



SPORTSMANSHIP:

**“THE ONLY MISSING
PIECE IS YOU!”**

PRESENTED BY





have fun &
**cheer
loudly**

keep your chin up,
& don't forget to

smile

only encouraging
words will be
permitted

always appreciate
**a good sport,
a good play &
a good snack**

remember
to shake the
**opponents
hand after
the game**

feed your game face

be fair, play hard,
play KIND

SPORTSMANSHIP: “THE ONLY MISSING PIECE IS YOU!”

PIAA Sportsmanship Program

Presented By KIND®

Implementation Guide

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SECTION I - INTRODUCTION TO SPORTSMANSHIP



Sportsmanship Mission Statement:

The purpose of Sportsmanship: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" program is to educate, promote, and assist in the perception of and the practice of those qualities which are inherent in good sportsmanship.

The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their roles in interscholastic athletics, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and act in a responsible manner at all times.

*"One man
practicing good
sportsmanship is
better than 50
others preaching it."
-Knut Rockne*

What is Sportsmanship?

The American Heritage Dictionary defines sportsmanship as "one who abides by the rules of a Contest and accepts victory or defeat graciously. The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (PIAA) defines sportsmanship as "those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Furthermore, an awareness is expected of the impact of an individual's influence on others' behavior."

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 conceptually and pragmatically a training ground for good citizenship and high behavioral standards. Sportsmanship is viewed by PIAA as a concrete measure of each school's and individual's understanding of their commitment to the educational nature of interscholastic athletics.

The responsibility for developing sportsmanship involves many different people. The complexity of this subject, in implementation, extends far beyond the boundaries of our definition. PIAA is philosophically and practically committed to the attainment and maintenance of all codes of behavior addressed in this manual. While enforcement of these codes has priority status, the recognition of exemplary behavior is a major goal of this effort.

In recent years, the ideal of sportsmanship has often been relegated to a secondary role. A need exists to again make this role primary and to restore placement of interscholastic athletics in an educational perspective. The problems are quite evident and will require a maximum effort by everyone involved to achieve the desired outcomes. The modes of behavior contained in the manual explicitly define what is expected. Willful compliance by all concerned is necessary to achieve the goals of sportsmanship.

Athletics and their companion, competition, may be the last stronghold of discipline in our society. Athletics in particular are called upon to absorb more of their responsibility for teaching basic social values. Any contribution of this magnitude requires the development of positive, definitive programs. The behavior expected of any participant (direct or indirect) must be explicitly spelled out; to that end comes the purpose of this manual.

The manual provides the PIAA member schools with a comprehensive perspective on the rules of sportsmanship. It serves as a behavior guide for all groups involved with interscholastic activity, as well as a source of preventative information. The following material offers direction and guidance, along with expectations that correspond to the goals indicated.

The Fundamentals of Sportsmanship:

PIAA and its member schools are strongly emphasizing the importance of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP. The one thing we need to realize is that many people have not had GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP explained to them. Hopefully the following will help everyone to understand their responsibilities at a Contest.

1. GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION FOR THE RULES OF THE CONTEST.

The necessity to be well informed is essential. Know the rules. If you are uninformed, refrain from expressing opinions on officials, coaches, or administrative decisions. The spirit of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP depends on conformance to a rule's intent as well as to the letter of a given rule.

2. EXERCISE REPRESENTATIVE BEHAVIOR AT ALL TIMES.

A prerequisite to good sportsmanship requires one to understand his/her own prejudices that may become a factor in his/her behavior. The true value of interscholastic competition relies upon everyone exhibiting behavior that is representative of a sound value base. A proper perspective must be maintained if the educational values are to be realized. Your behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not.

3. RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE SKILLED PERFORMANCES REGARDLESS OF AFFILIATION.

Applause for an opponent's good performance displays generosity and is a courtesy that should be regularly practiced. This not only represents GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP but also reflects a true awareness of the Contest by recognizing and acknowledging quality.

4. EXHIBIT RESPECT FOR CONTEST OFFICIALS.

The officials of any Contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the Contest are a part of the Contest. We should not rationalize our own poor or unsuccessful performance or behavior by placing responsibility on a Contest official. The rule of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is to accept and abide by the decision made. This value is critical for students to learn for later application in life.

5. DISPLAY OPENLY A RESPECT FOR THE OPPONENT AT ALL TIMES.

Opponents are guests and should be treated cordially, provided with the best accommodations, and accorded tolerance at all times. Be a positive representative for your school, Team, or family. This fundamental is the Golden Rule in action.

6. DISPLAY PRIDE IN YOUR ACTIONS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY.

Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgement and your responsibility as a school representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, athlete, coach, or official, this value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.



Photo courtesy of 20/20 Photographic, Mt. Pleasant, MI

Guidelines for Behavior...

FOR THE COACH...

- Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior, and leadership; adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards. Practicing good sportsmanship is practicing good citizenship!
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- Abide by and teach the rules of the Contest in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow: please refrain from arguments in front of players and spectators; no gestures which indicate Contest officials or opposing coaches do not know what they are doing or talking about; no throwing of any object in disgust. Shake hands with Contest officials and opposing coaches before and after the Contest in full view of the public.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote athletics and the student/athlete. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you and your Team in the eyes of all people at the event.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and in meeting/talking with the media.
- Please confine your remarks to Contest statistics and to the performance of your Team.
- Instruct participants and spectators in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship the No. 1 priority.
- Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Be no party to the use of profanity or obscene language, or improper actions. Do not permit student-athletes to use profanity during practice sessions.

FOR THE STUDENT-ATHLETE...

- Accept and understand the seriousness of responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Learn the rules of the Contest thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and elementary students. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the sport.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than yourselves can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport!
- Wish opponents good luck before the Contest and congratulate them in a sincere manner that you would like to be greeted following either victory or defeat.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote you and your sport. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you and your Team in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.

FOR THE CHEERLEADER...

- Understand the seriousness and responsibility of your role, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Learn the rules of the Contest thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and elementary students. This will assist both them and you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the sport.
- Treat opposing cheerleaders the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than you can understand all the hard work, training, and team effort that goes into a cheering squad?
- Wish opposing cheerleaders good luck before the Contest and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.

Guidelines for Behavior...

FOR THE CHEERLEADER (cont'd)...

- Establish standards of desirable behavior for the squad and attempt, in a cheerful manner, to transfer that to your spectators.
- Select positive cheers that praise your Team without antagonizing the opponents.
- Encourage a positive crowd alternative when booing or an inappropriate chant begins by starting a popular cheer.
- Use discretion in selecting the times to cheer. Give the opposing school the same amount of time your squad would want in performing cheers, and treat opposing players like you would treat your own Team.
- Give encouragement to injured players and recognition to outstanding performances for both Teams.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of your Team and your community in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.

OF OTHER SUPPORT GROUPS (BAND, BOOSTER CLUB, ETC.)...

- Establish themselves as leaders in their conduct before, during and after Contests. Always provide positive support for your Team, rather than intimidating or ridiculing the other Team.
- Assist cheerleaders with cheers, chants, etc., and be a working part of pep assemblies, with preparation, organization, and involvement.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups with respect and enthusiasm.
- Conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. Remember, you represent your school both home and away.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. Treating them with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of your group, your Team, and your community, in the eyes of all people at the event.
- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting Teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.

OF SPECTATORS...

- Remember that you are at a Contest to support and cheer for your Team and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other Team and its fans.
- Remember that interscholastic athletics are a learning experience for students and that mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- A ticket is a privilege to observe the Contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the Contest so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of Contest officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either Team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc.) before, and during Contests, and afterwards on or near the site of the Contest (i.e. tailgating).
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the Teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment school and athletic administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the educational benefits of interscholastic athletics and the role of good sportsmanship to that end.
- Be a positive role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Guidelines for Behavior...

MEDIA...

- Promote ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship.
- Report acts of good sportsmanlike without giving undue publicity to unsportsmanlike conduct.
- Refrain from making negative comments towards participants, coaches, or Contest officials. After all, the interscholastic athletic arena is a classroom.
- Recognize the efforts of all who participate in the Contest.
- Report facts without demonstrating partiality to either Team.

OF CONTEST OFFICIALS...

- Accept your role in an unassuming manner...Showboating and over-officiating are not acceptable.
- Maintain confidence and poise, controlling the Contest from start to finish.
- Know the rules of the Contest thoroughly and abide by the established PIAA Code of Ethics Pertaining to High School Athletics.
- Publicly shake hands with coaches of both Teams before the Contest.
- Never exhibit emotions or argue with participants and coaches when enforcing rules.
- When watching a Contest as a spectator, give the Contest officials the same respect you expect to receive when working a Contest.

OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS...

- Develop a program for teaching and promoting the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship within the school, the conference/league, and PIAA.
- Provide appropriate supervisory personnel for each Contest.
- Support participants, coaches, and fans whose Team displays good sportsmanship.
- Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches, and fans.
- Attend Contests whenever possible and function as a role model - show good sportsmanship. This includes communicating with spectators during a Contest as to what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior.

OF THE SCHOOL GOVERNANCE BOARD...

- Adopt policies that promote the ideals of good sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity.
- Serve as a positive role model and expect the same from parents, fans, participants, coaches, and other school personnel.
- Support and reward participants, coaches, school administrators, and fans that display good sportsmanship.
- Recognize the value of school activities as a vital part of education.
- Attend and enjoy school activities.

Acceptable vs Unacceptable Behavior...

ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR...

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches, and Contest officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents who foul out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of Contest officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in cheers in a positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of Contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a Contest, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of a Contest for performances by all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of Team.
- Encouraging surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.



