

## SPORTSMANSHIP MANUAL

A

2011-2012







Arkansas Activities Association 3920 Richards Road North Little Rock, AR 72117 Phone: 501-955-2500 • Fax: 501-955-2600

www.ahsaa.org

### Arkansas Activities Association Board of Directors

### Officers

				Consecutive
			Term	Term
	Class.			Number
PresidentWesley Berry, Deputy Supt., West Memphis	6A	3	2014	3
1st Vice PresidentJoe Couch, Superintendent, Bergman				
2nd Vice President*Bobby Acklin, Asst. Supt., North Little Rock	7A	5	2014	3
SecretaryHoward Morris, Superintendent, Riverview	3A	2	2014	2
TreasurerRick McLaughlin, Asst. Supt., HS Lakeside	5A	5	2014	2
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Micky PierceSuperintendent, East Poinsett Co	2A	3	2012	1
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*AT-LARGE:				
Alfred HoganAsst. Superintendent, Marion				
Suzanne BaileySuperintendent, Waldron	4A	4	2012	0

Arkansas Activities Association 3920 Richards Road North Little Rock, AR 72117

Office: 501- 955-2500 Fax: 501- 955-2600

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Friday 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

### Visit our web site at <u>www.ahsaa.org</u>

### **Arkansas Activities Association Staff**

### **Administrative Staff**

Dr. Joey Walters  Don Brodell  Nick Lasker  Wadie Moore  Amber Balboa	Executive Director Deputy Executive Director Associate Executive Director Associate Executive Director Assistant Executive Director
Jennifer Mays Teresa Marlow Nicole Cunningham	Support Staff  Administrative Assistant to Executive Director/Board of Directors  Administrative Assistant to Amber Balboa//Accounting Records  Administrative Assistant to Nick Lasker/AHSAAA Secretary  Administrative Assistant to Wadie Moore/Media Secretary
Julia Harvey	

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Andrew Tolbert Superintendent Warren



Fred Walker Superintendent Izard County

The members of the Governing Body and staff of the association desire to promote educational and cultural values among its 456 member schools. These schools are junior and senior high, both public and private. A positive attitude and appreciation for higher standards of sportsmanship and effective citizenship among all participants is a goal. Encouraging activity programs that will provide additional opportunities for all students to participate and compete in a variety of sports and activities is a mission.

Since 1912 when the AAA was organized as an athletic association, and since 1969 when the scope was broadened to include all activities, the association has expressed its commitment to promoting and encouraging other school activities beneficial to the development of students in addition to athletics. The AAA now conducts 108 state championships in twenty-three sports as well as providing cooperative assistance with the state events for numerous student activity organizations.

The AAA administers the eligibility records for approximately 70,000 students annually, helps organize and train over 3,000 game officials and serves as the administrative office for the Arkansas Officials Association, Arkansas High School Coaches Association and the Arkansas High School Athletic Administrators Association. In addition, the association's special services includes coordination and administration of a nationally-based coaches education program, the annual coaching clinic and All-Star games, the Sportsmanship Award selection process, the Interscholastic Star program and the State Farm/AAA Scholar-Athlete Scholarships.

The AAA is dedicated to promoting school activities as a valuable part of a student's total educational program.



Lance W. Taylor Executive Director



Dr. Joey Walters Deputy Executive Director



Don Brodell
Assoc. Executive
Director



Nick Lasker Assoc. Executive Director



Wadie Moore Asst. Executive



Asst. Executive



Annette Savage Asst. Executive Director

### **PHILOSOPHY**

The Arkansas Activities Association defines sportsmanship as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Good sportsmanship is abiding by the rules of a contest and accepting victory or defeat graciously. It should be evident in all school functions and should demonstrate the ability to accept defeat without complaint, to enjoy victory without bragging, and to treat opponents with fairness and courtesy.

Interscholastic activities are an integral part of the educational curriculum and experience. They provide an arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand, and to value the concepts of sportsmanship. They provide an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach citizenship, to build school pride, and to increase student involvement which translates into improved academic performance. Sportsmanship must be taught, modeled, expected, and reinforced in the classroom and in all competitive activities. Interscholastic activities are training fields for future leaders.

