

## Role of the spectator

Athletic events are learning experiences for students and student-athletes. A spectator's ticket is a privilege to observe athletic tests of skill. All spectators share the responsibility for promoting sportsmanship at games and events. The intended purpose for spectators is to provide positive support, regardless of the outcome on the scoreboard.

### Sportsmanship Expectations for Spectators . . .

- Remember that you are at a contest to support and yell for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Learn the rules of the game, 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 game 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. Treating officials with respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of you, your team and your community in the eyes of all people at the event.
- Realize that bad passes lose far more games than bad calls.
- Respect and accept all decisions made by contest officials and coaches.
- Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups with respect and enthusiasm.
- Conduct yourself in an exemplary manner. Remember, you represent your school and community both at home and away.
- Be a positive behavior role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you at events whose behavior is unbecoming.
- Encourage student-athletes and coaches to play by the rules and to resolve conflicts without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Good sportsmanship means always being positive with your response to the contest.
- Cheer for your team, not against the opponents.
- Good sportsmanship is about demonstrating respect for opposing teams, coaches and fans, as well as officials.



# Sportsmanship



**Kenai Peninsula Borough School District**

Creating a winning example

# Sportsmanship in KPBSD

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is committed to promoting good sportsmanship in order to develop and maintain safe and healthy environments for competition. We believe that part of the role of education through sports is to educate all participants in athletic contests to conduct themselves with dignity, integrity and respect at all times.

Conduct representing proper sportsmanship includes, but is not limited to: observing and supporting the rules of the game; promoting the spirit as well as the letter of the rules; placing fairness first as a goal in all competition; taking personal responsibility for high standards of play and conduct; showing civility toward competitors, coaches and officials; playing cleanly while playing hard; showing maturity and integrity in conduct on and off the field of play; being a gracious competitor while accepting both wins and losses with dignity; and showing only positive support for the efforts of both teams.

Unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to: physical and verbal acts that would incite student-athletes or spectators; threatening gestures or words; obscenities, and race, religious, nationality, or sex-based statements whether spoken, signed, gestured, written or printed; taunting an opponent; conduct intended to injure an opponent; public criticism of officials, coaches or student-athletes; confrontations between officials and student-athletes or their coaches; confrontations between student-athletes or coaches from opposing teams; and any other act that would negatively affect the image and reputation of your school, sport, community or the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District.

The opportunity to represent a KPBSD school on the athletic field is a privilege which is accompanied by the duty to exemplify proper sportsmanship. To ensure proper sportsmanship is followed, sportsmanship role expectations have been developed for all individuals involved in athletic activities. These expectations are illustrated in the following pages with the hope and intent that they be followed by all involved.

Support your team through good sportsmanship!



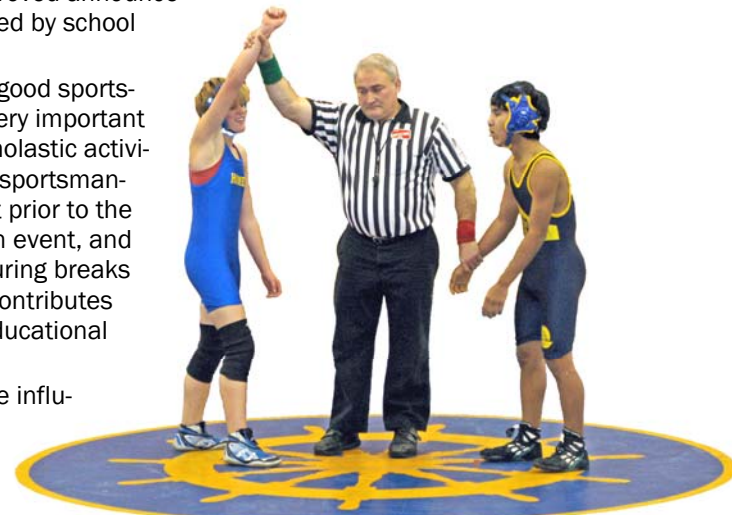
## Role of the Public Announcer



The announcer is a key figure in assuring good sportsmanship at athletic events and carries a great responsibility. What is said and the way it is said will influence the crowd. The announcer should provide an impartial and evenhanded report of the event. Partisanship in this area inflames emotions and can promote poor sportsmanship by participants and spectators. Good announcers provide a friendly and cordial relationship between competing schools and the general public and assist with crowd control.