Photo courtesy of 20/20 Photographic, Mt. Pleasant, MI

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR...

- Yelling, waving arms, or objects during an opponent's free throw attempt.
- Disrespectful or derogatory cheers, chants, songs, or gestures.
- Criticizing Contest officials in any way.
- Cheers that antagonize an opponent.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition of good performances.
- Blaming a loss on Contest officials, coaches, or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger.
- Doing own cheers instead of following the lead of cheerleaders.
- Wearing extreme or unusual clothing or excessive body paint that detracts from the Contest.

Provisions of the PIAA Constitution & By-Laws Pertaining to Sportsmanship

PIAA Constitution ARTICLE II PURPOSES

Section 1. Charitable Purposes.

The purposes of PIAA are:

B. Education.

To formulate and maintain policies that safeguards the educational values of interscholastic athletics and cultivate the high ideals of good sportsmanship.

ARTICLE X LOCAL MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL

Section 1. Responsibility of Principal.

- D. To be responsible for the treatment of all visitors and officials attending Contests conducted by the Principal's school. Penalties may be imposed upon a PIAA member school whose Principal fails to provide reasonable protection for officials and visitors at home Contests. If a Contest is played at a neutral place, the Principals of the participating schools shall be held jointly responsible for this protection. In such a case, penalties may be imposed upon either or both of the schools.

PIAA BY-LAWS PIAA PHILOSOPHY

It is unconscionable that a school or any of its employees would subvert the high purposes of interscholastic athletics by condoning any violation of the rules. To involve boys or girls in any practice or procedure which "gets around the rules" is unworthy of a person associated with athletics.

ATHLETIC COURTESY

Section 1. Athletics should foster clean sports. It is the privilege and duty of every person connected with athletics to exemplify these principles in that person's own actions and earnestly advocate them before others.

- A. Contest rules are to be regarded as mutual agreements, the spirit or letter of which no honorable person would break. The stealing of advantage in sport is theft.
- B. No advantages are to be sought over others except those in which the Contest is understood to show superiority.
- C. Unsportsmanlike or unfair means are not to be used, even when opponents use them.
- D. Visiting Teams are to be honored guests of the home Team, and should be treated as such.
- E. No action is to be taken nor course of conduct pursued which would seem unsportsmanlike or dishonorable if known to one's opponent or the public.
- F. Remember that student-spectators represent their school the same as student-athletes.
- G. Any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship should be requested not to attend future Contests.
- H. Decisions of Contest officials are to be abided by, even when they seem unfair.
- I. Contest officials and opponents are to be regarded and treated as honest in intention. In Contests when opponents conduct themselves in an unbecoming manner, and when Contest officials are manifestly dishonest or incompetent, future relationship with them should be avoided.
- J. Good points in others should be appreciated and suitable recognition given.
- K. The practice of "booing" is regarded as discourteous and unsportsmanlike.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT

Sportsmanship is a core principle in interscholastic athletics. Actions which are unethical or intended to demean, embarrass, intimidate or injure opposing contestants, teams, spectators and officials are considered unsportsmanlike and will not be tolerated since they are contrary to the purposes of PIAA and convey lessons incompatible with the reason why high school sports exist. While acts of misconduct occurring within the scope of competition are often addressed through sport specific rules, PIAA reserves the right to address any unsportsmanlike conduct and impose supplemental discipline as appropriate under the circumstances. The following conduct, and any conduct of a similar nature may subject actors to any and all remedial measures available to PIAA.

Section 1. Schools and Their Athletic Personnel.

- A. A school knowingly or recklessly condones or supports unsportsmanlike conduct by its personnel, student-athletes, Teams, and/or supporters.
- B. A school cancels, schedules or reschedules a Contest to gain a competitive advantage.
- C. A school knowingly or recklessly recruits students for an athletic purpose.
- D. A school fails to establish and enforce a code of conduct for student-athletes.
- E. A school fails or refuses to cooperate with PIAA in investigating a possible violation of the PIAA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations.
- F. A school fails to treat a visiting Team as guests or fails to provide necessary and appropriate security for Contest officials, spectators and visiting Teams at Contests hosted by the school.
- G. A school cancels, schedules or reschedules a Contest for the purpose of circumventing application, enforcement, and/or the intent of

Provisions of the PIAA Constitution & By-Laws Pertaining to Sportsmanship

any provision of the Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations of PIAA.

- H. A school knowingly or recklessly certifies to the eligibility of a student or fails to conduct an appropriate investigation where there is question as to the student-athlete's eligibility.
- I. A school knowingly or recklessly engages in conduct intended to increase hostile relations with opposing schools.

Section 2. Student-Athletes.

- A. A student-athlete engages in conduct intended to injure an opponent or Contest officials.
- B. A student-athlete uses profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language immediately before, during or immediately following a Contest.
- C. A student-athlete seeks to provoke opponents, Contest officials, or spectators to engage in improper conduct.
- D. A student-athlete uses race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability to bait, intimidate, or denigrate an opponent.

Section 3. Coaches.

- A. A Coach teaches student-athletes to win through illegitimate means. Striving to win at any cost is distinctly unethical.
- B. A Coach fails to give opponents full credit when they win.
- C. A Coach fails to control his/her temper immediately prior to, during, or after a Contest.
- D. A Coach uses profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language immediately prior to, during, or immediately following a Contest.
- E. A Coach criticizes Contest Officials through the media or to student-athletes or spectators, rather than through the appropriate review process.
- F. A Coach promotes unfounded rumors of questionable practices by opponents.
- G. A Coach fails to maintain control of the Team for which the Coach is responsible.
- H. A Coach knowingly seeks to embarrass an opponent or Contest officials.
- I. A Coach uses race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability to bait, intimidate or denigrate an opponent.

Section 4. Contest Officials.

- A. A Contest Official fails to have thorough preparation in the current rules and approved officiating techniques of the sport.
- B. A contest Official is not physically fit and mentally alert so as to appropriately officiate a Contest.
- C. A Contest Official fails to have a neat, distinctive, and approved uniform.
- D. A Contest Official fails to report for duty at least 30 minutes before the scheduled start of a Contest.
- E. A Contest Official fails to honor all agreements to officiate a Contest.
- F. A Contest Official fails to control his/her temper in all relations with students, Coaches, member schools, and spectators.
- G. A Contest Official fails, upon request to make clear any interpretations and announcements.
- H. Following a Contest officiated, a Contest Official discusses plays or student-athletes of a Team in that Contest with any of their future opponents.

Section 5. Spectators.

- A. A spectator uses profanity, obscene gestures, and/or obscene language while attending Contests.
- B. A spectator attempts to provoke, intimidate, and/or berate Coaches, Contest Officials, student-athletes, and/or other spectators.
- C. A spectator interferes with, or attempts to interfere with, any Contest.
- D. A spectator uses race, gender, ethnicity, religion or disability to bait, intimidate or denigrate a student, school, Contest Official or other spectators.
- E. Any spectator who engages in any of the behavior identified herein may be removed from a Contest venue and may be prohibited from attending future Contests.

ARTICLE XIII PENALTIES Preamble

As a guiding principle, a penalty imposed by PIAA should be broad and severe if the violation or violations reflect a general disregard for the PIAA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations; in those instances where the violation or violations are isolated and of relative insignificance, then the penalty should be more specific and limited. Previous violations of the PIAA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations are a contributing factor in determining the degree of penalty.

All PIAA member schools are required to cooperate fully with PIAA District Committees, Regional Panels, and/or the PIAA Board of Directors, within their respective jurisdictions, to further the objectives of PIAA and to investigate incidents relating to disciplinary matters and application of the PIAA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and/or Rules and Regulations. All PIAA member schools must make available, upon request by the District Committee, Regional Panel, and/or the Board of Directors, documents relating to a particular incident and must further make available for questioning Principals, Athletic Directors, Coaches, student-athletes, and other school and/or Team personnel whose testimony may be desired by the District Committee, Regional Panel, and/or the Board of Directors.

Section 3. Forfeiture of Contests.

A. Mandatory Forfeiture.

To remedy any possible harm to opponents from participation by an ineligible student or Coach, and to remove any incentive for such participation, a school is required to forfeit all Contests in which an ineligible student participated and/or an ineligible Coach coached on behalf of the school, regardless of whether the ineligibility was known at the time of participation and/or Coaching or discovered later. The burden of ensuring that a student is eligible to participate and/or a Coach is eligible to Coach rests entirely on the student,

Provisions of the PIAA Constitution & By-Laws Pertaining to Sportsmanship

Coach, and Principal of the school. For a Coach, participation in a Contest, after which the Coach is disqualified, includes any contact by the Coach with members of the Team, including other Coaches, between a reasonable time after the Coach is disqualified and the conclusion of the Contest.

B. Discretionary Forfeiture.

A school may be required to forfeit a Contest for flagrant misconduct and/or other violations of the Constitution and/or By-Laws of PIAA.

C. Effect of Forfeiture on District Championship Title.

If a forfeiture of a District Championship occurs, that title shall be vacant for that year unless the forfeiture is determined prior to the first Inter-District Championship Contest, in which instance the runner-up shall be declared District Champion.

D. Effect of Forfeiture During Postseason.

If a Team required to forfeit a Postseason Contest has won a Contest:

1. During the District Championship Tournament, the Team most recently defeated by the forfeiting Team shall be invited to replace the forfeiting Team in the next round of the District Championship Tournament;
2. Following the District Championship Tournament but before the start of the Inter-District Championship Tournament, each Team in the District otherwise finishing below the forfeiting Team will improve its seeding by one;
3. During the Inter-District Championship Tournament, other than the final Inter-District Championship Contest, the Team most recently defeated by the forfeiting Team will be invited to replace the forfeiting Team in the next round of the Inter-District Championship Tournament; or
4. Following the final Inter-District Championship Contest, the championship in that sport will remain vacant for that year.