### THE FUNDAMENTALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP

### GAIN AN UNDERSTANDING AND APPRECIATION FOR THE RULES OF THE CONTEST

The necessity to be well informed is essential. Know the rules. If you are uninformed, refrain from expressing opinions on officials, coaches, or administrative decisions. The spirit of good sportsmanship depends on conformance to a rule's intent and to the letter of a given rule.

### EXERCISE REPRESENTATIVE BEHAVIOR AT ALL TIMES

A prerequisite to good sportsmanship requires you to understand your own prejudices that may become a factor in your behavior. The true value of interscholastic competition relies upon everyone exhibiting behavior which is representative of a sound value base. A proper perspective must be maintained if the educational values are to be realized. Your behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not.

### RECOGNIZE AND APPRECIATE SKILLED PERFORMANCES REGARDLESS OF AFFILIATION

Applause for an opponent's good performance displays generosity and is a courtesy that should be regularly practiced. This not only represents good sportsmanship, but also reflects a true awareness of the game by recognizing and acknowledging quality.

### **EXHIBIT RESPECT FOR THE OFFICIALS**

The officials are impartial trained arbitrators who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved in the contests are a part of the game. We should not rationalize our own poor or unsuccessful performance of behavior by placing responsibility on an official. The rule of good sportsmanship is to accept and abide by decisions made by officials. This value is critical for students to learn for later application in life.

### OPENLY DISPLAY A RESPECT FOR THE OPPONENT AT ALL TIMES

Opponents are guests and should be treated cordially, provided with the best accommodations, and accorded tolerance at all times. Be a positive representative for your school, teams, and family. This fundamental is the Golden Rule in action.

### DISPLAY PRIDE IN YOUR ACTIONS AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY

Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgment and your responsibility as a school representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, player, coach, or official, this value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.

The Arkansas Activities Association is committed to promoting the ideals of sportsmanship, integrity, and ethics at all levels of interscholastic competition. It is the responsibility of each member school to establish policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct consistent with the educational mission and goals of that school and to continually educate students, coaches, teachers, parents, and all involved about those policies.

A. Responsibility to the AAA to assure good sportsmanship is as follows:

### 1. ADMINISTRATION

- Teaches the concept that the high school game is a part of the educational experience
- Has a plan for teaching, emphasizing, promoting, and supporting good sportsmanship
- c. Is alert to dealing with large or small problems as they arise
- d. Attends all events and functions as a model of good sportsmanship. This includes communicating with spectators <u>during an event</u> what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior.
- e. Maintains control over student groups and seeks their support in the implementation of sportsmanship program
- f. Serves as a role model for others

### 2. COACHES

The coaches and assistant coaches are charged with a responsibility that reaches beyond the game. Their behavior directly affects the conduct of other bench personnel, players, and spectators. The coach's job is to prepare the team for the game and to conduct himself in such a manner during the game to ensure good crowd control. Displaying a positive attitude promotes a healthy environment for competition. Head coaches are responsible for the conduct of all persons in the bench area.

Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior, and leadership; adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards.

- Remain seated on the bench or in a chair unless standing within the team box
- c. Use positive encouragement
- d. Follow the rules of the sport during the progress of the contest
- e. Accept the decisions of officials
- f. Avoid offensive gestures or language
- g. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- h. Avoid public criticism of game officials
- Teach sportsmanship and reward/ acknowledge players that display good sportsmanship
- j. Shake hands with opponents before/ after game

### 3. STUDENT-ATHLETES

- Applaud along with spectators during introduction of players, coaches, and officials
- b. Shake hands with opponents before/ after the game
- c. Accept the decisions of officials
- d. Avoid offensive gestures or language
- e. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- f. Follow the rules of the game
- g. Exercise self-control
- h. Show respect for public property and equipment
- At no time may either team engage in any type of "animated huddle," "dance," or other similar activity at center court or on any home team or conference insignia.
- j. Upon entering the floor prior to the start of a ballgame, teams shall not interfere with the opposing team by circling the court and shall go directly to their warm-up area.

