involved in the activity.

The greatest challenge to good sportsmanship is adversity. When things are not going well the easy response is to shift the blame. In particular, to shift it away from ourselves to our opponents, or more often, to the officials or judges. When this is done, the focus is away from the positive, "to perform harder or better," to the negative, "how can we possibly overcome the bad calls." Schools feel that it is essential that our students involved in activities maintain a positive approach to handling adversity. Students and schools need the support of the fans, as role models, to accomplish this goal.

***ALL fans are asked to be
positive and upbeat!***

- Promote the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship.
- There is no such thing as a “right” to participate in school activities. Interscholastic activities are a “privilege” and the participants and spectators who avail themselves are expected to conduct themselves accordingly.
- Your team does not belong to the community. It represents the school. Your school has voluntarily agreed to abide by a certain set of rules so that all participants may compete under the same standards.
- Fans must accept the fact that all high school participants make mistakes. They’re not perfect, and never will be. There is compensation, though, as these mistakes make high school activities exciting and unpredictable.
- Remembering that the coach is a teacher first, and coach second, will allow the school activities program to grow and prosper in a positive direction.
- Make an attempt to learn the rules of the game to better appreciate the role of officials and judges. Much time and effort is spent in the training of these individuals. Spectators who constantly criticize officials set a bad example for impressionable young people.
- Always keep in mind that, as a fan, you are a guest of the school, and while winning is certainly an admirable goal, it is hollow if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics and just plain common sense.

Recommended Behavior in Fine Art Events

- Applause is a positive show of appreciation. Disrespectful actions, noises or gestures (whistling, beepers, telephones, etc.) show disrespect and are inappropriate for school performances.
- Entering or leaving a performance between selections is a positive show of respect. Disturbing, entering, or leaving a performance in progress shows disrespect.
- Respect the host personnel and the facilities of the performance area. Trashing, vandalizing or showing disrespect for personnel or facilities is unacceptable.
- Recognize outstanding performances. Utilizing proper avenues for challenges promotes better understanding for everyone. Criticizing the decision of the adjudicators or judges, arguing and improper outbursts show a lack of understanding of the event.



Strategies for Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship and Conduct

Schools participating in a contest(s) are charged with the important role of teaching the highest principles and standards of general behavior. Schools' administration should never overlook any opportunity to remind and emphasize tactfully the need and value of proper respect of the opponents with regard to their organized cheering activities; the decisions of the officials; and the importance of desirable and proper conduct both at home and away.

We are sure you concur with the KSHSAA in its belief that considerable effort should be exerted to promote the highest principles of good sportsmanship. You are urged to give the officials your utmost cooperation in helping them eliminate any form of rowdiness. If there should be any patrons unwilling to accept the principles of good sportsmanship, or if there are some who desire to view the contest while under the influence of intoxicating beverages, managers should see that those individuals are refunded their money and evicted.

Experience has demonstrated that **good sportsmanship** is not an inherent characteristic of all people attending high school contests. Because of this fact, it is impossible to acquire the optimum in good sportsmanship at your contests without considerable effort and planning in advance. How can this be done?

Through the medium of the public address system, certain announcements can be made concerning this matter. Cheerleaders can be trained so they will be on the alert to stamp out any demonstration. English or journalism departments can prepare local news releases, to be forwarded to newspapers in towns represented in a tournament, emphasizing the importance of proper sportsmanship on the part of patrons who plan to attend. News releases should point out one of the justifications for an interscholastic athletic program is that it serves as a means of teaching proper attitudes and ideals to the students.

Sportsmanship Addresses the Following:

1. Be positive, not negative.
2. Don't put down your opponent with trash talk and gestures. Instead, be positive with remarks for your team.
3. Play within the rules, don't expect a fair advantage.
4. Play for the fun, experience and educational value, and of course play to win.
5. Win with humility and respect for your opponent; lose with dignity and respect for your opponent.

Sportsmanship/Citizenship Rule 52-1-1c prohibits victory celebrations on the playing surface/field/court at the conclusion of a contest for the following reasons:

1. Allows the participants and coaches of the teams to shake hands at the end of the contest.
2. Safety of the participants.
3. Avoids confrontation between exuberant fans and downhearted participants and fans of the school which was defeated.
4. Preserves sportsmanship/citizenship atmosphere.
5. Allows awards where appropriate to be presented within a reasonable period of time.
6. Protects the time schedule of contests which are followed by subsequent contests on the same playing surface.
7. Protects the playing surface.