In circumstances (1), (2), and (3) above, should the invited Team decline to participate, the District Chairman or Executive Director of PIAA, as appropriate, has discretion as to whether to invite the next possible qualifying Team or provide for a bye in the schedule.

Section 8. Disqualification From Next Contest(s).

A. General Rule.

1. Mandatory Disqualification. Any Coach and/or contestant who, while Coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, is ejected from a Contest by a state high school association recognized and/or registered official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct is disqualified from Coaching and/or participating for the remainder of the day and in all Contests on the next Contest day of the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition from which the Coach and/or contestant was previously disqualified. For a Coach, participation in the next Contest includes any contact by the Coach with members of the Team, including other Coaches, between the time that the Team arrives at the Contest site and the conclusion of the last Contest of the day. The Principal must direct the Coach not to attend all of the Contest(s).

2. Discretionary Disqualification. Upon the finding by a PIAA-Appointed Tournament Director, Contest Manager, District Committee, Regional Panel, or, if the conduct occurred in an Inter-District Contest, by the Executive Director or Board of Directors, within their respective jurisdictions, that a student-athlete, Coach, and/or Team, while Coaching or competing for a PIAA member school, engaged in flagrant misconduct while on the premises where a Contest is conducted, said student-athletes, Coaches, and/or Teams may be disqualified from participation in the next scheduled Contest following said determination.

B. Disqualification From Last Contest of a Season.

Any Coach and/or contestant ejected from the last Contest(s) in that sport in a sport season is disqualified from Coaching and/or participating in the first Contest(s) in that sport in the subsequent sport season, at the same level (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition, at any PIAA member school or, if the Coach and/or student changes levels of competition, such as from junior varsity to varsity, the first Contest(s) in that sport.

C. Reporting of Disqualification.

The official must file a report with the PIAA Office on the form prescribed for the sport involved, within twenty-four (24) hours following the completion of the Contest in which the ejection occurred. Failure to file such report does not affect the validity or consequences of the ejection.

D. Appeal of Disqualification.

Decisions of a Contest official to disqualify a Coach and/or contestant are generally not subject to appeal. The only exceptions to this rule are as follows:

1. Misidentification of a person: The person intended by the Contest official to be disqualified was not the one actually disqualified. This exception will not be considered without input from the Contest official.
2. Misapplication of a rule: The Contest official erred in applying a Contest rule such that a Coach and/or contestant was disqualified under a rule not applicable to that sport or which did not provide for disqualification. The judgment of the official regarding the conduct of the Coach and/or contestant may not be challenged.

Misidentification of a person and/or misapplication of a rule appeals must be submitted to, and resolved by, the Executive Director. Such appeals will be considered only if they are brought to the attention of the Executive Director in sufficient time to permit reasoned consideration prior to the next Contest. Such appeals may be denied for lack of timely submission of adequate evidence. The Executive Director's decision may not be appealed.



SECTION II -

SPORTSMANSHIP:

“THE ONLY MISSING

PIECE IS YOU!”



Sportsmanship: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!"

Preface

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (PIAA) will provide a comprehensive, effective, yet simple sportsmanship program for PIAA-member junior high/middle schools and senior high schools.

The primary objective of the program is to improve sportsmanship within member schools. By following the program manual and additional support materials, sportsmanship will improve.

Included in this manual is information which can enhance any existing program. You will find information to initiate your own sportsmanship program, sample letters for constituents of scholastic athletics which promote the high ideals of sportsmanship, conduct guidelines, and much more.

The goal of this publication is to aid and assist with new ideas and information which promote sportsmanship. We hope it serves as a major resource in our commitment to improving sportsmanship. Remember, Sportsmanship: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!"



OVERVIEW: Sportsmanship: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" Program

PIAA shall present a school category sportsmanship award. The annual award recognizes exemplary behavior and efforts as they relate to the criteria listed below:

SELECTION PROCESS

1. A PIAA District Committee selects all deserving member schools based on input from member schools under the jurisdiction of that District Committee, and local chapters of PIAA-registered sports officials.
2. The District Committee should select at least two (2) deserving member schools. It is recommended that at least one (1) be selected from junior high/middle schools and at least one (1) be selected from senior high schools that meet or exceed the requirements or expectations as identified in the selection criteria.
3. The selection process shall be as follows:
 - A. The PIAA District Chairman shall submit recommendations with support material to the PIAA Office on or before August 31st of each year. The District Nominees shall be chosen using the behaviors identified in the local chapters of PIAA-registered sports officials' recommendation criteria/score sheet and member school recommendation criteria/score sheet. It is important to realize that the Committee shall not recommend member schools unless the schools exceed 90% of the criteria listed on the score sheet.
 - B. The PIAA District Committee shall meet to consider each nominee and determine the deserving member schools for that school year based on the general criteria listed on the score sheet.
 - C. Recipients should be notified by no later than September 30th. They shall be presented a 4'x6' SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" banner, PIAA Board of Directors Resolution acknowledging their accomplishments and a distinctive Lucite paperweight with the miniature banner embedded inside. They shall receive their awards at a time deemed appropriate by their respective PIAA District Committee.

RECOMMENDED CRITERIA

1. Shall be a PIAA-member school.
2. Shall not have been sanctioned by PIAA, nor should have experienced an ejection of a coach, player, or spectator from a Contest by a PIAA-registered sports official in that sport for unsportsmanlike conduct or flagrant misconduct, during the previous fall, winter, and spring sports' seasons.
3. Shall exemplify the ideals of good sportsmanship as identified in the PIAA SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" Implementation Guide. The successful recipient shall have demonstrated in more than one instance a special effort that reflects a true understanding of sportsmanship as it relates to interscholastic athletics.
4. Every member school/officials chapter shall receive PIAA SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" Implementation Guide and may recommend a member school by filling out a score sheet and forwarding it to their respective District Chairman by no later than June 30th.

Program Implementation Timetable

August

- Distribute letters to various groups as identified.
- Discuss the value of sportsmanship with fall sports coaches and student-athletes.
- Sponsor an evening assembly for fans of fall sports using team members, coaches, and local Contest officials, to emphasize rules interpretations and changes for the upcoming season.
- Create a committee made up of athletic administrators, coaches, student-athletes, parents, etc., to discuss and monitor the sportsmanship efforts in your school.
- Talk with your event security staff and public address announcers about their role during Contests.
- Launch a year-round program, such as sportsmanship pledge program, where administrators, coaches, athletes, students, and non-school spectators participate in a pledge-card signing program stating they will work to promote good sportsmanship.
- Send press releases announcing the school's involvement in the program.
- Utilize SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" logos in printed materials produced at the school.
- Send out fall public service announcements to local radio stations.
- Discuss the possibility of a conference/league meeting addressing sportsmanship and rating the sportsmanship at each school.

September/October

- Plan a competition between student organizations, utilizing the SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!" theme.
- Discuss sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity being used as topics in the classroom with selected instructors.
- Emphasize good sportsmanship in school announcements and publications.
- Plan an activity around National High School Activities Week (third full week in October).
- Conduct a conference/league meeting on sportsmanship addressing immediate concerns and plans for the remainder of the school year.

November

- Discuss the value of sportsmanship with winter sports coaches and student-athletes.
- Sponsor an evening assembly for fans of winter sports teams using school team members, coaches, and local Contest officials to emphasize rules interpretations and changes for the upcoming season.
- Develop an editorial for the school newsletter to the public, discussing positive sportsmanship efforts.
- Send out winter public service announcements to local radio stations.

December/January

- Conduct a follow-up meeting with fall sports coaches and student-athletes, emphasizing sportsmanship and its role during its recently completed sports season.

Program Implementation Timetable (cont'd)

February

- Discuss the value of sportsmanship with spring sports' coaches and student-athletes.
- Sponsor an evening assembly for fans of spring sports using team members, coaches, and local Contest officials, to emphasize rules interpretations and changes for the upcoming season.
- Contact an editorial writer at a local newspaper, 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 it.
- Emphasize good sportsmanship in school announcements and publications.
- Send out spring public service announcements to local radio stations.

March / April

- Conduct a follow-up meeting with winter sports' coaches, student-athletes, and parents emphasizing sportsmanship and its role during the recently completed season.

May / June

- Present your evaluation of sportsmanship program to the community through letters and newsletters that reach into the home.
- Emphasize good sportsmanship in school announcements and publications.
- Conduct a follow-up meeting with spring sports' coaches, student-athletes, and parents emphasizing sportsmanship and its role during the recently completed season.
- Conduct a follow-up conference/league sportsmanship meeting, evaluating efforts made during the recently completed school year and setting goals for the next year.



Goal Setting

OVERALL GOAL -- Responsible behavior by athletes, coaches, fans, cheerleaders, and others connected with athletics as a result of clearly stated goals placed into practice.

Mission Statement

The purpose of the "Sportsmanship: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" program is to educate, promote, and assist in the perception of and the practice of those qualities which are inherent in good sportsmanship. The ideals of sportsmanship apply equally to all disciplines. Individuals, regardless of their roles in interscholastic athletics, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of other and act in a responsible manner at all times.

Define The Goals

Are sportsmanship behavior and unsportsmanlike behavior clearly stated?

School Board Statement

Are the philosophy and goals of the interscholastic athletic programs adopted by the Board of Education? Is sportsmanship emphasized as part of educational activities?