### 4. SPECTATORS

- Positive encouragement and support of own team without being rude, negative or derogatory to opponents
- b. Do not wear extreme or unusual clothing to the game.
- No full face painting is permitted. Partial face painting is permitted such as small markings on the cheeks.

- d. No derogatory or suggestive slogans on apparel
- e. No bare chests are permitted; shirts must be worn
- f. Do not throw trash on the playing field or throw objects at other spectators
- g. No negative, demeaning, or obscene yells before, during, or after the contest
- h. Do not turn one's back or hold up newspapers while teams are being introduced or when teams, cheerleaders, or dance teams are performing
- Avoid criticism of game officials and sideline coaching
- Stay off the playing area
- k. Take part in cheers with the cheerleaders
- Show respect for public property and equipment

### 5. CHEERLEADERS

- Show leadership ability to direct, control, and lead cheering section in a positive manner
- b. Show courtesy toward officials and all representatives of opposing schools
- c. Greet visiting cheerleaders
- d. Actively welcome opponents with signs, cheer, and personal greetings
- e. Lead positive cheers which praise your team without antagonizing the opponents
- f. Encourage support for any injured participant
- g. Show respect for opposing cheerleaders
- h. Dress in school-approved uniforms
- Show respect for public property and equipment

### 6. SUPPORT GROUPS (BAND, Dance, PEP, ETC.)

- a. Arrange to share timeouts
- b. Arrange in advance when to perform so that each will have sufficient time
- c. Bands are not to be used to disrupt an opponent's game. At football games bands and any component thereof (e.g. drums), shall not play when the opposing team is inside the

- opponent's twenty-yard line moving toward or away from their own goal.
- d. No home team band, home team pep band, home team junior high band, or spirit group may sit on the visitors side of the stadium or gymnasium.
- e. Show respect for opposing group
- f. Dress in school-approved uniforms
- g. The use of institutionally-controlled computerized sound systems (including music) and institutionally controlled artificial noisemakers shall be restricted to pregame, halftime, post game, after a score, and timeouts.
- h. Act in a positive way and do not detract from the contest in progress
- Show respect for public property and equipment

### 7. OFFICIALS

- a. Accept your role in an unassuming manner
- Know the rules, apply them equitably at all times and keep the game moving
- c. Publicly shake hands with coaches of both teams before the contest
- d. Never show emotions or argue with a player, coach, or fan
- e. When watching a game as a spectator, give the officials the same respect you expect to receive when working a contest
- B. Each school shall be prepared to expel and/or prosecute any person who commits a misdemeanor or criminal act under the statutes of Arkansas governing an individual's conduct in public or when such action at an activity or contest constitutes unsportsmanlike conduct.
- C. Coaches, faculty representatives, and other school representatives shall teach and exemplify good sportsmanship and are specifically prohibited from attempting to gain advantage by intimidation of officials or the opposing team.
- D. Removing a team from the playing floor or field which causes the event to be ended for any reason other than an emergency is

- prohibited. A coach who orders any team to cease play before an interscholastic event is completed unless agreed upon by both schools' administrations shall be suspended for the next comparable event.
- E. Schools hosting events shall require officials such as scorers, judges, announcers, etc. to exhibit fairness by accomplishing their responsibilities in a competent manner without exhibiting emotion or becoming argumentative while observing recommendations of the AAA and AOA.
- F. Any school representative, athlete, or participant ejected from an event for unsportsmanlike conduct shall automatically be suspended from attending the next comparable event.
- G. If a school representative, athlete, or participant is ejected twice during the same sport season or activity, that individual shall automatically be suspended from the next two comparable events.
- H. If a school representative, athlete, or participant is ejected three times during the same sport season or activity, the school shall be placed on probation unless the school representative or athlete is suspended for the remainder of the same sport season or activity, in which case the penalty may be reduced to a warning.
- A student, coach, or spectator who physically assaults an official shall be expelled from the activity immediately and banned from further participation or coaching in all sports for one year from the date of the offense.