### Sportsmanship Expectations for Announcers . . .

- Be impartial. Announce the contest with no show of favoritism. Do not draw attention away from the athletic contest.
- Remember the announcer's job is to inform — not to entertain.
- Speak slowly, clearly and distinctly. Use proper language at all times. Not only does the announcer need to be heard, he or she also must be easily understood.
- Be enthusiastic but calm.
- Do not anticipate or second guess calls by the officials or criticize officials' decisions, directly or indirectly.
- Do not make comments that would provide either competing team an unfair advantage in the contest.
- Be positive toward guests as well as the home team. The visiting team and their fans are your guests and should be treated as such.
- Be professional and unbiased.
- Be in charge of the microphone at all times.
- Make only approved announcements requested by school officials.
- Be aware that good sportsmanship is a very important part of interscholastic activities; reading a sportsmanship statement prior to the beginning of an event, and at key times during breaks in the action, contributes to a positive educational atmosphere.
- Be aware of the influence you have over the tone of the contest.



## Role of the Cheerleaders

Cheerleaders are the chosen representatives of the student body; they have the opportunity and specific responsibility for promoting good sportsmanship. By setting a good example, cheerleaders can influence and help control the reaction of student and adult spectators.

### Sportsmanship Expectations for Cheerleaders . . .

- Understand the seriousness and responsibility of your role, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Learn and understand the rules of the game you are cheering. This will assist you in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opposing cheerleaders the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than you can understand all the training and team effort that goes into a cheerleading squad?
- Wish opposing cheerleaders good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- Establish standards of desirable behavior for the squad and attempt in a cheerful manner to transfer that to your spectators.
- Select positive cheers which praise your team without antagonizing the opponent.
- 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 game officials. Treating them with



respect, even if you disagree with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of your team and the community in the eyes of the officials and all people at the event.

- Stay positive, have fun, and remember that winning on the scoreboard isn't everything.
- Promote good sportsmanship. Use appropriate cheers and chants at all times.
- Provide only positive support.

## Role of the Student-Athlete

An essential role in the development and maintenance of sportsmanship is that of the student-athlete. Because student-athletes are admired and respected, their behavior significantly influences the actions and behavior of spectators of all ages.

### Sportsmanship Expectations for Student-Athletes . . .

- Accept and understand seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and your community.
- Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, and fellow students. This will assist them in the achievement of a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- Treat opponents the way you would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than you can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of your sport? Never direct remarks at opponents in a taunting manner.
- Wish opponents good luck before the game 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 game 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.
- Only the Captain should communicate with the official regarding the clarification of a ruling.
- Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Refrain from taunting, trash talking or making any kind of derogatory remarks to your opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature. Refrain from intimidating behavior.
- Win with humility, lose with grace. Do both with dignity!
- Never attempt to intentionally injure an opponent.
- Avoid excessive celebration after a play or the end of a game.
- Play by the spirit, not just the letter, of the rules of the game and rules of life.
- Take pride in yourself and your accomplishments, but never at the expense of demeaning another person or group.
- Compete with honor.
- Good sportsmanship is about playing by the rules with discipline, respect and self control.
- Offer positive encouragement to teammates, especially after they make a mistake.
- Leave a positive legacy!

## Role of the coach

The Coach must demonstrate and apply leadership, integrity, responsibility, self-control, knowledge of sport rules and regulations, honesty and sportsmanship at all times on and off the playing field. The coach should be aware that he or she has a tremendous influence, for either good or ill, on the education of the student-athlete, and thus should never place the value of winning above the value of installing the highest ideals of character. The coach is a role model and must set a good example for student-athletes.

Coaches must always keep in mind that essentially the game belongs to the participants. The primary justification for including athletic programs in the total school curriculum is based on the fact that athletics provides both physical and character values for those who participate in them. Student attainment of these values rests largely with the profession.

Coaches should advocate positive behavior and sportsmanship, and take every opportunity to do so when addressing their team, parents, the media, booster groups and other public forums. The coach is probably the most influential person at an event and his or her actions will be reflected in the behavior of others.

### Sportsmanship Expectations for Coaches . . .

- Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership, adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards.
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual student-athlete.
- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for student-athletes and spectators to follow – please refrain from arguments in front of student-athletes and spectators; no gestures which indicate an official or opposing coach does not know what he or she is doing or talking about; no throwing of any object in disgust. Shake hands with the officials and the opposing coaches before and after the contest in full view of the public.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game 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.



- When talking with the media, please confine your remarks to game statistics and the positive performances of your team or the positive performances of your opponent. Refrain from making public comments critical of officials or the quality of their performance.
- Teach sportsmanship and reward/acknowledge your players that display good sportsmanship.
- Describe and define respectful and disrespectful behavior. Stress that disrespectful behavior, especially taunting, trash talking and intimidation will not be tolerated.
- Instruct participants and spectators in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship a top priority.
- Treat opposing coaches, athletic directors, participants, students and fans with dignity and respect.
- Be positive, courteous and show respect for all.
- Lead by example and maintain self-control in the emotional climate of an athletic contest.



- Do not tolerate abuse of officials, coaches, student-athletes or volunteers.
- Teach student-athletes to play fairly and respect the rules, officials, and opponents.
- Instances of nonsportsmanship conduct should be met with discipline severe enough to change conduct and eliminate similar future instances.