Athletic Policy Manual

Is sportsmanship emphasized in the coaching manual and material distributed to student-athletes?

Administrative Support

Do district administrators support and emphasize common sportsmanship goals?

Emphasis

Do conference/league meetings emphasize the importance of educationally sound athletic experiences?

Shape

Are desirable behaviors articulated and reinforced? Potential vehicles are through Contest programs, pass outs, tickets, pre-season meetings, assemblies, contests, and triangle of coaches-athletes-parents.

Quantify

Are the goals measurable?

Rewards

Are positive behaviors acknowledged?

Contingency Plan

Does your district have a contingency plan to respond to critical Contest situations?

Goal

Responsible behavior where student-athletes play hard, play safe, respect the opponent and Contest officials, and accept the results of interscholastic competition. The student-athlete keeps athletics in perspective.

**MEMBER SCHOOL CRITERIA/SCORE SHEET FOR PIAA
SPORTSMANSHIP: "THE ONLY MISSING PIECE IS YOU!" PROGRAM
100 POINTS POSSIBLE (PLUS 5 BONUS POINTS) FOR
PREVIOUS FALL, WINTER, AND SPRING SPORTS' SEASONS**

Submit a criteria/score sheet for the other member schools in your District (not including your own school) to the District Chairman by no later than June 30th. (If the school does not have cheerleaders, specify none and do not insert a rating number for that category.) Rating system is 0 for lowest to 5 for highest score.

I. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

- Organization - facility readiness 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Supervision - control 0 1 2 3 4 5

II. COACHES

- Professionalism 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Positive role models 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate consistent respect for others
(Participants, coaches, officials and fans) 0 1 2 3 4 5

III. TEAMS

- Demonstrate self-control and integrity 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Display respect for others consistently 0 1 2 3 4 5

IV. STUDENT BODY

- Display positive support for their own home team 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate respect for opposing teams, coaches, fans, officials, cheerleaders
and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5

V. CHEERLEADERS

- Display positive support for their own team 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate respect for opposing teams, coaches, fans, officials, cheerleaders
and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5

VI. SUPPORT GROUPS (Band, Booster Club, Etc.)

- Display positive support for their own team 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate respect for opposing teams, coaches, fans, officials, cheerleaders
and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate appropriate choice and timing of performance 0 1 2 3 4 5

VII. ADULT FOLLOWERS

- Display positive support for their own team 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate respect for opposing teams, coaches, fans, officials, cheerleaders
and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Stay off playing surface 0 1 2 3 4 5

VIII. OVERALL IMPRESSION OF HOSPITALITY

- Demonstrate respect for property, equipment and facility of own school and others 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Treat others as guests 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Announcement of welcome, promote positive sportsmanship, hold social function
with other schools -- DOING OTHER THINGS FOR OTHER SCHOOLS 0 1 2 3 4 5

BONUS POINTS

- Students stay off playing surface 0 1 2 3 4 5

TOTAL POINTS/PERCENTAGE

Authorized Signature: _____

Title: _____

School: _____

PIAA District: _____

Member School Recommended: _____

PIAA District: _____

**CHAPTER OF PIAA-REGISTERED OFFICIALS SCORE SHEET FOR MEMBER SCHOOL PIAA
SPORTSMANSHIP: "THE ONLY MISSING PIECE IS YOU!" PROGRAM
100 POINTS POSSIBLE (PLUS 5 BONUS POINTS) FOR
PREVIOUS FALL, WINTER, AND SPRING SPORTS' SEASONS**

Submit a criteria/score sheet for the member schools in your District to the District Chairman by no later than June 30th. (If the school does not have cheerleaders, specify none and do not insert a rating number for that category.) Rating system is 0 for lowest to 5 for highest score.

I. SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

- Organization - facility readiness 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Supervision - control 0 1 2 3 4 5

II. COACHES

- Professionalism 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Positive role models 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate consistent respect for others
(Participants, coaches, officials and fans) 0 1 2 3 4 5

III. TEAMS

- Demonstrate self-control and integrity 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Display respect for others consistently 0 1 2 3 4 5

IV. STUDENT BODY

- Display positive support for their own home team 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate respect for opposing teams, coaches, fans, officials, cheerleaders
and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5

V. CHEERLEADERS

- Display positive support for their own team 0 1 2 3 4 5
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- Display positive support for their own team 0 1 2 3 4 5
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and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate appropriate choice and timing of performance 0 1 2 3 4 5

VII. ADULT FOLLOWERS

- Display positive support for their own team 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Demonstrate respect for opposing teams, coaches, fans, officials, cheerleaders
and support groups 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Stay off playing surface 0 1 2 3 4 5

VIII. OVERALL IMPRESSION OF HOSPITALITY

- Demonstrate respect for property, equipment and facility of own school and others 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Treat others as guests 0 1 2 3 4 5
- Announcement of welcome, promote positive sportsmanship, hold social function
with other schools -- DOING OTHER THINGS FOR OTHER SCHOOLS 0 1 2 3 4 5

BONUS POINTS

- Students stay off playing surface 0 1 2 3 4 5

TOTAL POINTS/PERCENTAGE

Authorized Signature: _____

Title: _____

Chapter: _____

PIAA District: _____

Member School Recommended: _____

PIAA District: _____

Suggestions for Developing a Local School Sportsmanship Program

1. Appoint a Sportsmanship, Ethics, and Integrity Committee to develop and oversee a school and community awareness program (Suggestion: committee members might include student-athletes, students, parents, administrators, coaches, officials, support group representatives, media representatives and community representatives).
2. Develop written school policy for ensuring the practice of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in the conduct of interscholastic athletics.
3. Pre-season meeting.
 - A. Distribute written school policy addressing sportsmanship, ethics and integrity in interscholastic athletics.
 - B. Show National Federation "Be A Sport" video.
 - C. Distribute "The Case for Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity in High School Activities".
 - D. Announce sportsmanship recognition program.
 - E. Distribute "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" buttons/patches/stickers to attendees.
4. All-School Assembly: Presentations/panel discussions by representatives of the following:

A. Student participants)	E. Media
(both sports & non-sports activity programs	F. Officials
B. Coaches	G. School Administrators
C. Parents and other fans	H. Board of Education
D. Spirit groups	
5. Sportsmanship Recognition Program
 - A. Develop criteria to recognize the following: (Suggestion: Refer to "The Case for Sportsmanship, Ethics and Integrity in High School Activities" to help develop criteria.)

1. Student participants	4. Visiting team(s)
2. Coaches	5. Student fans
3. School team(s)	6. Adult fans
 - B. Promote Sportsmanship Recognition Program
 1. Announcements in school/local newspapers.
 2. PA announcements in school and at event(s).
 3. Display listing of nominations and/or weekly winners.
 4. At home and away events, present sportsmanship tokens (Suggestion: "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" buttons/patches/stickers.)
 - C. Award/Recognition Presentation
 1. Informal, event-by-event, presentation "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" buttons/patches/stickers to selected student participants, adults/students in attendance, visiting/home teams, and coaches.
 2. Formal certificate/plaque presentation at regularly scheduled awards banquets and/or all-school assemblies.

Sportsmanship: Ten Ways To Get It Going In Your School & Community

1. Develop a Code of Good Sportsmanship and print copies of it in event programs and post it at each entrance to the school's athletic facilities.
2. Review the Code of Good Sportsmanship with the student body, coaches, teams, cheerleaders, and band members.
3. Begin a column of Sportsmanship Honor Roll in your school's newspaper that identifies and recognizes groups and/or individuals who demonstrate good sportsmanship.



Photo courtesy of Tom Elling, PA Wrestling News

4. Send a letter to the visiting teams' Principal, Athletic Director, coach, and cheerleading squad welcoming them to your school.
5. Prepare and give to the adult fans a sheet stating the following:

*"The (name of your school) student body extends
an invitation to our adult fans to help us display good sportsmanship."*
6. Have your school's cheerleaders perform a special cheer for the cheerleaders of the opposing team.
7. Post "Visitors Welcome" signs in each of the locker rooms.
8. Have the PA Announcer welcome guests and request the home team's fans to stand and applaud when guests are announced.
9. Organize a good sportsmanship board or committee to create good feelings between schools and neighboring communities.
10. Use pre-Contest announcements to help promote good sportsmanship throughout the Contest.



SECTION III - SPORTSMANSHIP MATERIALS





PENNSYLVANIA INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

550 Gettysburg Rd. • P.O. Box 2008
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania 17055-0708
(800) 382-1392 • (717) 697-0374
FAX (717) 697-7721
WEB SITE • www.piaa.org

Dear Interscholastic Sports' Fan:

Sportsmanship is probably the clearest and most popular expression of morals. Sportsmanship is a thing of beauty. When you witness an example of good sportsmanship, it reinforces that our children are learning morals, ethics, and integrity from their interscholastic athletic experience.

Schools do not sponsor athletic Teams to make money, compete for state championships, or provide a training facility for the small percentage of athletes who go on to the collegiate or professional ranks. Your school, along with approximately 1,450 other PIAA-member schools, believes that athletic competition is an extension of the classroom and an educational activity that provides lessons difficult to teach in another environment.

A lot of people agree with this philosophy - perhaps right up until the competition begins. Then for some, the emphasis is placed on winning and not on teaching young people how to conduct themselves in challenging situations.

Please, do not misunderstand. There is nothing wrong with competition; it is what makes athletics unique in the educational setting and it is what teaches young people about the value of hard work and dedication.

