



Sportsmanship (Updated 2022)

WHEREAS the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association believes that activities programs are an integral part of the total educational mission.

WHEREAS there is an ongoing problem with conduct at events by student athletes and spectators exhibited by the increasing number of ejections and incidents of poor behavior.

WHEREAS the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association encourages its members to demonstrate leadership in promoting the development of behavior in young people that demonstrates high morality, integrity and ethics, and fair play.

WHEREAS the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association believes that maintaining a culture of sportsmanship, which includes fairness, a positive attitude, respect for and consideration of others, and handling winning or losing with grace, is vital to a wholesome athletic program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association strongly recommends that all schools take a proactive approach to promoting good sportsmanship by student athletes, coaches, and spectators by developing policies that include: the requirement of education on the topic of sportsmanship for all students and pregame and in-game announcements to educate fans on how to appropriately support the participants, coaches, and game officials.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association recommends the local development of guidelines that identify incidents of improper sportsmanship that may arise during a competition and encourages schools to incorporate those guidelines to ensure sportsmanship is consistently maintained across the athletic landscape.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Officials are critical to all athletic contests and that there is a growing shortage of available and interested officials due in part to improper fan behavior and poor sportsmanship from coaches and student athletes and it is the responsibility of each NIAAA member to ensure that all sport officials feel protected and supported prior to, during and following contests played at our schools.