

GUIDELINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CODES OF BEHAVIOR FOR SPECTATORS IN INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION

I. INTRODUCTION

It is the duty of all those concerned with high school athletics to emphasize the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct and fair play under all circumstances. The values to be derived from playing the game fairly should be stressed, and any actions which tend to destroy those values should be discouraged. Courtesy should be shown toward opponents, officials, supervisors, spectators and administrators. Efforts must be made to achieve a thorough understanding and acceptance of the rules of the game and the standards of eligibility and to respect the integrity and the judgment of the sports officials. It is important for all to recognize that the purpose of athletics is to promote the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional well-being of the individual players. Most of all, it is the duty of all concerned with high school athletics to remember that an athletic contest is only a game and should be kept in that perspective.

THE SPECTATORS are expected to:

1. Conform to accepted standards of good sportsmanship and behavior.
2. Respect officials, coaches, and players and extend all courtesies to them.
3. Refrain from foot stomping, disrespectful remarks, and the use of noisemakers.
4. Be quiet when players need total concentration such as during free throws in basketball or serves in volleyball.
5. Obey the regulations of the site authorities. Those who do not conform should be brought to the attention of the supervisors.
6. Understand that schools are responsible for the conduct of their respective spectators, whether at home or away.
7. Refrain from shouting disapproval of calls made by officials.