Unlike most areas of education, athletics are played before spectators, and young people put their self-esteem on the line with every play. They look, not only to their coaches and teammates but also to the people in the stands - their parents, fellow students, and citizens of the community - for positive reinforcement, that they have made the right choice in wanting to compete for their school.

The message that the spectator gives these young people is crucial. When you cheer, applaud good plays by both Teams. Show respect for the officials' decisions, even the tough ones. Take satisfaction of being a fan and not the coach, and forgive the human mistakes that all competitors are subject to. You should let your Team know that they are involved in an educational activity. They should remember the Contest for the pure joy of the competition, rather than for the outcome on the scoreboard in which one Team will win and one will lose.

Thanks for your attendance here today. You have a perfect opportunity to be proud of yourself and to make the young people involved in today's Contest proud of themselves and you. Our future rests with our children's education, without it something becomes missing in their lives. Remember, you can help shape their lives by being a good role model at this and at every Contest by exhibiting good sportsmanship. ***SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!"***

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert A. Lombardi".

Dr. Robert A. Lombardi
PIAA Executive Director



On behalf of the National Federation of State High School Associations and our membership nationwide, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all participating student-athletes for their participation in interscholastic athletics. The hard work and dedication you display is truly commendable, and speaks volumes about the commitment and enthusiasm of our nation's student-athletes.

Furthermore, I wish to commend the support groups that have helped and encouraged each of you to strive for your very best, and that have done everything in their power to help you succeed. Your participation would not be possible without a strong network of parents, coaches, teachers, friends and family.

I wish each of you the best during this competition – not necessarily for a win – but for your best effort throughout the event to showcase the dedication and skill that brought you here. In addition, I would like to remind each student-athlete to compete within the core purposes and spirit of competition that is the trademark of high school sports. You represent not only yourself, but your team, school, community and state. Make them all proud.

Congratulations on reaching this level of competition. I wish you the very best of luck today and in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Robert B. Gardner
Executive Director
National Federation of State High School Associations

How's Our Sportsmanship?

The following survey is a positive way of reinforcing sportsmanlike behavior from the fans and could be printed in event programs, or distributed at the entrances to athletic facilities:



How's our sportsmanship?

Welcome to our school. We consider it our home and hope you enjoy your visit here. We would appreciate it while you are here if you would rate the sportsmanlike behaviors of our players, coaches, students, and spectators.

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

rate the following on a 1 to 10 basis, with 10 being the best score and 1 being the poorest.
(Please return to the proper receptacle as you leave. Thank you.)

- | | |
|---|-------|
| The coaches' positive control of his/her emotions and behavior towards the team, the opponents, and officials | _____ |
| The players' positive control of their emotions and behavior towards the opponents and officials | _____ |
| The cheerleaders role in encouraging positive enthusiasm | _____ |
| The general actions of the spectators | _____ |
| The coaches' handling of close/controversial situation(s) or call(s) | _____ |
| The school administration's active role in promoting enthusiasm along with crowd control | _____ |

"Hey ref, you're blind!"

"Get your head in the game!"

Fanatic (Fa•nat•ik)n.[<Lat.Fanaticus]

unreasonably enthusiastic
overly zealous, sometimes
viewed as dangerous.

*"C'mon coach...what'd you
call that play for?"*

"You...you...you..."

Fan (fan)n.Informal[<Fanatic]

a person enthusiastic about a
specificied sport, performer, etc.

"Great play!"

"You can do it!"

"We're behind you!"

Be A Fan - Not A Fanatic





A Principals' Organization: Principle Based

The Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association, Inc. (PIAA) is a non-profit corporation and a voluntary membership organization. The members of PIAA consist of almost all of the public and many of the private junior high/middle schools and senior high schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Generally stated, the function of PIAA is to develop and enforce rules regulating interscholastic athletic competition, which are authorized or adopted by the member schools.

PIAA was formed in Pittsburgh on December 29, 1913, by a group of high school Principals who wanted to eliminate abuses, establish uniform rules, and place interscholastic athletics in the overall context of secondary education.

PIAA believes that a system that best serves the student-athlete emphasizes the amateur, educational, and character-building aspects of high school sports and recognizes that athletics is not the driving force. Students are in school primarily to obtain an education.

The membership of PIAA consists of more than 1,450 schools, divided almost equally between senior high schools and junior high/middle schools. Of that membership, approximately 200 are private schools. Nearly 350,000 students participate in interscholastic athletics at all levels (varsity, junior varsity, or otherwise) of competition under PIAA jurisdiction, which placed Pennsylvania seventh among the states for 2006-2007. Similar associations exist in all 50 states.



PIAA Offices, Mechanicsburg, PA

The Purpose of PIAA—

- *Organize, develop, and direct an interscholastic athletic program which will promote, protect, and conserve the health and physical welfare of all participants.*
- *Formulate and maintain policies that will safeguard the educational values of interscholastic athletics and cultivate the high ideals of good sportsmanship.*
- *Promote uniformity of standards in all interscholastic athletic competition.*

PIAA is divided for administrative purposes into 12 geographic districts, each of which has a District Committee elected by the member schools within the district. Each District Committee elects a chairman, who becomes the district's representative on the Board of Directors, the statewide governing body of the organization.

Other members of the Board of Directors include representatives of the member junior high/middle schools, the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA), the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators (PASA), the Pennsylvania Association of Secondary School Principals (PASSP), the Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association (PSADA), the Pennsylvania Coaches' Association (PCA), the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE), one female and one male PIAA-registered sports' official, the chairpersons of the Girls' Athletics and Private Schools' Steering Committees, and one female and one male representative from the Parents' Advisory Committee. With the sometime exception of the officials' and parents' representatives, members of the Board of Directors are experienced professional educators who have background and experience in dealing with high school athletics.

As with the Board of Directors, nearly all members of the District Committees are experienced professional educators with background and experience in dealing with high school athletics.

PIAA is governed by a Constitution adopted by its member schools and By-Laws adopted by its elected Board of Directors.

Schools become members of PIAA by applying for membership to the District Committee. The application must be signed by the school Principal and must be accompanied by a resolution of approval executed on behalf of the School Board stating that in all matters pertaining to interscholastic athletic activities, the school shall be governed by the PIAA Constitution, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures, and Rules and Regulations.

The Principal of each member school is responsible to PIAA in all matters pertaining to the interscholastic athletic relations of the Principal's school. PIAA deals with individual coaches, students, and their parents through its member schools.

The four major areas in which PIAA currently operates are:

1. Establishing and enforcing rules governing the eligibility of high school athletes to participate in interscholastic athletics, including rules for academic performance and attendance, age, amateur status, and transfers.
2. Adopting the Contest rules for each sport under its jurisdiction. With the exception of bowling, golf, girls' lacrosse, rifle, and tennis, the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), of which PIAA has been a member since 1925, publishes all other Contest rules adopted by PIAA. As NFHS does not have rules in these five sports, PIAA adopts those published by their respective national governing bodies.
3. Registering and providing training opportunities for officials to officiate at Contests in which PIAA-member schools participate. Approximately 13,500 officials are currently PIAA-registered. PIAA requires its officials to be involved in continuing education and provides classes for them to attend on a local basis throughout the state.
4. Organizing and operating Inter-District Championship Contests in 11 girls' sports and 11 boys' sports.

All of this is accomplished without any federal or state funds. PIAA's principal source of revenue is the sale of tickets to its Inter-District Championship Contests. Operating these Inter-District Championship Contests is also PIAA's largest expense. Junior high/middle schools pay annual dues of \$150; senior high schools pay annual dues ranging from a low of \$350 to a high of \$500, based on school size. Those dues constitute less than 5% of PIAA's gross revenue, and are paid by many of the schools from their athletic budgets, which come from ticket sales to their own Regular Season Contests. Gate receipts enable PIAA to operate without taxpayer financing.



Photo courtesy of 20/20 Photographic, Mt. Pleasant, MI

In addition to these specific categories of operations, PIAA also provides numerous services to its members on a day-to-day basis through its headquarters near Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County.

On a national comparative basis, PIAA has a small staff for such a large state. The organization operates with a full-time staff of 12 and approximately 200 volunteers. Most of those volunteers are professional educators in Pennsylvania schools. Without substantial volunteer assistance from people concerned about student-athletes and their experiences, PIAA could not operate as it does.



