

## **District D Sportsmanship Award**

Schools should maintain a high expectation of sportsmanship throughout their school community. The Sportsmanship Award is a proud honor that all schools should aspire to achieve. District D has provided the following guidelines for selecting the Sportsmanship Award winner.

Leagues will nominate schools to the District D board. Nominated school's Athletic Directors will provide a retrospect of their school's demonstration of the District D Sportsmanship guidelines to the District D board. This report will be in a narrative form which illustrates the following bullets:

- Please describe your education policy on sportsmanship and present a copy to the panel
- Please describe how your school has developed initiatives/policies to increase sportsmanship in the school community. Please cite examples from standards listed below.
- Please describe how your school has developed initiatives/policies/procedures to increase sportsmanship with coaches. Please cite examples from standards listed below.
- Please describe how your school has developed initiatives/policies/procedures to increase sportsmanship with student athletes. Please cite examples from standards listed below.
- Please describe how your school has developed initiatives/policies/procedures to increase sportsmanship at games and events. Please cite examples from standards listed below.

**Athletic Directors will be invited to attend a District D meeting to report out how their school satisfied the sportsmanship expectation of District D.**

District D has developed a set of standards that schools should follow to ensure that they meet these expectations. Although school may not be able to enact all standards, schools should strive to achieve a consistent standard that emulates good sportsmanship.

- I. **Initiatives/policies to increase sportsmanship in the school community:** (These could be named something different)
  1. Established a sportsmanship committee that meets regularly to discuss sporting behavior issues.
  2. School promotes and participates in sportsmanship workshops such as the MIAA Sportsmanship Summit and Women and Sports Day
  3. Establishment of a Principal's Captain Council with regularly scheduled meetings during each season.
  4. Pregame sportsmanship announcements that are read/played prior to each contest.
  5. Assigned school administrator to stand with/nearby our student sections at well attended athletic contests, both home and away (football, basketball, volleyball, soccer, etc.).
  6. Procedure in place to deal with heated rivalries and/or overflow crowds.

7. Procedure in place to acknowledge/reward/recognize/publicize examples of outstanding acts of sporting behavior.
8. Administrator present to address sporting behavior expectations at every preseason student athlete and parent meeting.
9. Includes contest officials at preseason meetings with teams for educational purposes and/or to enhance sportsmanship towards officials.
10. Sportsmanship messages posted in game programs, in team locker rooms and at school and athletic facilities.

## **II. Initiatives/policies to increase sportsmanship with coaches:**

1. Our school has provided written guidelines to each coach regarding sporting behavior expectations.
2. Our school verifies that coaches have been properly certified.
3. Our athletic administrator has met with our coaches to review sporting behavior expectations.
4. Our school has required that our coaches address sporting behavior expectations with his or her student athletes.
5. Our school has developed policies and disciplinary procedures for coaches demonstrating poor sporting behavior at athletic contests (i.e. arguing with officials, yelling at opposing coaches or athletes, engaging in confrontations with fans/spectators, receiving technical/unsporting behavior penalties, ejections, etc.).
6. Our school encourages each coach to present a student-athlete award for sporting behavior in each sport.
7. Our school encourages each coach to shake hands with opposing coaches and student-athletes before or after each contest.
8. Our school consistently reminds our coaches to treat student-athletes, fellow coaches, opposing student-athletes, opposing coaches, home and visiting fans and officials with courtesy and respect.
9. Our school consistently reminds our coaches to exercise self-control in accepting decisions and acting with integrity.
10. Our school consistently reminds our coaches to serve as a positive role model for others.

## **III. Initiatives/policies to increase sportsmanship with student athletes:**

1. Provided written guidelines to each student-athlete regarding sporting behavior expectations and reviews expectations with all players and parents.
2. Established and instituted policies and disciplinary procedures for student-athletes demonstrating poor sporting behavior at athletic contests (i.e. arguing with officials, yelling at opposing coaches or athletes, engaging in confrontations with fans/spectators, receiving technical/unsporting behavior fouls or penalties, ejections, etc.).
3. Expectation that student-athletes to treat teammates, coaches, opposing student-athletes, opposing coaches, home and visiting fans and officials with courtesy and respect.
4. School consistently reminds our student-athletes to exercise self-control in accepting decisions and playing with integrity.

5. School consistently reminds our student-athletes to serve as a positive role model for others.
6. Disqualifications: Number and reason of disqualifications any player must be presented with a school response.

**IV. Initiatives/policies to increase sportsmanship at games and events:**

1. Provided written guidelines to each student regarding sporting behavior expectations.
2. Our school has provided written guidelines to each parent of our student-athletes regarding sporting behavior expectations.
3. School has reviews sporting behavior expectations with our student body.
4. School has reviewed sporting behavior expectations with our student support groups.
5. School has reviewed sporting behavior expectations with parents/fans.
6. School has developed policies and disciplinary procedures for students and/or fans demonstrating poor sporting behavior at athletic contests (i.e. chants or signage in poor taste).
7. School has an administrator present to address sporting behavior expectations to all student support groups.
8. School consistently reminds our student body, student groups, parents and fans to treat student-athletes, fellow coaches, opposing student-athletes, opposing coaches, home and visiting fans and officials with courtesy and respect to serve as a positive role model for others and cheer at appropriate times in a positive manner.
9. School consistently reminds our student body, student support groups and parents/fans to display only signs that welcome opponents and are positive in nature and allow only positive cheers that do not antagonize opponents or officials.
10. School has reviewed procedures and expectations with public address announcers on staying neutral, promoting sporting behavior, not inciting crowds, etc.
11. School consistently reminds our public address announcers to treat visiting and home teams comparably.
12. School consistently reminds our public address announcers to offer no personal comments or criticism of coaches, student-athletes or officials.
13. School consistently reminds our public address announcers to follow the instructions of officials faithfully.

**Special thanks to Ohio High School Athletic Association for permission to utilize their *Respect the Game Challenge* Criteria.**