Penalty for any of the above may include forfeiture.

- J. Any school representative who publicly criticizes an event official or an event official who makes public comments criticizing the performance of a school representative shall subject himself or herself and/or the school to a penalty issued by the Arkansas Activities Association that could include warning or probation. Public comments shall include quotes published in the press, as well as taped or live comments from radio, television or other media source.
- K. Each member school shall have a "zerotolerance" policy toward fans throwing items onto the playing field.

# Sportsmanship builds character regardless of the final outcome.



### **BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS**

### **ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- Applaud during introduction of players, coaches, and officials.
- Accept all decisions of the officials.
- Shake hands with other student-athletes and coaches after the contest regardless of the outcome.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- Search out opposing players to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applaud at end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Show concern for injured players regardless of team.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.
- During the National Anthem, students, participants, and fans should remove any hats, face the flag, not talk, and remain still until the end of the anthem.
- During the National Anthem follow the music and lyrics precisely when singing.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in positive school yells in a positive manner.

### UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

- Yelling or chanting at opponents.
- Making derogatory yells, chants, songs, or gestures. (ex: "air ball," "miss it,"
   "Hit the Road Jack")
- Booing or heckling officials or opposing team.
- Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- Refusing to shake hands or to recognize a good performance.
- Blaming losses on contest officials, coaches, or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Using profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the contest.
- Doing own yells instead of following lead of cheerleaders.
- Demeaning acts such as audible remarks, actions, or gestures (ex: turning backward during introductions, holding up newspapers, shaking car keys, comments after each player is introduced, etc.)

### STATE EVENT SPORTSMANSHIP RULES

The following sportsmanship rules will be in effect at all AAA state events:

<u>Face/Body Painting</u>. General face/body painting is not permitted. Partial face painting is permitted such as small markings on the cheeks.

<u>Posters/Banners/Signs</u>. All signs must show only positive support. Those which direct negative comments towards opponents or are unsportsmanlike or vulgar are not permitted. No handheld signs, banners, pennants, or poms are permitted at any AAA state play-off or championship event.

<u>Artificial Noisemakers</u>. Artificial noisemakers shall not be used at any indoor event. Artificial noisemakers are items such as, but not limited to, megaphones, air horns, bells, whistles, clickers, thunder sticks, explosive devices, tape/CD players, and radios.

**Balloons**. Balloons are not permitted at any AAA state play-off or championship event.

**Attire.** Bare chests are not permitted. Shirts must be worn.

<u>Inappropriate Behaviors</u>. Throwing objects onto the playing area before, during, or after a contest is not permitted. At no time before, during, or after a contest shall spectators be permitted to enter the playing field. Verbal harassment or derogatory remarks directed toward an opponent or official are not permitted. Spectators are not permitted to hold up newspapers while teams are being introduced or when teams, cheerleaders, or dance teams are performing.

**Instant Replays.** Instant replays of controversial calls are prohibited.

### Some of life's most important lessons are learned outside the classroom.

### THE PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCER — HEARD, BUT NOT SEEN

At many contests there are a number of behind-the-scenes elements which contribute to the atmosphere for the event. One of these elements is a person infrequently seen, but always heard — the public address announcer. Selecting an announcer is an important decision. The person selected should have some public speaking experience, knowledge of the event, the ability to follow instructions, and the wisdom to know when to speak, and more importantly, when not to speak. The public address announcer should never try to entertain from behind the microphone, and he should always remember that this is an educational event that is taking place in a classroom. The good public address announcer is an individual who sets the proper atmosphere for the event by doing advance preparation for the game, having the proper voice quality, knowing the game, knowing when to speak, and maintaining a professional approach to the game at all times. The unseen, but heard, voice is an important part of the administration and the enjoyment of interscholastic events.