Trash Talk Is

NOT

Spoken Here

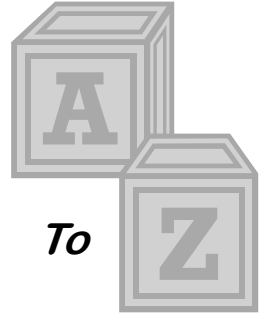
TOP TEN REASONS TO BE A DESIGNATED GOOD SPORT

- 10. Because taunting, trash talk and intimidating behavior have no place in high school sports—or any level of sports.**
- 9. Your admission is to watch the performances of highly impressionable 15 to 18-year old kids - not a license to abuse coaches, officials, players and other spectators.**
- 8. You want others to treat you the way you want to be treated - and how many of us want to be treated with disrespect?**
- 7. We need more positive role models for our kids.**
- 6. People don't always remember the final score - but they always remember the fan in Section Three who made a fool of him or herself.**
- 5. Because coaches and officials are also teachers. Why would you harass them in the classroom.**
- 4. A national survey indicates kids play high school sports to have fun - not to be number 1!**
- 3. It's how you play the game that counts.**



Sportsmanship -

From



To

- A** ccept and abide by the decisions of the Contest officials.
- B** e a good host to opponents and treat them as guests.
- C** ooperate with the coach, players and cheerleaders in trying to promote good sportsmanship
- D** o unto others as you would have them do unto you.
- E** ncourage your players to play hard and fair.
- F** ollow the rules of the Contest at all times.
- G** ood sportsmanship is the “Golden Rule”.
- H** old assemblies before a Contest to encourage students to display proper conduct.
- I** ntervene to let others know that ethnic, disability and sexist jokes, racial or religious slurs, taunting, trash talk, and intimidating behavior will not be tolerated at events sponsored at your school.
- J** udgment calls on the part of officials are not subject to question or discussion
- K** now, understand and appreciate the rules of the Contest.
- L** ose without excuses; win without boasting.
- M** odel language and behavior that is non-biased and is inclusive of individuals regardless of ethnicity, race, religion, sex or disability.
- N** ever criticize players or coaches for the loss of the game.
- O** pposing coaches, participants, cheerleaders and fans must be respected at all times.
- P** rovide opportunities for informing student and adult spectators of their responsibility to uphold the standards of sportsmanship.
- Q** uestioning of an official’s call or making negative comments about an official is unacceptable behavior.
- R** ecognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play.
- S** hake hands with opponents prior to the Contest and wish them good luck.
- T** each sportsmanship and demand that your players be good sports.
- U** se cheerleaders, pep groups, and other student leaders to help develop a sportsmanship program at your school.
- V** ictory celebrations and unscheduled game rallies should not be permitted at events sponsored at your school.
- W** ork cooperatively with officials and other Contest personnel for an efficient Contest.
- eX**ercise self-control and be a good example for players and spectators
- Y** elling, booing or heckling an official’s decision is unacceptable behavior.
- Z** ero in on sportsmanship - it’s priority **NUMBER ONE!**

Welcome to today's competition. KIND and PIAA remind you that your paid or complimentary admission to this event entitles you to enjoy an exhibition of skills developed by the students in an educational setting. Please give these students your positive encouragement and support.

Booing, taunting or intimidating the officials or opponents is unfriendly and unacceptable.

“Sportsmanship is probably the clearest and most popular expression of morals. Sportsmanship is a thing of the spirit. It is timeless and endless, and we should strive to make it universal to all races, creeds, and walks of life.”



- The Discovery of Morals



SECTION IV - SPORTSMANSHIP SUPPORT IDEAS



The Homeroom Presentation: Spectator Behavior and Sportsmanship

Purpose of the Presentation is to Make Students Aware That:

- The unacceptable behavior witnessed at various sporting events at all levels must be altered.
- Concern over unacceptable fan behavior is shared by the superintendent, board of education, teachers, parents, and many students.
- Programs that foster continued poor behavior may be dropped.
- After-school programs are an extension of the regular school day with all school rules and regulations in effect.
- The school's reputation should not be placed in jeopardy because of unsportsmanlike behavior.
- School administrators are present to inform all students of the school's expectations of spectators at all future after-school events.

What is Expected in General

- Students in attendance at after-school events are expected to have fun by demonstrating positive enthusiasm without causing harm, danger, or embarrassment to others or to the school.
- Students are to follow all rules that are in effect during the school day at after-school events. (Use of controlled substances, swearing, fighting, etc.)
- Students are to demonstrate common sense--respect toward fellow students, opponents, players, coaches, and officials.
- Students are to police their own ranks and demand proper behavior from fellow students. One's individual behavior can affect the total group.
- Students are expected to demonstrate respect and pride for the school.

What is Specifically Expected

- During the National Anthem, students are to face the flag, not to talk, listen to the public address announcer for instructions to sing or not, and to remain still until the end of the anthem.
- Proper language is to be used. No swearing or language that is offensive to others will be tolerated. High school events are a family activity. Individual and group vulgarity is unacceptable, as is verbal harassment, booing of players, coaches, and officials.
- Obscene gestures are unacceptable.
- Dangerous and boisterous behavior, such as pushing, shoving, or fighting and passing of students, is not acceptable.
- The throwing of objects, even toilet paper, at fellow spectators, band members, cheerleaders, officials, players, or onto the competition surface, is unacceptable, and could result in an injury or the team being penalized by the Contest officials.
- Respect is the key to good sportsmanship. Opponents should be respected. They are not enemies, but fellow teenagers who happen to attend other schools.
- Be modest and humble in victory or defeat. It is easy to be a good winner and difficult to show class when you lose.
- Acknowledge good plays by both teams.
- Be concerned with anyone who is injured. Give concerned applause when an injured athlete is aided from the field.
- Work together with cheerleaders for positive chants and avoid obscene, degrading, or elitist cheers--when you participate in an elitist cheer, you give support to an elitist image.
- At halftime, watch any performance or presentation if possible, acknowledge the hard work, preparation, and performance of those involved, and do not in any way, detract from the performance.
- After the Contest, do not tease or belittle the opponent in any way and be pleasant and gracious to everyone.

What the School Wants Most

- A large student turnout at events.
- Exemplary sportsmanship from players and fans.
- To be proud of its teams and fans at contests.

Consequences, in Effect for All Contests

- All regular school rules are in effect.
- Violation of rules may cause: Being evicted from the Contest/premises; receiving in-school suspension, or suspension from school; a required parental conference before readmittance to regular class; prohibition from attending future events; possible cancellation of all spectators from attending a sport; possible cancellation of sports.

Public Address Announcements

1. (School) would like to welcome you to this evening's (Contest). This year as in other years the PIAA is interested in promoting good sportsmanship on the part of the coaches, players, cheerleaders, and spectators at the various Contests. We are privileged to have (fill-in number) of the finest (sport) teams in our area.

As a PIAA member school, we firmly feel that the outcome of the Contest should be determined by the quality of play on the (competition surface) and by the positive support of the spectators. I know the Principal and Athletic Director of the competing school support this concept. To that end, the use of banners, balloons, signs, shakers, noise-makers, sirens, whistles, and similar items are prohibited in particular, waving arms, and/or objects behind the glass boards during the opponents foul shots is prohibited.

We have the potential of a great Contest. Let's make it happen with your positive support. SPORTSMANSHIP - The Only Missing Piece Is You! Good luck to the (fill-in number) teams.

At this time would you please rise for the playing of our national anthem.

2. Welcome to (your school name here).... Regardless of the outcome of today's Contest, we ask that all the spectators consider the time and effort that each of these young participants have put forth to represent his/her school. The purpose of this activity is to provide positive learning experiences and opportunities for personal growth for the participants, 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, and wholesome competition....remember, SPORTSMANSHIP--The Only Missing Piece Is You! ... good luck to both teams!
3. SPORTSMANSHIP is pride in your school, your team and yourself...SPORTSMANSHIP is respect for the Contest of (name of sport) and for those who play it...SPORTSMANSHIP means taking personal responsibility for keeping this Contest at a high level of fair play...SPORTSMANSHIP is appreciation of all performances and the graceful acceptance of results. We welcome you to (name of school) and ask that you remember SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!
4. (Name of School) is committed to the SPORTSMANSHIP goals of the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association...participants, 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, and wholesome competition...we ask that you remember that the purpose of this activity is to provide positive learning experiences and opportunities for personal growth for the participants...SPORTSMANSHIP, The Only Missing Piece Is You!

Public Service Announcements

1. 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 athletic event. Good sports are winners; so the next time you attend a sporting 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 PIAA and (name of school).
2. In our society today, 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 Sport and practice good SPORTSMANSHIP. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
3. Don't ever confuse a good sport with the nice guys who supposedly finish last. Sportsmanlike behavior has nothing to do with an athlete's or a 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 PIAA and (name of school).
4. Your ticket to an interscholastic athletic event is a privilege, a privilege to watch youngsters learn on the playing field. One of the lessons taught to players is one spectators can follow as well--that of good SPORTSMANSHIP. Unruly behavior is unacceptable in the classroom, and the athletic field is a classroom. Remember to Be A Sport the next time you attend an athletic event. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
5. Winning -- the No. 1 syndrome -- is the No. 1 problem in interscholastic athletics. High school athletic programs 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 field. Take pride in your team by displaying good SPORTSMANSHIP. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
6. The score of any athletic event is generally forgotten over time, but the actions of players, coaches, cheerleaders, and spectators are remembered. The next time you attend a high school Contest, think of how history will remember you. Choose the side of good SPORTSMANSHIP the next time you attend a high school sporting event. Remember, good sports show how to play the Contest. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
7. An educational environment is critical to the success of high school athletics and activity programs. An important part of the environment is planning for good SPORTSMANSHIP. Without good SPORTSMANSHIP, the lessons learned lose their value. Remember the next time you attend a Contest that you are really inside a classroom where good sports receive the highest grade. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).

Public Service Announcements (Cont'd)

8. While the scoreboard reveals the winner of a Contest, the real winners are those who display good SPORTSMANSHIP. Those people who treat competition as a Contest and not a war, those who show genuine concern for an injured player, those who accept all decisions of the officials. Remember to Be A Sport when you attend a high school sporting event. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
9. 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 -- SPORTSMANSHIP. SPORTSMANSHIP is one of the strongest educational lessons and lifetime values taught by interscholastic athletics. It makes sense to exhibit good SPORTSMANSHIP. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
10. Remember that a ticket is a privilege to observe a Contest and support high school athletics, not a license to verbally assault others. There is no place in interscholastic athletics 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 PIAA and (name of school).
11. 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 athletics. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
12. 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 athletics and in our daily lives. Remember to act in a proper manner the next time you attend a high school sporting event. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).
13. Coaches should set a good example from players 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 athletics. Remember to be a good sport. A message from PIAA and (name of school).
14. Good SPORTSMANSHIP is learned, practiced, and executed. Respect for the opponent, spectators, coaches, and officials are a must at all levels of athletics. At interscholastic contests, behavior on the part of everyone should be characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Display good SPORTSMANSHIP the next time you attend a high school event. A public-service message from PIAA and (name of school).