A little effort on the part of the manager will do much to stimulate fair play, friendly rivalry and good sportsmanship among participants and patrons at each contest.

Teaching Sportsmanship

from "Coaching for Character" by Craig Clifford & Randolph M. Feezell

1. **Be a good role model.** As a coach you must constantly keep in mind that your actions do, in fact, speak louder than your words. No matter what you say, what you do will have an effect on your players. You must do everything you can to show your players what it means to be a good sport by treating opposing players and coaches, officials, team members and the sport in which you participate with respect. An obvious corollary: Admit to your players when you fall short of your own sportsmanship ideals.
2. **Emphasize sportsmanship from the beginning.** The process of "coaching for character" should start early, from your first contact with players. If you're recruiting a player to come out for the team or a player comes to you to discuss trying out, what you say will set the tone for your relationship with that player. At the first team meeting with your players you should explain how much you value sportsmanship. Tell them what your expectations are, how you understand the basic principles of sportsmanship and why these principles are important.



"Be A Good Sport"

3. **Talk about combining seriousness and playfulness.** Since the principles of sportsmanship are based on the very nature of sport, and sport is a form of competitive play, explain to your players that sport is “serious fun.” Help them understand that bad sportsmanship is often a matter of being “too serious,” of forgetting that there’s more to sport than winning, and, in some cases, a matter of not being serious enough, or forgetting that striving to be excellent and striving to win within the rules and customs of the game are essential parts of competition. Try to show this balance in your own attitude and in your comments. Be serious when it’s called for; cut up, kid around, and have fun when it’s called for. How you express this balance will in part depend on your own personality, but the need for a balance between playfulness and seriousness is not a matter of personal preference or personality. It comes from the nature of the activity you’re engaging in, competitive play. Take your responsibilities seriously, but don’t take yourself too seriously.
4. **Talk about the relationship between sportsmanship and success.** Make sure your players understand that “success” in sports is not merely a matter of achieving victory, and that victory without sportsmanship, dignity and honor is hollow. At the same time, try to show your players that respect for the team and your sport, as well as respect between the players and the coach, might help develop habits and talents that will improve your chances of winning.
5. **Regularly use the language of sportsmanship.** The language of sportsmanship should become a regular part of your coaching vocabulary. Don’t leave this language behind after the first team meeting. The language of “respect” should be heard by your players often. If you earn their respect, the language you use around them will become a part of their way of looking at things. Never underestimate the power of language. The right words make it possible to understand things we couldn’t otherwise understand.
6. **Expect sportsmanship in practice as well as in games.** Since we are encouraging you to develop the habits of good sportsmanship in your players, don’t reserve instruction for games only. Expect good behavior—the habit of showing respect—in practice.
7. **Establish team rules, customs, rituals and traditions that reinforce the principles of sportsmanship.** While it is crucial to talk about the basic principles of sportsmanship, it is probably even more important to be specific about your expectations. Establish specific team rules that promote good sportsmanship. It’s a good idea to list the rules and place them in the context of the principles of sportsmanship. If you demand 100 percent effort at all times, then explain this demand with reference to respecting your opponents, your teammates and the game. As much as possible, be specific about how you expect your players to relate to opponents, officials and each other. When the opportunity arises, try to

A lot of young players don't really know much about the history of the game and a lot of them are missing out on what the game is all about, especially the whole concept of sportsmanship and teamwork.

- Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

develop customs, rituals and traditions that will promote sportsmanship. Some customs and rituals you can simply demand, like the postgame handshake. Others develop out of the special relations and situations; some of them the players develop on their own. Take advantage of those developments.

