

## **RSU #63**

- a. NEPN/NSBA Code:** **JJIBB**
- b. Title:** **Sportsmanship**
- c. Author:**
- d. Replaces Policy:**
- e. Date Approved:** **01/23/2017 RSU #63**
- f. Previously Approved:** **11/27/2006**
- g. Policy Expiration:** **Review as Needed**
- h. Responsible for Review:** **Superintendent & Policy Committee**
- i. Date Reviewed:** **12/05/2016 Superintendent**  
**12/05/2016 Policy Committee**
- j. References:**
  - Policies:** **JJI-Philosophy of Athletics**
  - JJIB-Sponsorship & Evaluation of Athletic Programs**
  - JJIBA-Hiring & Evaluation of Coaches**
  - JJIBC-Relations with Booster Groups**

### **k. Narrative:**

The RSU 63 Board of Directors (the Board) believes that athletic competition should be a healthful, positive, and safe experience for everyone involved; conducted in an environment that teaches values and ethics; strengthens the community; promotes competition without conflict; and enriches the lives of athletes. Players should learn to handle both wins and losses with grace and with dignity. In order to promote core values such as discipline, fairness, responsibility, trustworthiness, and citizenship, everyone associated with athletes, including players, coaches, parents, and spectators, is expected to exhibit good sportsmanship during athletic competitions.

- I. Participants:** In exhibiting sportsmanship, student athletes are expected to:
  - A.** Understand and follow the rules of the sport;
  - B.** Recognize skilled performance of others, regardless of the player's team;
  - C.** Display respect for teammates, opponents, coaches, and officials;
  - D.** Respect the judgement of officials and accept their decisions,
  - E.** Refrain from antics, taunting opponents, and using insulting language or swearing;
  - F.** Be modest when successful and gracious in defeat; and
  - G.** Recognize that their conduct reflects on their school.

**II. Coaches:** In exhibiting sportsmanship, coaches are expected to:

- A.** Recognize that they are role models for students and set a good example for athletes and fans to follow;
- B.** Abide by the rules of the sport, in letter and in spirit;
- C.** Treat all participants with respect;
- D.** Behave with dignity and self-control;
- E.** Respect the judgement of officials and accept their decisions;
- F.** Take corrective action toward any player who intimidates or shows disrespect toward an official or displays unsportsmanlike behavior; and
- G.** Be modest when successful and gracious in defeat.

**III. Spectators, Including Parents, Students, and Community Members:** Spectators attending athletic events are expected to:

- A.** Realize the main purpose of the competition is the play of the game and the role of the Spectator is one of support;
- B.** Show positive support to the teams and players for outstanding performances;
- C.** Show concern for injured players, regardless of which team they are on;
- D.** Refrain from angry or abusive language or actions toward any player, official, coach, or other spectators;
- E.** Refrain from heckling, taunting, or berating players, officials, coaches, or other spectators; and
- F.** Follow all RSU 63 Board policies and rules pertaining to conduct on school property, including, but not limited, to those pertaining to tobacco, alcohol, drugs, and weapons.

**IV. Penalties for Inappropriate Behavior:**

- A.** Student athletes who engage in unsportsmanlike behavior will be subject to penalties described in the Athletic Code or, if the conduct constitutes a violation of RSU 63 Board policy, school rules, the Student Code of Conduct, and/or Student Handbook, to appropriate disciplinary consequences.
- B.** Student spectators whose behavior constitutes a violation of RSU 63 Board

policy, school rules, or the Student Code of Conduct will be subject to appropriate disciplinary consequences.

- C. Adult spectators who engage in unsportsmanlike behavior or conduct that violates RSU 63 Board policy may be asked to leave the premises and may be excluded from future events. The administrator in charge of the event may seek the assistance of law enforcement authorities if necessary to ensure the safety of participants, coaches, officials, other spectators, or to prevent damage to school property.
  - D. Coaches will adhere to the code of ethics of the Maine Principal's Association.
- V. **Notice of Rules:** The building Principal will be responsible for posting spectator rules at the entrance to each interscholastic competition site or ensuring the rules are understood.