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YISD SPORTSMANSHIP AND UIL ACTIVITIES



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C.A.R.E.

- *The University Interscholastic League is dedicated to offering character-building, educational competition to member school students in Texas. In an attempt to give appropriate athletic competition to our student-athletes, it is imperative that we have a policy in place addressing the correct and incorrect way to conduct oneself as it pertains to UIL sanctioned events, whether it be in practice, competition or outside of the athletic arena.*
- *The theme of this manual and for implementing and maintaining proper sportsmanship will be CHARACTER, ATTITUDE, RESPONSIBILITY and ETHICS.*

CHARACTER

○ *The qualities a person possesses that shape the way they live their life and affects the manner in which other people view them is character. Someone who displays good character is honest with themselves and others, acts with a high level of integrity and treats others with respect even when they disagree with their views. A high level of character creates a positive image of you in the eyes of others as well as reflects favorably for your program.*

ATTITUDE

- *A positive attitude is essential when participating in athletics and other school sponsored activities. Attitude is the disposition that a person shows when reacting to situations whether they be positive or negative. People with a positive attitude are better able to interact with others and respond to adversity in a healthy manner.*

RESPONSIBILITY

- *Taking responsibility is one of the essential qualities of good sportsmanship. Being responsible is accepting one's actions and showing you are aware of how your decisions affect others. It is always very important that you conduct yourself with pride and take responsibility for yourself and your school.*

ETHICS

- *A person's ethics can be seen by the way they react when faced with situations that call their integrity and judgment into account. Displaying a high level of ethical behavior is essential when participating in UIL athletics. Whether you are a player, coach, fan, official or administrator it is your responsibility to always conduct yourself in an ethical manner that will help promote the goals of educational athletics.*

SPORTSMANSHIP

- *Sportsmanship concerns the ethics of athletic competition and standards of honor and fair play governing how athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators treat the rules and each other in the context of the game itself.*

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SPORTSMANSHIP ISSUES

- *Belligerent taunting and trash-talking*
- *Playing “dirty”*
- *Attempts to injure, fighting, and other improper use of violence*
- *Bullying, threatening, and improper intimidation*
- *Profanity, obscene gestures, arguing and disrespectful displays to officials, opponents, or spectators*
- *Running up the score*
- *Arguing with officials*
- *Bragging, boasting, and disrespectful celebrating*

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FUNDAMENTALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP

- *Learn Contest Rules*
- *Exercise Responsible Behavior at all Times*
- *Respect Opponents at all Times*
- *Recognize and Appreciate Skilled Performances Regardless of Affiliation*
- *Respect Officials*
- *Respect Teammates and Yourself*
- *Positively Interact with Fans*
- *Display Representative Behavior at Athletic Events*

OVERALL ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

- *Applaud all participants during team introductions, regardless of team affiliation.*
- *Show respect to officials and accept their judgments as part of the contest.*
- *Cheerleaders should lead fans in positive cheers that promote sportsmanship and fair competition.*
- *Participants should shake hands before and after each contest, regardless of outcome.*
- *Treat competition as a game, keeping the value of education paramount.*
- *Coaches /players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.*
- *Applause at the end of a contest for performances of all participants.*
- *Everyone show concern for an injured player, regardless of team affiliation.*

OVERALL UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR

- *Attempts to distract opponent during contests such as yelling or waving arms during opponent's free throw attempt, serve, etc.*
- *Antagonizing, disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs or gestures.*
- *Booing or heckling an official's decision.*
- *Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.*
- *Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances following a game.*
- *Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants.*
- *Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.*
- *Use of profanity or displays of anger*

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF THE COACH

- *Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership, adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards.*
- *Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.*
- *Do not ask an athlete to do anything that will put their integrity in question.*
- *Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.*
- *Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.*

