

Stafford Township Board of Education Policy

PUPILS
5570
Sportsmanship

5570 SPORTSMANSHIP

The Board of Education requires that all individuals involved in or attending the athletic and intramural programs sponsored by the Board exhibit sportsmanship when representing the school at any athletic event. Sportsmanship is defined as abiding by the rules of the contest as defined or accepted by the participating teams. In exhibiting sportsmanship all participants shall:

1. Respect and follow the rules of the contest;
2. Recognize skilled performance of others regardless of affiliation;
3. Display respect for all individuals participating in the athletic event;
4. Treat opponents in an empathetic manner; and
5. Congratulate opponents in victory or defeat.

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Any person (athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district) who strikes or physically abuses an official, coach, player, or spectator;
2. Any person (athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district) who intentionally incites participants or spectators to violent or abusive action;
3. Any person (athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district) who uses obscene gestures or profane or unduly provocative language or action towards officials, coaches, opponents, or spectators;
4. Any person (athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district) who engages in harassing verbal or physical conduct which exhibits bias based on any of the protected categories listed at N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1(a);
5. Any school or athletic staff member who is publicly critical of a game official, opponents, and/or opposing coaches/players;
6. Other conduct judged by the Principal or designee to be unsportsmanlike in character; and
7. Any violation of the rules of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Stafford Township Board of Education Policy

PUPILS
5570
Sportsmanship

Schools are not permitted to conduct pre-meet/game activities of an intimidating nature, e.g., the use of fog machines, the blaring of sirens or loud music/unusual sound effects, strobe/unusual lighting effects, or similar type activities.

Failure to exhibit good sportsmanship may subject the individual to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the Board.

NJSIAA General Information Constitution By-laws Rules and Regulations 2023-2024
N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1; 6A:7-1.3

Adopted: 22 July 2004
Revised: 25 April 2024