

POLICY

VERNON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Sportsmanship

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. 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.

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

1. Any person who strikes or physically abuses an official, coach, player or spectator;
2. Any person who intentionally incites participants or spectators to abusive action;
3. Any person who uses obscene gestures or unduly provocative language or action towards officials, coaches, opponents or spectators;
4. Any school or athletic staff member who is publicly critical of a game official or opposing coaches and/or players;
5. Any person who engages in conduct which exhibits bias based on race, color, creed, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, affectational or sexual orientation or sex, social or economic status, or disability; and



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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.
7. Other conduct judged by the Principal or Athletic Director to be unsportsmanlike in character.
8. Any violation of the rules of the New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association.

Failure to exhibit good sportsmanship may result in the Board denying the opportunity for any individual to participate in the athletic program or attend athletic events.

NJSIAA Guidelines

Adopted: 21 April 2005