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF THE COACH

- *Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.*
- *Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and in talking with the media.*
- *Develop a program that rewards participants and spectators for displaying proper sportsmanship and enforces penalties on those who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.*
- *Be no party to the use of profanity, obscene language or improper actions, which include the verbal or physical abuse of participants, coaches, officials or spectators.*

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

- *Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and community.*
- *Live up to standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.*
- *Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans and fellow students.*
- *Treat your opponents with respect and integrity.*

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

- *Respect the integrity and judgment of game Officials.*
- *Do not say, write or post any derogatory comments about opponents, teammates, coaches, officials or spectators.*
- *Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a courteous manner following the contest, no matter the outcome.*

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS

- *Always support your team and the efforts of all participants involved.*
- *Do not intimidate or ridicule a player, coach or official before, during or after a contest.*
- *Always praise athletes for their actions during a game; never degrade a participant for their efforts.*
- *Remember that a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.*
- *Learn the rules of the game so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.*

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT-ATHLETES

- *Always respect the integrity and judgment of officials.*
- *Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups.*
- *Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.*
- *Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.*
- *Refrain from the use of any controlled substance (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during and after the game on or near the site of the event.*
- *Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

○ TRUSTWORTHINESS

- *Trustworthiness – be worthy of trust in all you do.*
- *Integrity – live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship; do what's right even when it's unpopular or personally costly.*
- *Honesty – live and act honorable; don't allow your children to lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.*
- *Reliability – fulfill commitments; do what you say you will do; be on time; when you tell your children you will attend an event, be sure to do so.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

○ RESPECT

- *Respect – treat people with respect all the time and require the same of your children.*
- *Class – live and cheer with class; be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity; compliment extraordinary performance; and show respect for all competitors.*
- *Disrespectful Conduct – don't engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks of a sexual nature, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations, or other actions that demean individuals or the sport.*
- *Respect Officials – treat contest officials with respect; don't complain about or argue with official calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.*
- *Respect Coaches – treat coaches with respect at all times; recognize that they have team goals beyond those of your child. Don't shout instructions to players from the stands; let the coaches coach.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

○ RESPONSIBILITY

- *Importance of Education – stress that student-athletes are students first. Be honest with your children about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level. Place the academic, emotional, physical and moral well-being of your children above desires and pressures to win.*
- *Role-modeling – Consistently exhibit good character and conduct yourself as a role model for your children.*
- *Self-Control – exercise self-control; don't fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration; have the strength to overcome the temptation to demean others.*
- *Integrity of the game*
- *Protect the integrity of the game; don't gamble on your children's games.*
- *Privilege to Compete – assure that you and your child understand that participation in interscholastic sports is a privilege, not a right, and that they are expected to represent their team, school and family with honor, on and off the field.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **FAIRNESS**
- *Be Fair – treat all competitors fairly; be open-minded; always be willing to listen and learn.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **CARING**
- *Encouragement – encourage your children regardless of their play; offer positive reinforcement. Demonstrate sincere interest in your child’s play.*
- *Concern for Others – demonstrate concern for others; never encourage the injury of any player, officials or fellow spectator.*
- *Empathy – consider the needs and desires of your child’s teammates in addition to your own; help promote the team concept by encouraging all team members, understanding that the coach is responsible for determining playing time.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARENTS OF INTERSCHOLASTIC STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **CITIZENSHIP**
- *Lawfulness*
- *Common good*
- *Environment*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YISD/UIIL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **TRUSTWORTHINESS** - *Be worthy of trust in all I do.*
- *Integrity - Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor. Do what is right even when it is unpopular or personally costly.*
- *Honesty- Live and compete honorably. Never lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsmanlike conduct.*
- *Reliability - Fulfill commitments. Do what I say I will do. Be on time to practices and games.*
- *Loyalty - Be loyal to my school and team. Put the team above personal glory.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YISD/UIIL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **RESPECT** - *Treat all people with respect at all times, and require the same of other student-athletes.*
- *Class - Live and play with class. Be a good sport. Be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity.*
- *Disrespectful Conduct - Do not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations or other actions that demean individuals or sport.*
- *Respect Officials - Do not complain about or argue with official calls or decisions made during an athletic event.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YISD/UIIL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **RESPONSIBILITY** - *Importance of Education - Be a student first, and commit to getting the best education I can. Be honest with myself about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing on a professional level.*
- *Role Modeling - Consistently exhibit good character and conduct myself as a positive role model. Participation in sports is a privilege, not a right and that I am expected to represent my school, coach and teammates with honor both on and off the field.*
- *Self-Control - Do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration. Have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.*
- *Healthy Lifestyle - Safeguard my health. Do not use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.*
- *Integrity of the Game - Play the game according to the rules.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YISD/UIIL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **FAIRNESS** - *Adhere to high standards of fair play*
- *Treat teammates and opponents fairly*
- *Never take unfair advantage*
- *Be open-minded*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YISD/UIIL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **CARING** - *Concern for Others - Demonstrate concern for others. Never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to others or myself.*
- *Teammates - Help promote the well being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.*

