

Removed Spectator Procedure

Adapted from Northern Valley Schools, Alamena KS, PIAA, and PHAC

The PHAC and PIAA spectator policies state:

1. All visiting teams will be treated as honored guests.
2. Cheer for your team and not against the opponent.
3. Inappropriate comments or cheers that harass opposing spectators, cheerleaders, players, coaches or officials will not be tolerated and will result in your removal from the event.
4. Spectators are not allowed on the playing surface during competition.
5. Air horns, sirens, whistles, personal listening devices without headphones are not permitted at outdoor athletic contests.
6. All noisemakers including those listed above are prohibited at indoor events.
7. Masks and full face paint are not permitted.
8. Respect will be shown to the contestants during introductions.
9. All spirit signs are to be displayed by the cheerleaders only after obtaining permission from the game manager.

As parents and spectators at our event, both home and away, please remember:

- You are at a contest to SUPPORT and CHEER for your team and to enjoy the skill and competition; not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- Interscholastic athletics are a learning experience for students and mistakes are sometimes made. Praise student-athletes in their attempt to improve themselves as students, as athletes, and as people as you would praise a student working in the classroom.
- A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- Learn the rules of the contest so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. Treat them as you would treat a guest in your own home.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of contest officials. Understand that they are doing their best to help promote the student-athlete, and admire their willingness to participate in full view of the public.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.
- Refrain from the use of any controlled substance (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc.) before and during contests, and afterwards on or near the site of the contest (i.e. tailgating).
- Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and compliment school and athletic administrators for their efforts in emphasizing the educational benefits of interscholastic athletics and the role of good sportsmanship to that end.
- Be a positive role model through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Sportsmanship, while important for the participants of a sporting activity, is also of the highest importance for the spectator as well. Accordingly, there should be no room for a spectator to repeatedly get removed from athletic contests by the officials or administration. The center of attention during an athletic event should be on the game and its participants, not a spectator that insists on making a scene because they disagree with an official's call or a coach's decision. It is the duty, first and foremost, of event security to maintain appropriate conduct of spectators, ensuring their behavior conforms to the above expectations. Inappropriate actions will be dealt with quickly and swiftly, with progressive enforcement up to and including ejection of

an unruly spectator. Additionally, spectators ejected by an official will be immediately removed from the premises by event security and law enforcement.

Accordingly, the following consequences will be issued for spectators (adult or student) that are removed from athletic contests:

First Offense - The removed spectator will be banned from attending the next competition in that sport, and will continue to be banned from all competitions involving LTHS teams until they present to the athletic director satisfactory completion of the NFHS Sportsmanship course.

Second Offense - The removed spectator will be banned from attending ANY LTHS athletic contests, for a period of 14 days (beginning with the date of removal). Should the season end before the 14-day period ends, the consequence will be carried over into the next sports season (i.e. Fall to Winter), with the count resuming on the day of the first scheduled athletic contest of that season.

Third Offense - The removed spectator will be banned from attending ANY LTHS athletic contests, for a period of 45 days (beginning with the date of removal). Should the season end before the 45-day period ends, the consequence will be carried over into the next sports season (i.e. Fall to Winter), with the count resuming on the day of the first scheduled athletic contest of that season.

Fourth and Subsequent Offenses - The removed spectator will be banned from attending ANY LTHS athletic contests for a period of one calendar year (beginning with the date of removal).

Exceptions will not be made for special events (i.e. Senior Night). Attempts to enter a contest from which the spectator is banned will be viewed as trespassing, and law enforcement will be called should the banned spectator refuse to leave the premises. The banned spectator will also be immediately subjected to the next punishment in the sequence (i.e. should a spectator that is banned for 14 days attempt to enter an athletic contest during that 14-day period, that spectator will now be banned for 45 days, starting from the date of the second infraction).