

POLICY GUIDE

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Sportsmanship
Feb 24

[See POLICY ALERT No. 232]

5570 SPORTSMANSHIP

The Board of Education requires that all individuals involved in or attending the athletic and intramural programs sponsored by the Board exhibit sportsmanship when representing the school at any athletic event. Sportsmanship is defined as abiding by the rules of the contest as defined or accepted by the participating teams ~~and the gracious acceptance of victory or defeat~~. In exhibiting sportsmanship all participants shall:

1. **Respect** ~~Understand~~ and follow the rules of the contest;
2. Recognize skilled performance of others regardless of affiliation;
3. Display respect for all individuals participating in the athletic event;
4. Treat opponents in an empathetic manner; and
5. Congratulate opponents in victory or defeat.

Unsportsmanlike conduct ~~Failure to exhibit good sportsmanship~~ shall include, but not be limited to, the following ~~conduct~~:

1. Any person (**athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district**) who strikes or physically abuses an official, coach, player, or spectator;
2. Any person (**athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district**) who intentionally incites participants or spectators to **violent or** abusive action;
3. Any person (**athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district**) who



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uses obscene gestures or **profane** or unduly provocative language or action towards officials, coaches, opponents, or spectators;

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- ~~4. Any school or athletic staff member who is publicly critical of a game official or opposing coaches and/or players;~~
45. Any person (**athletic department, staff member, student athlete, or a fan or spectator associated with the school district**) who engages in **harassing verbal or physical** conduct which exhibits bias based on **any of the protected categories listed at N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1(a)** ~~race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability;~~ and
5. **Any school or athletic staff member who is publicly critical of a game official, opponents, and/or opposing coaches/players;**
- ~~6. Schools or school organizations engaging in pre-event activities of an intimidating nature, e.g. use of fog machines, blaring sirens, unusual sound effects or lighting, or similar activities.~~

Optional

- ~~6}7. Other conduct judged by the **Principal or designee** _____ to be unsportsmanlike in character; and }~~

Optional

- ~~7}8. Any violation of the rules of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.}~~

Failure to exhibit good sportsmanship may **subject the individual to disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the Board** ~~result in the Board denying the opportunity for any individual to participate in the athletic program or attend athletic events.~~

**NJSIAA General Information Constitution By-laws Rules and Regulations
2023-2024 Guidelines
N.J.A.C. 6A:7-1.1; 6A:7-1.3**



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Adopted:

