

# SPORTSMANSHIP

(APPENDIX J)

*Actions are to be for, not against; positive, not negative or disrespectful.*

## **Be courteous to all** (Participants, coaches, officials, staff and fans)

Desirable Behavior-Cheerleaders' "Welcome/Good Luck" yells to opposing fans/cheerleaders, combined yells by cheerleader squads to the entire crowd, opposing coaches and players shaking hands after the game; applause during introduction of players, coaches and officials; players shaking hands of opponent fouling out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause; all showing concern for injured player; respectfully addressing officials during competition and thanking them for their performance; host school extend hospitality to visiting players, coaches, cheerleaders and fans.

Unacceptable Behavior-Fans reading newspapers, turning their backs, making disrespectful actions, etc., with introduction of opponents; yelling, waving, etc., during opponents free throws; derogatory/disrespectful yells, chants, songs, gestures, including "good -bye." "air ball," "you, you, you," "what's the score?" "Warm up the bus" and other such expressions.

## **Know the rules, abide by and respect the officials' decisions**

Desirable Behavior-Utilize every opportunity to promote understanding of the rules of the contest within the school and community; players utilize the team captain or coach for clarification of the call; accept the decisions of the officials; cheerleaders lead fans in positive school yells in a positive manner; 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.

## **Win with character and lose with dignity**

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

Unacceptable Behavior-Yells that antagonize your opponents, when you feel you have won a game; refusing to shake hands or give recognition to winner or good performance; blame loss on officials, coaching, individual player's performance or other rationalizations' victory celebration on the playing surface.

## **Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team**

Desirable Behavior-Coach/players seek 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, etc., of opponents in an attempt to distract; to degrade an excellent performance by opponents.

## **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.

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 cheerleaders; doing unsportsmanlike yells and gestures; such "you, you, you!" while pointing finger at fouling opponent.

**Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its program**

Desirable Behavior-Positively encourage those around you to display only sportsmanlike conduct; report poor sportsmanship to school officials; member school insist that sportsmanship be a priority; administrators help coaches to teach, model and reinforce sportsmanship; administrators will take appropriate action to ensure proper behavior.

Unacceptable Behavior-Unwillingness of fans, players, coaches, administrators and member school to get involved and take a stand to defend one of the main tenets of school activities- the teaching and promotion of SPORTSMANSHIP.

**Parents**

Be a positive role model through your own actions to make sure your athlete has the best athletic experience. Be a "team fan", not a "my kid" fan. Weigh what your children say; they will tend to slant the truth to their advantage. Don't instruct your children before or after the game, because it may conflict with the coach's plans and strategies. Praise student- athletes in their attempts to improve themselves as students, as athletes and as people. Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest.

***Parents should be sensible, responsible and keep priorities in order. There is a lot more at stake than a win or loss record-Please be a "FAN" and not a "FANATIC"***