



MIAA SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES FOR FAN/SPECTATOR SUPPORT ITEMS

In the chart below, ONLY those items marked “Yes” will be allowed as fan/spectator support items at MIAA events.
The items indicated on this page are for use by member schools as policy guidelines for their fans.

ITEM	ALLOWED	COMMENTS/RATIONALE
Fans storming the court/field of play	No	Such actions create an unsafe environment. Spectators are encouraged to remain in their seats to observe the postgame handshake ceremony/trophy presentation.
Leaving team’s side of play/court	No	Spectators must stay within the confines of their school’s student body section.
Banners on wall*	No	Exceptions – Welcome signs, corporate sponsors, school signs that are permanently fixed on walls.
Objects thrown into crowd (confetti, miniature sports balls, candy, etc.)	No	
Noise Makers (horns, bells, buzzers, whistles, thunder sticks, rattles, shakers, music instruments not part of a band, air horns, sirens, megaphones, etc.)	No	Per MIAA Handbook Rule 97.10.5 <i>“Horns, posters, noisemakers, confetti, pompoms, balloons, and banners are not to be permitted at any site. If the site manager feels that something not mentioned above is also creating a nuisance at a contest site, the site manager should have such items removed.”</i>
Hand-held signs (individually or more than one person)*	No	See explanation for “Noise Makers”.
Balloons*	No	See explanation for “Noise Makers”.
Face Paint/Body Paint/Hair Coloring	Yes	Fans are not prohibited from painting their faces/bodies or coloring their hair in manners that appropriately demonstrate school spirit. However, out of respect to facilities that host MIAA tournament contests, student support groups should do their painting prior to entering the facility.
Taking off shirt	No	Shirts and shoes are required attire at every facility.
Paper banners for team to run through	Yes	
Actions that distract participants, obstruct vision, affect play	No	Spectators who participate in activities that intentionally attempt to distract participants, obstruct the vision of spectators, or affect the competition are subject to removal from the premises by the tournament site director or local authorities.
Laser light/pointer	No	See rationale for “Actions that distract participants” above.
Recorded music over PA system*	Yes	Recorded music is permitted only with the approval of the tournament site director.
School/Pep bands	Yes	Per MIAA Handbook Rules 97.10.5.1-97.10.5.3 with the following restrictions: 1. A maximum of 12 is permitted. An advisor must be in attendance and sit with the band. 2. Permission in advance must be granted by the Tournament Director and Site Director. 3. Pep bands are not permitted to play while the game is in play. <i>A full compliment of high school bands is permitted at all Superbowl football contests.</i>
Cannons/muskets/guns	No	
Carried school flags	No	
Dressed school mascots/costumes	Yes	School mascots must stay within the confines of that school’s student body section.
Live animal mascots	No	

* Allowed at the discretion of the host site administration.

Updated – 10/12/10