### **GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING ANNOUNCERS**

**Voice quality**— Select a person with a voice that projects at a pitch where all can understand what is being said. This is generally someone with a low-pitched voice. A high-pitched voice is often harder to understand.

**Game knowledge** — A good public address announcer should know the game to be announced. This includes knowing officials' signals and the appropriate times to be on the microphone

**Emotionally neutral** — The public address announcer should handle all calls with equal vigor and delivery, even if the opponent just made the game-winning score.

**Follows directions** — A good public address announcer works from a script. He should deliver the announcements you want when you want them.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EVENT ANNOUNCERS**

- 1. Announcers shall not attempt to be bigger than the game or event by doing play-by -play or by providing commentary in an effort to draw attention to himself or herself.
- 2. Announcers shall understand that cheers and antics designed to incite the crowd for the purpose of gaining an advantage are inappropriate.
- 3. Announcers shall promote good sportsmanship by what they say and how they act.
- 4. Announcers shall treat the opponents and their fans as guests, not the enemy.
- Announcers shall respect the individuals who are responsible for the conduct and administration of athletic games and events, such as coaches, officials, and administrators, and avoid making any comments that reflect positively or negatively on them.
- 6. Announcers shall respect the participants of all teams and remain neutral when introducing the starting participants, announcing substitutions, and the outcome of plays or performances of the participants.
- 7. Announcers shall be competent. This means following approved announcing guidelines, expectations and policies, such as emergency procedures, provided by the administration or the host facility.
- 8. Announcers shall be prepared, such as being familiar with the correct pronunciations of the participants' names, knowing the rules of the sport, the officials' signals and how the game is played.
- 9. Announcers shall exhibit professional behavior and represent their school, organization or association with respect and dignity at all times by what they say, how they act, and how they appear.
- 10. Announcers shall avoid using alcohol and tobacco products at the venue.



### **Ejection-Free Certificates**

A worthwhile goal for every school athletic program is to conclude the season ejection-free. This is a matter of good sportsmanship and pride to the school administration and the individuals involved in that sports program. The Arkansas Activities Association believes this accomplishment should be encouraged and recognized. With the help of the member schools this can be done.

**What to do:** When any sports team concludes the season without any ejections being assessed to a coach, participant, school official, parent or other fan, the school submits the request form for an "Ejection-Free Certificate" for a specific sport. The request may be submitted by the coach but must also be signed by a school administrator (superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal or assistant principal) or by the athletic director.

Ejection-free programs requesting certificates will be recognized in the AAA Bulletin.

OR

Mail the request to:

Sportsmanship: Ejection-Free Arkansas Activities Association 3920 Richards Road North Little Rock, AR 72117 E-mail request to: annette@ahsaa.k12.ar.us

Best wishes for a productive school year and many ejection-free seasons!

### **Sample Certificate**



### **EJECTION-FREE CERTIFICATE REQUEST**

**What to do:** When any sports team concludes the season without any ejections being assessed to a coach, participant, school official, parent or other fan, the school submits this request form for an "Ejection-Free Certificate" for a specific sport. The request may be submitted by the coach but must also be signed by a school administrator (superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal or assistant principal) or by the athletic director.

Ejection-free programs requesting certificates will be recognized in the AAA Bulletin.

SCHOOL		
SPORT		 
CHECK ONE: □BOYS	□GIRLS	
Administrator's Signature		 Date

Mail to

Sportsmanship: Ejection-Free Arkansas Activities Association 3920 Richards Road North Little Rock, AR 72117

OR

E-mail request to: annette@ahsaa.k12.ar.us



## AAA SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD



The Arkansas Activities Association will present a sportsmanship award to one deserving school from each classification. This award, to be presented annually, recognizes exemplary behavior and efforts as they relate to the criteria stated in the AAA Sportsmanship Manual.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

- 1. Each school will rate the schools in their conference using the Conference Sportsmanship Rating Form.
- 2. Each school will submit to the AAA office on or before May 25 the Conference Sportsmanship Rating Form. Each school is to be rated using the behaviors outlined in the AAA Sportsmanship Manual. Each conference winner will receive a certificate.
- 3. The highest rated school from each conference will compete against other conference champions in their respective classification for the AAA Sportsmanship Award.
- 4. Each conference winner will be required to provide documentation of the school's sportsmanship program and how it has been implemented during the year.
- 5. A committee will review all recommendations and select one recipient from each classification. The recipient will be notified in July. The winning school will be presented a plaque and a banner.