8. **Encourage players to take the perspective of other participants in sports.** Since sportsmanship demands proper perspective, help players to understand and imaginatively to appreciate others’ points of view. This is analogous to the moral education of a child, when a parent sometimes says something like, “How would it make you feel if someone did that to you?” Talk about the “silver rule.” Talk about how opponents and officials might look at you and your players.
9. **Develop clear guidelines for dealing with unsportsmanlike behavior.** Make it clear to your players from the beginning of the season how you will deal with actions that violate the principles of sportsmanship. If you decide not to allow taunting, showboating, or arguing with officials, tell the players what the specific penalty (or gradations of penalties) will be if the rules are violated. You can spell out the sequence of possible punishments and explain that you will decide how serious the violation has been. In other words, you don’t have to decide in advance what the penalty for every possible violation will be—but you do have to be clear that there are consequences for violations. Be clear about the process. If you’ll make the decisions, say that. If you’ll allow the team to be involved, say that.
10. **Reinforce good sportsmanship.** If good sportsmanship matters to you, show the players, parents and fans it matters by rewarding good behavior in some manner. The most obvious way to do this is through praise, respectful behavior and playing time. At the end of the season, make sure that team awards include sportsmanship, either as a separate award or as a necessary condition for all awards.
11. **Communicate the importance of sportsmanship to parents.** Before the season starts meet with parents and explain to them the value you place on sportsmanship. Enlist their help and support in reinforcing your expectations with their children.
12. **Communicate the importance of sportsmanship to fans.** Depending on the situation in which you coach, some kind of public announcement concerning sportsmanship is important. You might address this issue over the public address system at a game, or in a printed handout. You can encourage your school or league officials to adopt rules concerning the misbehavior of fans at home games or matches. Try to develop an educational campaign at your school or in your league or organization promoting the ideals of sportsmanship among fans. Rituals at the beginning of a game showing respect for the opponents can help set the tone for the fans. Your remarks at social functions, postgame interviews on the radio and so on can also set the tone.
13. **Talk about news stories concerning sportsmanship with your players.** Since most of your players are probably sports fans, use current sporting events as an opportunity for discussing sportsmanship with them. When a famous athlete does something controversial or especially laudable, ask your players what they think about the event. Ask them what they would do if they were the coach. Discuss with them how you would deal with that sort of behavior. To some extent, you can help them to see which famous athletes deserve our respect and which do not.
14. **Talk about specific incidents with your players.** Encourage your players to bring up incidents that happen to them in sports. Take advantage of things that come up to discuss sportsmanship with your players.

A Report Card

“Please help us be #1 in sportsmanship!”

15. **Promote reflectiveness by asking questions.** Remember that you are a teacher and that good teaching often involves asking the right questions, rather than giving the students carefully packaged answers. Encourage players to think for themselves and make their own reasoned judgments about their experiences or examples you call attention to.
16. **Talk about the history of your sport with players.** Talk with your athletes about the historical traditions, innovations and heroes of your sport in order to broaden their perspective and enrich their sense of participating in something bigger than themselves. Tell good stories. Encourage players to read about the history of their sport in order to develop a respect for the fullness of the game.
17. **Expect players to know the rule book.** To encourage players to respect the game as well as the officials, encourage them to study the rule book. Ask them questions about the interpretation of difficult situations if they were officiating. Play “You make the call.”
18. **Show by your actions and your words that you care, that what you’re trying to teach is important.** No matter how much your players may seem to resist you, many of your values will become theirs. Let them know that it matters how they behave, what kind of human beings they will be, whether they do things well or poorly.
19. **Don’t forget to have fun. Remember it’s a game.** It’s serious, it matters, but it’s play. Show your players that what they’re doing matters, but don’t take yourself too seriously. If no one is having fun, you’re not playing a game anymore.

How’s Our Sportsmanship?

Welcome to our school. We consider it our home and hope you will enjoy your visit here. We would appreciate it if you would rate the sportsmanlike behavior of our participants, coaches, students and spectators.

We’re proud of making sportsmanship one of our top educational priorities and hope you will assist us in reaching that goal.

Please return this form at the door/gate as you leave. Thank you!

**Please rate the following on a 1 to 10 basis,
with 10 being the best score and 1 being the poorest.**

- The coach’s positive control of his/her emotions and behavior toward the team, the opponents and officials. _____
- The participants’ positive control of their emotions and behavior. _____
- The cheerleaders’ role in encouraging positive enthusiasm. _____
- The general response and actions of the spectators. _____
- The coach’s handling of close/controversial situations or calls. _____
- The sportsmanlike conduct/attitude of the team/fans at the conclusion of the contest. _____
- The school administration’s active role in promoting enthusiasm or crowd management. _____

A Timetable for Sportsmanship

August

- Distribute letters to various publics.
- Discuss the value of sportsmanship with fall coaches and athletes.
- Create a committee consisting of school administrators, coaches, students/athletes, parents, etc., to discuss and monitor the sportsmanship effort in your school.
- Sponsor an evening assembly for fans of fall sports teams, using school team members, coaches and local officials, to emphasize the rule interpretations and changes for the coming season.
- Talk with your event security staff and public address announcers about their role during contests.

