



Letter to Parents

Dear Parents,

The role of the parent in the education of a youngster is important. The support shown in the home is often manifested in the ability of the student to accept the opportunities presented at school, in the classroom and through school activities.

There is a value system – established in the home, nurtured in the school – that young people are developing. Their involvement in classroom and other activities contributes to that development. Integrity, fairness and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics, and these are the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations and graceful acceptance of the results.

A good sport, whether a student or a parent, is a true leader in the community. As a parent of a student at our school, your sportsmanship goals should include:

- * Realizing that athletics are part of the total educational experience and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the final score of a game
- * Encouraging our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their classwork, knowing that others will always turn in better or lesser performances
- * Participating in positive cheers that encourage our youngsters and discouraging any cheers that would redirect that focus
- * Learning, understanding and respecting the rules of the game, the officials who administer them and their decisions
- * Respecting the task our coaches face as teachers and supporting them as they strive to educate our youth
- * Respecting our opponents as students and acknowledging them for striving to do their best
- * Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances
- * Be a fan . . . not a fanatic! Don't embarrass your child with emotional outbursts at events

These expectations are the roadmap to follow toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You can have a major influence on your child's attitude about academics, athletics and sportsmanship. The leadership role you take in sportsmanship will help influence your child and our community for years to come.

We look forward to serving you in the year ahead, and appreciate your continued support.



Sport Parent Code of Conduct

The essential elements of character and ethics in sports are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and its principles, including trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, modesty and good citizenship. The highest potential of sports is achieved when competition reflects these characteristics.

I therefore agree:

1. I will learn the rules of the game and the policies of the league.
2. I (and my guests) will be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice or other sporting event.
3. I (and my guests) will not engage in any kind of unsportsmanlike conduct with any official, coach, player, or parent such as booing and taunting; refusing to shake hands; or using profane language or gestures.
4. I will not encourage any behaviors or practices that would endanger the health and wellbeing of the athletes.
5. I will teach my child to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
6. I will demand that my child treat other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect regardless of race, creed, color, sex or ability.
7. I will teach my child that doing one's best is more important than winning, so that my child will never feel defeated by the outcome of a game or his/her performance.
8. I will praise my child for competing fairly and trying hard.
9. I will not ridicule or yell at my child or other participant for making a mistake or losing a competition.
10. I will promote the emotional and physical well-being of the athletes ahead of any personal desire I may have for my child to win.
11. I will respect the officials and their authority during games and will never question, discuss, or confront coaches at the game field, and will take time to speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place.
12. I will demand a sports environment for my child that is free from drugs, tobacco and alcohol, and I will refrain from their use at all sports events.

I also agree that if I fail to abide by the aforementioned rules and guidelines, I will be subject to disciplinary action that could include, but is not limited to the following:

- Verbal warning by school game management personnel
- Written warning
- Parental game suspension with written documentation of incident kept on file by organizations involved