Crowd Control Planning

Although there are no magical secrets to crowd control the following ten important suggestions need emphasis by administrators and event managers in crowd control.

- 1) Establish written behavioral standards and expectations for coaches, players, students, cheerleaders, spectators, and management personnel. Communicate them in a variety of ways, expect them to be followed, and do something when they aren't.
- 2) Establish/Communicate policies and emergency procedures regarding: a) fire; b) drinking and possession of alcoholic beverages; c) possession, use, or sale of drugs; d) medical emergencies; e) lost and found articles; f) bringing foods, beverages, radios and tape decks into the athletic facility; g) bomb threats; h) alternatives in case of score clock, lights, or other facility failures; and i) transportation problems.

Written emergency procedures should be clearly understood by the public address announcer.

- 3) Identify supervisors and ushers by use of jackets, arm bands, or badges, and expect them to be active and visible to discourage problems quickly identified.
- 4) Expect/Encourage management personnel, supervisors, and security people to avoid becoming too involved in watching the event and to be observant, active, and consistent in applying rules and procedures.
- 5) Be consistent in applying policies and rules; be supportive of your management and supervisory personnel.
- 6) Avoid seating bands or spectators near the visiting team bench and the visiting team spectator seating area.
- 7) When someone is behaving in an undesirable way, or violating rules of good citizenship, do something about it. Actions speak louder than words. Inaction allows the establishment of undesirable examples and habits that can mushroom, lead to more serious problems, and result in negative learning.
- 8) Have admissions, ticket sales, and parking lot personnel observe and screen people for possession of alcoholic beverages, intoxication, and abnormal or suspicious behavior. Alert crowd control supervisors to observe behavior and whereabouts of potential problem people.
- 9) Supervise the rest rooms.
- 10) Establish precise job descriptions, expectations, and authority of all working personnel and inform them of all rules, regulations, and emergency procedures.

Sample Letter From Principal/Athletic Director to Coaches

Integrity, fairness, and respect -- 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.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

A coach who is a good sportsman believes and teaches that athletic competition is an ethical pursuit, one which builds character and shapes lifetime attitudes.

As a coach at (Name of School), your sportsmanship goals should include:

- * Helping your athletes develop a positive self-image;
- * Promoting respect for the rules, officials and their decisions, and opponents;
- * Encouraging a constructive attitude toward competition;
- * Providing an equal opportunity for all to learn skills; and
- * Encouraging these individuals to continue their participation in a variety of athletic activities to enhance their overall education.

These and other expectations are included in the attached guidelines, which we expect you to take some time to review. They give us a roadmap to follow a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

YOU are one of the most influential people in a youngster's life. Your job is not only to teach the skills of the Contest, but also to teach how to win and lose graciously. You must also remind them that sport is meant to be fun. The athletic skills these young people learn from you may only be used for a few years. The attitudes they develop toward themselves and others will last a lifetime.

We hope the upcoming season will be a rewarding one for you, and your athletes.

Sample Letter to Student-Athletes from Principal/Athletic Director

Student-athletes who are good sports are positive role models within our school and the community at-large. A good sport knows that athletic competition builds character and shapes lifetime attitudes. You, in turn, experience additional educational and leadership benefits that come from participation in sports.

Integrity, fairness, and respect -- 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.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

As an athlete at our school, your sportsmanship goals should include:

- * Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances;
- * Respecting the rules of the Contest, the officials who administer the rules and their decisions;
- * Respecting opponents as fellow students and acknowledging them for striving to do their best while you seek to do your best at the same time;
- * Looking at athletic participation as a potentially beneficial learning experience, whether you win or lose;
- * Educating other students and fans to understand the rules of the Contest, and the value of sportsmanship;
- * Accepting the personal responsibility that comes with your actions on the competition surface.

These and other expectations are included in the attached guidelines, which we expect you to take some time to review. They give us a roadmap to follow a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You are the spokesperson for our school when you represent us in athletic competition. Your actions are viewed by family and friends, opposing fans, the local community, and media. Your display of good sportsmanship will show the most positive things about you and our school; and hopefully, will remind us all that in the end, sports is meant to be fun.

We hope the upcoming season will be a rewarding one for you, and your teammates.

Sample Letter From Principal/Athletic Director to Cheerleaders

Your role as a cheerleader for our athletic teams is an important one. The support you provide can help shape the atmosphere of our contests.

As a student-leader, the benefits of athletic involvement are the same for you as for those participating on the competition surface. Integrity, fairness, and respect are lifetime values, and the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of the results.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

A cheerleader who is a good sport is a true leader within the school and the community. A good sport knows that athletic competition builds character and shapes lifetime attitudes.

As a cheerleader at our school your sportsmanship goals should include:

- * Realizing that athletics are part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of a Contest;
- * Leading our spectators in positive cheers that encourage our athletes; and discouraging any cheers that would redirect that focus;
- * Learning, understanding and respecting the rules of the Contest, the officials who administer them and their decisions;
- * Respecting cheerleaders and athletes from opposing schools as fellow students, and acknowledging them for striving to do their best;
- * Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances; and
- * Educating other students and fans to understand the rules of the Contest, and the value of sportsmanship.

These and other expectations are included in the attached guidelines, which we hope you will take a few moments to review. They give us a roadmap to follow on a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You are a spokesperson for our school when you represent us as a cheerleader. Your actions are viewed by family and friends, opposing fans, the local community, and the media. Your actions should remind us that sport is meant to be fun. Your display of good sportsmanship will show the most positive things about you and our school.

We hope the upcoming year is a rewarding one for you.

Sample Letter to Student Body from Principal/Athletic Director

A new school year begins with new opportunities to learn from the textbook and to learn about life. With the variety of activities available to you at our school, we hope you will become involved in those that interest you.

Athletic events are always among the most popular activities for participants and spectators, and these contests provide another learning experience. Integrity, fairness, and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics, and the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of the competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of the results.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

A good sport is a true leader within the school and the community. As a member of our school, your sportsmanship goals should include:

- * Realizing that athletics are part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of a Contest;
- * Participating in positive cheers that encourage our athletes; and discouraging any cheer that would redirect that focus;
- * Learning, understanding and respecting the rules of the Contest, the officials who administer them and their decisions;
- * Respecting our opponents as fellow students, and acknowledging them for striving to do their best;
- * Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances.

These and other expectations are included in the attached guidelines, which we hope you will take a few moments to review. They give us a roadmap to follow on a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You are a spokesperson for our school when you attend an athletic, or any co-curricular event. Your actions are viewed by family and friends, opposing fans, the local community, and the media. Your display of good sportsmanship will show the most positive things about you and our school; and hopefully remind us that sport is meant to be fun.

We hope the upcoming year is a rewarding one for you.

Sample Letter From Principal/Athletic Director to Media

Integrity, fairness, and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics, and these are the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of the competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of the results.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

We hope you will join us in this effort to promote good sportsmanship, as it is an important component of the education of our youngsters. Sure, our teams will play to win, but not all of them can. We simply have to accept that. Wins and losses are soon forgotten. Integrity, fairness and respect are not.

As a member of the media, you have a role to play in promoting good sportsmanship at the interscholastic level that is different than reporting what happens at entertainment-oriented athletic events at the collegiate or professional level. Your list of goals should include:

- * Promoting the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship;
- * Reporting acts of sportsmanlike behavior without giving undue publicity to unsportsmanlike conduct;
- * Refraining from making negative comments towards participants, coaches, or officials. After all, the interscholastic athletic arena is a classroom. Would you make negative comments about teachers teaching students and students trying to learn?
- * Reporting facts without demonstrating partiality to either team.

Enclosed you will find a press release announcing our continued support of the PIAA in a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". If you can find a way to utilize this material, stressing the need for high levels of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity at our events and in our daily lives, it would be deeply appreciated.

If you would like to further discuss the campaign, and how we are attempting to communicate the values of good sportsmanship to our constituents, feel free to contact us or the PIAA.

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

Sample Letter From Principal/Athletic Director to 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 co-curricular 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 the competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of the results.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

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

- * Realizing that athletics are part of the educational experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of a Contest;
- * Encouraging our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their class work, knowing that others will always turn in better or lesser performances.
- * Participating in positive cheers that encourage our athletes; and discouraging any cheer that would redirect that focus;
- * Learning, understanding, and respecting the rules of the Contest, 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!

These and other expectations are included in the attached guidelines, which we hope you will take a few moments to review. They give us a roadmap to follow on a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You can have a major influence on your youngster's attitude about academics and athletics. 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.

Sample Letter to Parent/Adult Spectators Just Prior To Postseason Playoffs

As we prepare for the upcoming Postseason playoffs it is an appropriate time to review the goals of our program as they relate to sportsmanship. As an educational institution, our school is committed to teaching our young people to set goals, strive for excellence, and to properly handle whatever adversity they encounter along the way. This aim is the same in the classroom as it is on the playing field.

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 Contest officials. When this is done, the focus is away from the positive, "to play harder or better," to the negative, "how can we possibly overcome the bad calls." As teacher/coaches we feel it is essential that our athletes maintain a positive approach to handling adversity. We need the support of our parent-body, as role models, if we are to accomplish this.

At times this year some parents have become quite vocal at contests and loudly criticized both Contest officials and opposing players. This type of abusive behavior is counter-productive to what we are trying to teach. In addition, it creates a very uncomfortable environment for the fans that come out to support their team and wish to enjoy the Contest. Finally, it is an embarrassment to our school and to the young people on the competition surface. We are asking ALL our fans to keep comments positive and upbeat.