September

- Distribute brochures and display posters promoting sportsmanship.
- Send press release announcing school's involvement in program.
- Visit homerooms in school, stressing value of good sportsmanship.
- Make use of sportsmanship ideas in printed materials produced at school.
- Send fall public service announcements to local radio stations.
- Discuss the possibility of a league/conference meeting addressing sportsmanship and rating the sportsmanship of each school.

October

- Plan a competition between student organizations, promoting sportsmanship (poster contest, etc.).
- Discuss sportsmanship, ethics and integrity being used as topics in the classroom with selected instructors.
- As fall contests approach, emphasize good sportsmanship in school announcements and publications.
- Plan an activity around National Sportsmanship Day during High School Activities Week.
- Conduct a league/conference meeting on sportsmanship, addressing immediate concerns and plans for remainder of school year.

November

- Discuss the value of sportsmanship with winter coaches and athletes.
- Develop an editorial for the school newsletter to the public, discussing positive sportsmanship efforts (adults or students).
- Sponsor an evening assembly for fans of winter sports teams, using school team members, coaches and local officials, to emphasize rule interpretations and changes for the coming season.

December/January

- Send out winter public service announcements to local radio stations.
- Compile league/conference sportsmanship ratings for fall sports.

February

- Contact an editor of a local newspaper or host of a local radio or television talk show about an editorial or special program on sportsmanship in society, and your school's role in promoting sportsmanship.
- As winter contests approach, emphasize good sportsmanship in school announcements and publications.

March

- Discuss the value of sportsmanship with spring sponsors and participants.
- Sponsor an evening assembly for fans of spring teams, using school team members, coaches and local officials, to emphasize rule interpretations and changes for the coming season.

April

- Send out spring public service announcements to local radio stations.
- Compile league/conference sportsmanship ratings for winter activities.

May

- Present your sportsmanship evaluation program to community through letters and newsletters that will reach into the home.
- As spring contests approach, emphasize good sportsmanship in school announcements and publications.
- Conduct a follow-up league/conference sportsmanship meeting, evaluating efforts made during the past year and setting goals for the coming year.

June

- Compile league/conference sportsmanship rating for spring activities.

Sportsmanship In Action

Public Address Announcer

Recommended Responsibilities

The announcer is a key figure and carries a great responsibility. What is said and the way it is said will influence the crowd. Announcers may find it necessary to make special announcements in case of emergencies. The following items may assist:

1. Be impartial. Announcements (written or impromptu) are to be made with no show of favoritism, in a positive, not negative or disrespectful manner.
2. Use proper language at all times.
3. Be enthusiastic but calm.
4. Do not anticipate or second guess calls by the officials or criticize officials' decisions, directly or indirectly.
5. Be aware of the entire playing area/field/court so that calm directions can be given in an emergency. Serious situations can often be avoided if the announcer will caution the crowd against coming onto the field/court, throwing things, cutting down nets, taking down goal posts, etc.
6. Permit no one to use the microphone, except those in charge of the event. The announcer is responsible for whatever is said over the public address system.
7. Announce convenient routes for leaving the playing area/field/court and caution the crowd to drive carefully.
8. Be familiar with the format to be used for introduction of teams and awards presentations. Remind spectators to stay off playing area/field/court prior to and after each contest.
9. Public address announcers should be aware that good sportsmanship is a very important part of interscholastic activities. They can play an important role in its encouragement.