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR YISD/UIIL STUDENT-ATHLETES

- **CITIZENSHIP** - *Play by the Rules - Maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.*
- *Spirit of Rules - Honor the spirit and the letter of the rules. Avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.*

ETHICS

- *There is an ethical dimension of sports beyond sportsmanship dealing with ethical obligations such as integrity, respect, responsibility, fairness and competence in the behavior of athletes, coaches, administrators, officials, parents, and others in and around sports*

ETHICAL ISSUES

- *Off-field misconduct*
- *Recruiting violations*
- *Inducements to coaches to influence athletes*
- *Violations of practice time*
- *Academic cheating*
- *Gambling*
- *Hazing*
- *Substance abuse*
- *Performance enhancing drugs*
- *Eating disorders*
- *Romantic relationships between coaches and athletes*

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ETHICAL ISSUES

- **BLOGGING** - *With the introduction of web sites like Twitter and Facebook, people are able to have constant interaction with each other through virtually 24-hour contact. You must be careful of the information that you choose to share on such web sites and through various messaging services like Yahoo! Messenger, AIM and MSN messenger. A wide audience can see the information that you post and choose to share and anything found on your pages and messages reflects upon yourself, your family and your athletic program.*

ETHICAL ISSUES

- **BLOGGING** - *As a representative of your school, it is always important to remember that your actions can and will affect others. Being a student-athlete is a big responsibility and people within the community look at you as a reflection of your program. Good sportsmanship extends well beyond the playing or practice field. You must be conscientious of what you say about your athletic program, school and others.*

ETHICAL ISSUES

- **BLOGGING** - *Under no circumstances is it okay to write or post anything on your page that could be interpreted as negative or derogatory towards a coach, teammate, official, opponent or any other individual.*
- *Many schools do not allow student-athletes to visit such sites on school premises. Student-athletes can help monitor blogging by being careful of what they choose to post or write on their personal messaging pages.*

WHAT PARENTS AND FANS CAN DO

- *Be involved in areas in which your own child is not involved , thus contributing to school unity and spirit.*
- *Show respect to the opponents of your children.*
- *Praise — don't criticize — all youngsters.*
- *Be attentive to the needs of students.*
- *Help your children and their friends develop integrity through the intensity of competitive activity.*
- *Remember — The classroom comes first!*

WHAT PARENTS AND FANS CAN DO

- *Help the school conduct fair and equitable competition: adhere to rules, uphold the law, and respect authority.*
- *Remember that officials are human and make mistakes, and respect their decisions.*
- *Delegate authority to the school, then back up the decisions made by the school.*
- *Set standards by which you expect children to conduct themselves, and live by those standards yourself.*
- *Be aware of capabilities and limitations of young people; don't have unrealistic expectations.*
- *Let your children live their own lives — not relive your life*