



ATHLETICS

Marni Henry, Athletic Director

SPORTSMANSHIP AND FAN CODE OF CONDUCT

NJSIAA Sportsmanship Policy

Prior to the start of every NJSIAA event at all levels, officials are required to read the following statement to all participants. Coaches are expected to assist officials with gathering their student-athletes before an event to assist with the reading of this statement.

“The NJSIAA requires officials to enforce all rules regarding unsportsmanlike conduct by coaches and players. There will be no tolerance for any negative behavior, such as taunting, trash-talking and verbal, written, or physical conduct related to race, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or religion. Such behavior will result in being ejected from this event. All participants must respect the game, respect the officials, and respect their opponents.”

The entirety of the NJSIAA Sportsmanship Rule/Policy, which also addresses unsportsmanlike conduct, can be found in the NJSIAA Bylaws Article IX – Sportsmanship.

NJSIAA GENERAL INFORMATION CONSTITUTION BY-LAWS RULES AND REGULATIONS

Article IX

SPORTSMANSHIP

Section 3

Association Responsibility:

The Association recognizes and appreciates that the influence and responsibility of the school administration with regard to good sportsmanship extends to all levels of competition. However, it must also be seen that the NJSIAA has been vested with the responsibility to ensure that all contests under its jurisdiction are conducted satisfactorily. In exercising its responsibility as it applies to the principles of good sportsmanship, the Association will be guided by the Sportsmanship Rule/Policy below.

SPORTSMANSHIP RULE/POLICY

High standards of courtesy, fair play and sportsmanship must be featured at association competitions.

While this rule is a general statement and one which may be difficult to reduce to objective standards in terms of enforcement, it is the heart of the entire Association program. Good sportsmanship, respect for rules, respect for others, and fair play, are basically the motives through which an interscholastic athletic program is justified and defended.

It shall be the responsibility of each member school to ensure that all individuals employed by or directly associated with the athletic program, including its Student-Athletes, comport themselves in a sportsmanlike manner when representing their school, especially at interscholastic events.

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the individual to disciplinary action. The member school with which the individual is associated may also be subject to disciplinary action if it is found that the member school's policies, actions, or failure to act, substantially contributed to the individual's conduct.

Under the NJSIAA Sportsmanship Rule/Policy, unsportsmanlike conduct includes, but is not limited to, actions of a fan, spectator, school staff, school security, officials, opposing coach or players who:

- strikes or physically abuses an official, opposing coach, player, or spectator
- intentionally incites participants or spectators to violent or abusive action
- uses obscene gestures or profane or unduly provocative language or action towards officials, opponents, or spectators
- engages in harassing verbal or physical conduct related to race, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or religion at an interscholastic event.
- Use of profanity, threatening comments, or biased language before, during, or after an interscholastic event.
- Verbally harasses an official or participant (i.e., coaches or players from any participating school) by using names or uniform numbers.
- Entering the field of play – before, during, or after an interscholastic event.
- Physical altercation with an official, coach, player, school staff, school security, or spectator – before, during, or after an interscholastic event.
- Use of artificial noisemakers or other instruments intended to disrupt the interscholastic event or distract the participants during an interscholastic event.

Shore Conference Rules and Regulations

RULE 20 (General Regulations for Member School and Spectator Conduct)

- A.** The rules of conduct apply to all Shore Conference events, including regular and postseason competitions.
- B.** Artificial noisemakers are prohibited by NJSIAA rules and are not permitted at any event. This includes bells, whistles thunder sticks, clappers, balloons, megaphones (excluding cheerleaders), and horns.
- C.** Body painting is not permitted, nor are bare chests.
- D.** All signs must be hung on walls and shall show only positive support. Those that direct negative comments toward opponents or are unsportsmanlike are not permitted. Visiting teams may not bring banners/signs to hang at host school's venue. Flags are not permitted at indoor facilities or bleachers.
- E.** Teams may run through banners that are positive and show good sportsmanship. Supervised pep bands are allowed at all events. Face painting is allowed, provided it was done prior to entering the venue. Rally towels are allowed. Foam fingers are also allowed, provided they are not blocking the view of spectators.
- F.** A protest may not be filed that calls into question the judgment of an official.

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the violator to disciplinary action. Disciplinary Actions may include but are not limited to:

- Immediate removal from the event and school premises.
- Suspension from the next home interscholastic event for a first offense.
- Longer suspensions from interscholastic and school events for multiple violations in a defined period of time (season, school year, calendar year, etc.).
- Completion of the following <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/sportsmanship-2> NFHS Sportsmanship course
- Reinstatement meeting with the Athletic Director, Marni Henry mhenry@wallpublicschools.org before attendance at future WHS events.

I have read the above policy as issued by the NJSIAA and agree to the terms as listed.

Furthermore, I agree to abide by the Shore Conference and Wall High School Sportsmanship Rules and Policies. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall subject the individual to disciplinary action. The member school with which the individual is associated may also be subject to disciplinary action if it is found that the member school's policies, actions, or failure to act, substantially contributed to the individual's conduct.

Student-Athlete Name: _____
(print)

Student-Athlete Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____
(print)

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date:** _____