SAMPLE

Sportsmanship Pre-Contest Announcements

The following are examples of pre-contest announcements for any interscholastic event:

1. "Activity programs at (name) High School are primarily for the student participants. The purpose of this activity is to provide positive learning experiences and opportunities for personal growth of the participants. We are pleased to host our guests from (name) High School. This competition is being conducted according to the rules of the Kansas State High School Activities Association. Cheerleaders, officials and spectators can (and are expected to) assist in the promotion and achievement of good sportsmanship ideals by taking personal responsibility for keeping this contest at a high level of fair, clean, wholesome competition. Good luck to both teams!"
2. Role models are more important than ever in today's society. You can serve as a role model for others by displaying good sportsmanship at this tournament. It's the kind of positive values portrayed by good sportsmanship that everyone appreciates. Good sports are winners! The Kansas State High School Activities Association encourages you to make sportsmanship a primary concern.
3. Interscholastic activities are an integral part of a student's education. There is no place in an educational environment for poor sportsmanship.
4. Interscholastic athletics teaches citizenship and sportsmanship. Please do your part by being a good sport.
5. Good citizenship and good sportsmanship are contagious. Let's start an epidemic!
6. The KSHSAA or _____ High School wishes to remind you that sportsmanship is to be practiced and adhered to throughout the contest.
7. The KSHSAA or _____ High School appreciates your support of interscholastic athletics and its principle objective. You are reminded this is an educational event and the practice of good sportsmanship is encouraged by all.
8. Please keep in mind winning is for a day—sportsmanship is for a lifetime.
9. High school activities are an extension of the classroom and there is no place in the educational environment for poor sportsmanship. Accentuate the positive and eliminate the negative.
10. We are all here for the same purpose—to win. Only one team will win the contest but we can all be winners for life by practicing good sportsmanship.

National Anthem Script: Please rise and remove your hats for the singing/playing of our National Anthem by _____ from _____ High School, under the direction of _____.

Public Service Announcements Samples

Role models are more important than ever in today's society. You can serve as a role model for others the next time you display good sportsmanship at a high school event. Good sports are winners, so the next time you attend a school event, remember to be a good sport and act in a proper manner. Everyone appreciates the good values portrayed by acts of good sportsmanship. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

In our society, winning has come to mean everything. However, if winning comes at the expense of good sportsmanship, everyone is a loser. Nothing is gained in the long run. Good sportsmanship is the result of a disciplined effort to respect yourself, your opponents and contest officials. Remember, good sports are winners, so be a good sport and practice good sportsmanship. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Don't ever confuse a good sport with the nice guys who supposedly finish last. Sportsmanlike behavior has nothing to do with a contestant's or spectator's competitive spirit, and more often than not, a display of poor sportsmanship leads to a losing performance. Good sports are winners, regardless of the final score. Remember to "Be A Sport" and practice good sportsmanship. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Your ticket to an interscholastic event is a privilege, a privilege to watch youngsters learn on the playing arena. A lesson taught to contestants is one spectators can follow as well—that of good sportsmanship. Unruly behavior is unacceptable in the classroom, and the playing arena is a classroom. Remember to "Be A Sport" the next time you attend an activity event. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Winning-the No. 1 syndrome-is the No. 1 problem in interscholastic contests. High school events are truly educational in nature, and among the values learned are those associated with good sportsmanship. Being No. 1 in sportsmanship is educationally more important than being No. 1 on the playing arena. Take pride in your team by displaying good sportsmanship. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

The score of any event is generally forgotten over time, but the actions of contestants, coaches and spectators are remembered. The next time you attend a high school event, think of how history will remember you. Choose the side of good sportsmanship when attending a high school event. Remember, good sports show you how to play the contest. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Jack Dresslar, former Athletic Director, Wellsville (Kansas) Junior-Senior High School

Following is an example of sportsmanship/citizenship and the type of values that those of us who work with young people hope is taught through involvement in high school activities.

So many times we hear that sports are all about winning, that second place is the first loser, or that we must always focus on being No. 1. Winners are sometimes determined not by how they finish a race, but how they respond to situations in which they are placed. This was the case for Patrick Chiarelli, a senior at Prairie View High School, at the Anderson County cross country meet held September 2 in Garnett, Kansas.

Tom Tucker, Anderson County athletic director, was heading to the turn farthest from the clubhouse to let the worker there know that this was the last race of the day. As he approached the area, runners told him that a runner was down. When Tucker arrived on the scene, he found Patrick Farley, a Wellsville senior, on the ground. Farley was a victim of exercise-induced asthma and had not brought his inhaler to the meet.

"The kid was blue and not responding," Tucker said. As he worked with Farley, attempting to get some response, the worker called for an ambulance on her cell phone.