### **SELECTION CRITERIA**

- 1. Must be a AAA member school.
- 2. Must not have experienced an ejection of a coach, player, or spectator from an interscholastic contest by an AOA-registered official for unsportsmanlike conduct during the school year.
- 3. The successful recipient must have demonstrated in one or more instances a special effort that reflects a true understanding of sportsmanship as it relates to interscholastic activities.

# Arkansas Activities Association 3920 Richards Rd.

North Little Rock, AR 72117 Telephone: 501-955-2500 Fax: 501-955-2600

# CONFERENCE SPORTSMANSHIP RATING FORM

ligh School	DO NOT RATE YOUR OWN SCHOOL. RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO THE AAA OFFICE.
Ī	RETURN COM
ated by	O NOT RATE YOUR OWN SCHOOL.
	Rated by High School

Rate each conference school (other than your own) by awarding 1-5 points in each area with 5 being the highest and 1 the lowest rating. Consideration for rating schools should be based on, but not limited to, the behaviors outlined in the AAA Sportsmanship Manual.

TOTAL						
Administrative Supervision						
Adult Spec- tators						
Support Groups						
Coaches/ Bench Per- sonnel						
Players						
Student Body						
Cheerleaders						
School						

### ACADEMIC STATE CHAMPIONS

The Academic State Championships recognize teams in football, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls soccer, boys and girls track, softball, baseball, volleyball, boys and girls tennis, boys and girls golf, boys and girls swimming, boys and girls bowling, wrestling, competitive cheer, and competitive dance who have achieved academically. It is based on each team member's cumulative grade point average for the most recent official grading period. The team with the highest grade point average in each sport will receive a banner to display in their school.

Academic State Champions will be determined by the following procedure:

- 1. List every student who participated at the <u>varsity</u> level by the reporting date in each sport. All students who participate in a varsity contest at any time during the season are considered varsity athletes. Only **full** teams in each sport will be considered for the award
- 2. List each student's cumulative GPA. Include the last full grading period in which credit was earned.
- 3. Round GPAs off to the nearest **thousandth** Example: 3.255
- 4. Complete and submit applications to the AAA before the deadline for each season.
- 5. Use a separate form for each sport. Do not combine girls and boys teams. The form must be signed by both the coach and principal.
- 6. In individual sports, a minimum of team members will be required to be eligible for the award.

Cross County	y5
Tennis	8
Golf	5
Track	18

### **DEADLINES**

Fall Sports — January 15 Winter Sports — April 1 Spring Sports — June 15



Failure to follow the above guidelines will automatically disqualify a team.

### ACADEMIC STATE CHAMPIONS APPLICATION

The Academic State Champions in each AAA-approved sport will be determined by the team's average GPA. To be considered for an academic state championship, the school must submit each team member's cumulative grade point average for the most recent official grading period. Team GPAs must be submitted on this form. The team with the highest grade point average in each sport will receive a banner to display in their school

SCHOOL		
CLASSIFICATION	CONFERENCE	
SPORT		

PLAYER'S NAM	ME GPA	_
	TE GPA	_
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A.	Total of GPA column	
В.	Number of players listed	
C.	$A \div B =$	Team's Average GPA





### SPORTSMANSHIP PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Sample Pre-Game Announcements:**

Good evening. (Name of school) welcomes you to (name of stadium/field/gymnasium) for tonight's game. We remind you that interscholastic events are an extension of the classroom, and that lessons are best learned when respect is shown to all. Please, let your good sportsmanship show during the game. And now let's meet the starting lineups...

