

**Sportsmanship**  
**is**  
**EVERYONE'S**  
**Responsibility!**



### **The Role of Coaches**

Coaches must demonstrate and apply leadership, integrity, responsibility, self-control, knowledge of sports rules and regulations, honesty and sportsmanship at all times on and off the playing field/court. It is necessary and important that the coach acts in a responsible and professional manner at all times because he/she represents the school, community, profession, faculty and student body leaders in this area. The coach must set a good example for all participants. While everyone wants to do their best and hopefully win the contest, coaches must remember that interscholastic athletics is an extension of the classroom and that the coach is probably the most influential person at the contest whose actions will be reflected in the behavior of others.

- Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership, adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards.
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- Set a good example for players and fans to follow—refrain from arguments in front of players and fans; do not make inappropriate gestures to officials or opponents, and do not throw objects in disgust. Shake hands with officials and the opposing coaches before and after contests 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 in public and in meeting/talking with the media.
- Teach sportsmanship and reward your players that are good sports.
- Be no party to the use of profanity, obscene language or improper actions.
- Describe and define respectful and disrespectful behavior. Stress that disrespectful behavior, especially taunting, trash talking and intimidation, will not be tolerated.
- Instruct participants and fans in proper sportsmanship responsibilities and demand that they make sportsmanship the No. 1 priority.
- Treat opposing coaches, administrators, participants and fans with respect.

## **SPORTSMANSHIP FOR COACHES**



### **A Quick Guide To Assist In Sporting Behavior**