Tucker was concerned, as he could get no response from Farley. At that time, Chiarelli saw that a runner was down and dropped out of the race to aid a fellow competitor. Chiarelli, who just this summer had completed basic training for the National Guard, which included first-aid and CPR training, took charge of the situation. After getting a response from Farley, he got his breathing slowed down and talked to him, keeping him as calm and alert as possible until help arrived.

"I don't know what I would have done if that young man hadn't been there," Tucker said. "He didn't wait to be asked to help. He dropped out of the race and started to provide assistance on his own and got the runner to respond to him."

Chiarelli said that he talked to Farley to get a response, but didn't want to leave until there were at least two people with him. Once another person arrived to provide assistance, the Prairie View senior resumed running and finished the race. Obviously, Chiarelli did not place in the race, but the satisfaction of helping, perhaps even saving the life of a fellow competitor, far outweighed any awards he may have won that day for the cross country competition. Call him a good sport, a hero or whatever you want. On the official score sheet, Patrick Chiarelli finished in 94th position, but in the real game of life, he was a winner.

Public Service Announcements Samples continued

A positive educational environment is essential to the success of high school athletics and activity programs. An important part of that environment is planning for good sportsmanship. Without good sportsmanship, the lessons learned lose their value. Remember the next time you attend an interscholastic contest that you are really inside a classroom where good sports receive the highest grade. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

While the scoreboard reveals the winner of a high school contest, the real winners are those people who treat competition as a contest and not a war, those who show genuine concern for an injured contestant and those who accept all decisions of the officials. Remember to “Be A Sport” when you attend a high school event. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Ethics, integrity and respect are values important in our daily lives. All of these important values are learned by participation in interscholastic activity programs. During competition, they are translated into one word—citizenship. Citizenship is one of the strongest educational lessons and lifetime values taught by interscholastic activities. It makes sense to exhibit good sportsmanship. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Yelling or waving arms during an opponent’s freethrow attempt, as well as booing and heckling an official’s decision, are examples of unacceptable behavior at a high school sporting event. Good sports respect the opponent and officials at all times. The next time you attend a high school contest, remember to applaud for the performances of all participants. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Remember that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support high school activities, not a license to verbally assault others. There is no place in interscholastic activities for name-calling to distract an opponent or the use of profanity from the stands. Sportsmanship is the No. 1 priority at the high school level, so “Be A Sport” the next time you watch a contest. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

The dictionary defines good sportsmanship as playing fair and being a good winner and loser. We often forget that it is more important to be gracious in victory. Good sportsmanship gives us a standard to follow at all times. Good sports act courteously and maintain self-control in all circumstances. Remember to be a fan and not a fanatic when watching interscholastic activity events. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Jim Keenan, former Activities Director, Oakley (Kansas) High School

An amazing thing happened on the way to a state championship. The right team won because of the integrity of some of Kansas’ finest students.

It was at the 3A state Scholars Bowl Championships held in Oakley, Kansas. In the 13th round, Riley County High School and Pomona High School, which were in second place and third place, respectively, in their pool competition, were competing against each other. Only the top two teams from pool play advance to the semifinal and final rounds of competition. Both teams knew the winner of this round would advance to semifinal action, and the other team would be eliminated from the tournament and be on its way home.

At the conclusion of the round, the official scorekeeper announced that Pomona High School had won the round, 45-40. The coach from Riley County High School asked for the score to be rechecked. The official scorer then checked with the unofficial scorekeeper, and both agreed the winner of the round was Pomona with the same score. The coach from Pomona and the captain of the Pomona team then spoke up in agreement with the Riley County coach that an error in scoring had been made during the round and an additional 10 points should be awarded to the Riley County team. Because both coaches and team captains agreed that an error had indeed been made, the score was corrected and Riley County was awarded the victory, 50-45, in round 13.

As a result of the honesty displayed by the Pomona coach and team, Riley County High School advanced to the semifinals and Pomona High School was eliminated from the tournament. Riley County eventually won the 3A state Scholars Bowl Championship. Although Pomona High School received no trophy or recognition for its efforts at the state championship, it went home with something much more important.