Good evening. (Name of school) welcomes you to (name of stadium/field/gymnasium) for tonight's game. One of the goals of high school athletics is learning lifetime values. Sportsmanship is one such value that makes these games an educational experience. Remember, be a good sport! And now let's meet the starting lineups...

Good evening. (School name) welcomes you to today's game between (team names). The educational value of this event is more important than its outcome. Respect for others, including opponents and officials, is one of those values. So, please be a Good Sport today—the teams are counting on it! And now let's meet the starting lineups...

We are pleased to welcome you this evening to (name of school). Good sportsmanship is one of the primary purposes of the high school interscholastic athletic program. Our athletes recognize that judgment calls are made in good faith and that they must abide by the decisions of the officials. Spectators can support their high school interscholastic program by refraining from derogatory or intemperate remarks or cheers. We hope you will enjoy the game and support your athletes in a positive and sportsmanlike manner. And now let's meet the starting lineups...

This competition is being played according to the rules of the Arkansas Activities Association. These rules provide for fair competition among players. Spectators can help promote good sports-manship by observing the rules of fair play. Everyone is requested to take a personal responsibility for keeping this game at a high level of fair, clean, wholesome competition by exhibiting good sportsmanship.

Ladies and gentlemen, in the spirit of sportsmanship, (name of school) and the Arkansas Activities Association ask that all fans act responsibly and courteously to those around you. Vulgar, abusive, or demeaning language or disorderly conduct is unacceptable and unwelcome at (name of school). Let's afford the student-athletes, coaches, officials, and your fellow fans the respect they deserve. The throwing of objects on the playing area is strictly prohibited. (Name of school) stands for class and dignity and your help is appreciated in carrying on this great tradition.

### Sample announcements for use after lineups are introduced—introduce officials

The officials for tonight's game are (names of officials). These individuals are registered by the Arkansas Officials Association. Their experience qualifies them to administer the rules of the game. An attitude of good sportsmanship should be upheld by all spectators, players, and coaches, no matter what their personal feelings or loyalties may be in this contest.

### Sample announcement after the National Anthem

The team, coaches, cheerleaders, studen	t body, and fans of _	High School	extend to each of
you a big welcome! We are pleased that	you could be here (to	onight/today) as our g	guests.
High School and H	ligh School are mem	bers of the Arkansas	Activities Asso-
ciation and abide by the rules and regulati	ions as set forth by th	ne association to mai	ntain and im-
prove high standards of conduct, competit	tion, and relations wit	th member schools.	These are high
school athletes who are performing here (posing teams; they are not enemies. This idea of friendly competition. This attitude matter what their personal feelings of loya	s basically is the them of sportsmanship sho	ne of interscholastic a ould be reflected by a	activitiesthe all spectators, no
contest.			

### Sample In-game Announcements

Please remember that sportsmanship is a top priority of our school and the Arkansas Activities Association. Your admission to this event entitles you to enjoy the skills of our student-athletes in an educational setting. Please give all athletes your positive support and encouragement. Booing, taunting, or derogatory remarks directed towards opponents and/or officials is unsportsmanlike and unacceptable.

Admission to interscholastic events is a privilege, and with that privilege comes responsibility—responsibility to conduct oneself that keeps the game an enjoyable experience for everyone. (Name of school) reminds you to practice good sportsmanship at all times.

As members of the Arkansas Activities Association, we remind you that the educational objectives of our school, which include the development of good sportsmanship, are a top priority. Your support of the values of respect and good citizenship is appreciated.

Fans, did you know that good sportsmanship equals good performance? High school athletes know it. Fans in the stands applaud it. Respect for players, coaches, fans, and officials sends a message athletes carry with them on and off the field of competition. Let's support our team with good sportsmanship.

Win or lose, the name of the game is sportsmanship in high school athletics. "Good sports are winners no matter what the score" is the lesson learned on the playing field and in the stands. Support high school athletics with good sportsmanship.

Good sports are winners, no matter what the score. And good sportsmanship is everyone's responsibility. You keep the standards high and the game enjoyable for all by showing respect for players, coaches, and officials. (Name of school) thanks you for being good sports.

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