As a school we hire the Contest officials during the Regular Season. All of our officials are deemed competent by our coaching staff and athletic administration. They are not perfect, and their interpretation of the action may be different from yours. However, they are an essential part of the Contest, and they are doing the best they can. Let's strive to pay less attention to their performance and more to the superb skills of our young athletes. Let's come out in the next few weeks and cheer on our team to success in the Postseason playoffs.

Sample Letter to Local Officials' Chapter

The lessons for our youngsters don't end with the final bell of the day if they're involved in co-curricular activities. In fact, the learning experience that comes from participation in drama, music, speech, athletics, and the like, promote lifetime values that cannot always be learned in the classroom.

Integrity, fairness, and respect are lifetime values taught through athletics, and these are the principles of good sportsmanship. With them, the spirit of the competition thrives, fueled by honest rivalry, courteous relations, and graceful acceptance of the results.

Working to that end, we are joining with PIAA in support of a program called SPORTSMANSHIP: "The Only Missing Piece Is You!". This is a program designed to positively change behavior in our schools and reinforce and reward the need for sportsmanship as one of the values taught through educational athletics.

Your support of this program is essential as part of our educational mission. Your ability to be a good sport will put you in a leadership role in your home and community.

Like with any project undertaken in life, you should have goals for good sportsmanship. Those goals should include:

- * Realizing that athletics are part of the education experience, and the benefits of involvement go beyond the final score of a Contest;
- * Encouraging our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their class work, knowing that others will always turn in better of lesser performances;
- * Learning, understanding, and respecting the rules of the Contest, 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; and
- * Developing a sense of dignity under all circumstances.

Some sample guidelines of what we expect from our spectators are available at the school office. They give us a roadmap to follow on a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You are part of a message that is sent through our community that interscholastic athletics potentially have lifetime learning experience impact. Unlike sports events we see on television at the collegiate and professional level where entertainment is the mission and sportsmanship is not a primary objective, our goal is to have an educational affect. This message must be communicated if we are to continue to have success in this area.

We look forward to working with your chapter in the year ahead, and appreciate your continued support.

Editorial For School District Newsletter

The lessons for our youngsters don't end with the final bell of the day if they're involved in co-curricular activities. In fact, the learning experience that comes from participation in drama, music, speech, athletics, and the like, promote lifetime values that cannot always be learned in the classroom.

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- * Encouraging our students to perform their best, just as we would urge them on with their class work, knowing that others will always turn in better or lesser performances'
- * Learning, understanding, and respecting the rules of the Contest, 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; and
- * When at athletic events, urging our teams on with positive cheers; discouraging cheers that would redirect that focus and reprimanding those who engage in such unsportsmanlike behavior.

Some sample guidelines of what we expect from our spectators are available at the school office. They give us a roadmap to follow on a journey toward a more educational atmosphere for interscholastic athletics.

You can be part of a message sent through our community that interscholastic athletics potentially have lifetime learning experience impact. Unlike sports events we see on television at the collegiate and professional level where entertainment is the mission and sportsmanship is not a primary objective, our goal is to have an educational affect. This message must be communicated if we are to continue to have success in this area.

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

Other Winning Ideas

- ⇒ Creation of a "warning ticket" to hand to those who exhibit poor sportsmanship in the stands (see enclosed sample in this section).
- ⇒ Using the "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" program, create a one-week promotion at your school focusing on sportsmanship, with the winning group named at an assembly. Such promotions could include poster, essay, and/or float contests.
- ⇒ Development of a speaker's bureau: Administrators and coaches and selected student-athletes could talk with local adult civic organizations about the "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" program. Student-athletes could deliver talks to students in the junior high/middle and elementary schools in the school district to stress good sportsmanship.
- ⇒ Principals/Superintendents could write their own commentaries for school district newsletters.
- ⇒ Send public service announcements to local radio and television stations on a quarterly basis (see enclosed samples).
- ⇒ Have your school board develop a policy that stresses that attendance at an athletic event is a privilege, and that inappropriate behavior by any party will be dealt with appropriately.
- ⇒ Encourage the speech/debate/forensics instructors/coaches to incorporate good sportsmanship themes into class assignments and competition.
- ⇒ Send local media press release stating that your school has joined the "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" program to promote good sportsmanship (see enclosed sample).
- ⇒ Use the "SPORTSMANSHIP: The Only Missing Piece Is You!" ad or stories in your own school publications (ads are enclosed).
- ⇒ Place an article in your school's souvenir programs that promotes good sportsmanship (samples are enclosed).
- ⇒ Develop a plan for crowd control at your home events. A list of ten suggestions from the Seattle Washington School District for developing a plan is included.
- ⇒ If you are playing a team that is traveling some distance to your school, promote camaraderie between the two schools by inviting the opposing team to stay in the homes of team members the night before the Contest, and possibly have an exchange of mementos before the Contest.
- ⇒ Create a postage meter ad that goes on school mail with a message promoting good sportsmanship.
- ⇒ Create banners that convey the messages of good sportsmanship and welcome opponents to your school.
- ⇒ Create a sportsmanship report card for visitors to your school to fill out and drop off after the contests. (Sample included in this section.)
- ⇒ If you, your athletes, your spectators, etc., felt they were treated particularly well while visiting another school for an event, encourage them to write a letter to the Principal or Athletic Director of that school. Chances are the school may share that letter with its constituents. The end result is that both parties are encouraged to practice good sportsmanship.
- ⇒ Have your public address announcer or participants read a pre-Contest or time out statement encouraging sportsmanship and proper respect for the opponents and Contest officials (samples are enclosed).
- ⇒ Report good sportsmanship when it happens to your opponents, the media and PIAA.
- ⇒ If a team you played during the Regular Season or a school from your league advances to the state finals, have the coaching staff of the particular team send a good luck message before the event; attend the event as a show of support; or send a congratulatory note after the state finals.

**ADDITIONAL CITIZENSHIP/SPORTSMANSHIP RESOURCES FROM
THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS (NFHS)**

PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN CITIZENSHIP ACTION KIT This Citizenship Through Sports and Fine Arts Action Kit includes one video cassette and the companion booklet. Two video productions – "Citizenship in the Real World" and "Unruly Fans: A Teen's Summit" – on one video cassette are great resources for preseason meeting with parents. The 24-page booklet and video productions are designed to enlist the support and involvement of parents in promoting citizenship to student participants. (Released 2001) (PPC).....**\$39.95**

BE A SPORT VIDEO This 10-minute videotape, complete with action footage, lists the six steps of being a good sport, reviews responsibilities of four key groups – administrators, coaches, parents/other fans, student participants – and contains a four-question quiz to test one's knowledge of sportsmanship fundamentals. In addition, the video comes with instructions on ways to use it at a preseason meeting of student participants, parents, coaches and administrators. Several thought-provoking questions are included to stimulate discussion on sportsmanship. (Released 1991) (V-BAS)**\$10.00**

SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS AND INTEGRITY TELECONFERENCE VIDEO In 1997, the NFHS conducted a two-hour satellite teleconference regarding sportsmanship, ethics and integrity. Video focuses on these issues as they relate to co curricular activities. Typical scenarios facing co curricular participants are designed to open discussion on these topics. (Released 1997)
Entire broadcast (V-SEI)**\$19.95**
Vignettes video only (V-SEV)**\$14.95**

NEW MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE STEROID PACKAGE The NFHS has developed the "Make The Right Choice" steroid initiative to educate individuals about the dangers of steroid use. The package consists of one DVD, two brochures (one for parents, one for students) and two posters (one male, one female). The DVD contains two, 12-minute videos –one directed toward coaches and students, the other one for parents. The brochures include medical information about anabolic steroids, including quick facts and side effects. The parents brochure includes ways to deter steroid use. The 17" x 22" posters are gender-specific and show the adverse effects of steroid use.
1 Copy of Steroid Package (STPKG)**\$19.95**
Additional Copies (STPKGGA)**\$9.95**
Additional DVDs (STDVD)**\$5.95**
Brochures (STBR) *Sold only in sets of 100 parent and 100 student brochures***\$24.95**
Additional Brochure Sets (STBR2)**\$12.00**
Posters (STPO) *Sold as minimum order of 5 sets – 5 male and 5 female***\$14.95**
Additional Poster Sets (STPO1)**\$1.00**

MANAGING STRESS . . . TO BE YOUR BEST This brochure helps the student activity participant identify and manage stressful situations that keep them from performing at their best in the classroom...on the stage...or on the playing field. Offers "stress busters" tips. (Sold insets of 100) (MS)**\$25.00**

PRESEASON MEETING HANDBOOK A 24-page publication guides coaches, activities sponsors, athletic directors, principals and others through the preseason meeting process. Contains facts and findings to support activities programs and funding efforts. Includes examples of agendas for a general information meeting and an individual sport or activity meeting. Gives an example of a student participant contract. (PMH).....**\$6.50**

TO LEARN AND TO LEAD A 16-page guide is directed at high school activity participants and involves many aspects of the community in the mentoring process – elementary students, junior high and middle school students, high school students, challenged individuals, college students, professionals, and senior citizens. Provides specific ways high schools use the mentoring process to positively interface with the community. Offers suggested activities .(LTL).....**\$4.95**

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have fun &
**cheer
loudly**

keep your chin up,
& don't forget to

smile

only encouraging
words will be
permitted

always appreciate
**a good sport,
a good play &
a good snack**

remember
to shake the
**opponents
hand after
the game**

feed your game face

be fair, play hard,
play KIND