In today’s competitive atmosphere, it is reassuring to know the real value of competition is being taught and practiced by the students in our member schools. It is equally refreshing to know that honesty and integrity are not for sale even when the stakes are high and everything is on the line. Their actions that weekend always will be a testimony that winning a state championship is not always the most important goal in life. These individuals have set a high standard for all students in Kansas schools to achieve. Sportsmanship is in practice at Pomona.

Public Service Announcements Samples continued

A coach once wrote, "When we lose without excuses and when we acknowledge the better team, we place winning and losing in their proper perspective. That's when we find out if we can be good sports." Sportsmanship is a goal to strive for at all times, in activities and in our daily lives. Remember to act in a proper manner the next time you attend a high school event. A message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Coaches should set a good example for contestants and fans, always exemplifying the highest moral and ethical behavior. Participants should treat opponents with respect and shake hands prior to and after contests. Fans should be fans, not fanatics. Sportsmanship. It is vital to the success and further existence of interscholastic activity programs. Remember to be a good sport. A message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Good sportsmanship is learned, practiced and executed. Respect for the opponent, spectators, coaches and officials is a must at all levels of athletics and activity programs. At interscholastic contests, generosity and genuine concern for others should characterize behavior on the part of everyone. Display good sportsmanship the next time you attend a high school event. A public service message from your Kansas State High School Activities Association and (name of school).

Note: Additional PSAs may be found on the KSHSAA website under Media>PSA.



With a granddaughter on both teams, Wauneta Schemper couldn't lose. She wore a neutral-colored white sweater with a Logan High School ribbon on one lapel and a Northern Valley heart on the other. "I just felt proud of all of them," she said, admitting it was a little nerve-racking.

Mandi Schemper played for Northern Valley High School in Almena; Jodi Schemper played for Logan High School. Northern Valley won the 1994 Class 1A State Championship, 54-52, in a game that saw the lead go back and forth several times in the final minutes.

The two neighboring schools have always been rivals. But, coming out to the games "kind of brings everybody together," said Wauneta. Posing together, the two teams enjoyed winning two different sub-state tournaments before the final playoff.



SPORTSMANSHIP

from A to Z

Accept and abide by the decisions of the contest officials.

Be a good host to opponents and treat them as guests.

Cooperate with the coach, players and cheerleaders in trying to promote good sportsmanship.

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

Encourage players to play hard and fair.

Follow the rules of the contest at all times.

Good sportsmanship is the “Golden Rule” in action.

Hold assemblies before a contest to encourage students to display proper conduct.

Intervene when inappropriate language or behavior is observed at athletic events.

Judgment calls on the part of the officials are not reason for inappropriate behavior.

Know, understand and appreciate the rules of the contest.

Lose without excuses; win without boasting.

Model language and behavior that is non-biased and is inclusive of individuals regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, sex or disability.

Never criticize players or coaches for the loss of a game.

Opposing coaches, participants, cheerleaders and fans must be respected at all times.

Provide opportunities for informing student and adult spectators of their responsibility to uphold the standards of sportsmanship.

Questioning an official’s call or making negative comments about an official is unacceptable behavior.

Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play.

Shake hands with opponents prior to the contest and wish them good luck.

Teach sportsmanship and demand that your players be good sports.

Use cheerleaders, pep groups and other student leaders to help develop a sportsmanship program.

Victory celebrations and unscheduled game rallies should not be permitted at events sponsored at your school.

Work cooperatively with officials and other contest personnel for an efficient contest.

E**X**ercise self-control and be a good example for players and spectators.

Yelling, booing or heckling an official’s decision is unacceptable behavior.

Zero in on sportsmanship. It’s priority NUMBER ONE.

RESPECTFUL
PRINCIPLES
MORALITY
SINCERITY
INTEGRITY
HONESTY
SELF-DETERMINATION
SACRIFICE
NOBLENES
POLITENESS
TEACHABLE
OBLIGING
APPRECIATION



Activities Sponsored by KSHSAA

Athletics

Baseball
Basketball
Bowling
Cross Country
Football
Golf
Gymnastics
Soccer
Softball
Swimming & Diving
Tennis
Track & Field
Volleyball
Wrestling

Athletic-Related Activities

Spirit
Cheer
Dance
Drill Team
Flag Team
Pep Club
Pompon Squad

Non-Athletic Activities

Debate
Kansas Association for
Youth (KAY)
Music
Piano
Scholars Bowl
Speech & Drama
Student Council



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