

## **SPORTSMANSHIP: "THE ONLY MISSING PIECE IS YOU"**

### **ACCEPTABLE VS. UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR....**

#### **ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR...**

- Applause during introduction of players, coaches, and Contest officials.
- Players shaking hands with opponents who foul out while both sets of fans recognize player's performance with applause.
- Accept all decisions of Contest officials.
- Cheerleaders lead fans in cheers in a positive manner.
- Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of Contest, regardless of outcome.
- Treat competition as a Contest, not a war.
- Coaches/players search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
- Applause at the end of a Contest for performances by all participants.
- Everyone showing concern for an injured player, regardless of Team.
- Encouraging surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.

#### **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- Yelling, waving arms, or objects during an opponent's free throw attempt.
- Disrespectful or derogatory cheers, chants, songs, or gestures.
- Criticizing Contest officials in any way.
- Cheers that antagonize an opponent.
- Refusing to shake hands or give recognition of good performances.
- Blaming a loss on Contest officials, coaches, or participants.
- Laughing or name-calling to distract an opponent.
- Use of profanity or displays of anger.
- Doing own cheers instead of following the lead of cheerleaders.
- Wearing extreme or unusual clothing or excessive body paint that detracts from the Contest

### **TOP TEN REASONS TO BE A DESIGNATED GOOD SPORT**

10. Because taunting, trash talk and intimidating behavior have no place in high school sports – or any level of sports.
9. Your admission is to watch the performance of highly impressionable 15 to 18 year old kids – not a license to abuse coaches, officials, players and other spectators.
8. You want others to treat you the way you want to be treated - and how many of us want to be treated with disrespect?
7. We need more positive role models for our kids.
6. People don't always remember the final score – but they always remember the fan in Section Three who made a fool out of him or herself.
5. Because coaches and officials are also teachers. Why would you harass them in their classroom?
4. A national survey indicates kids play high school sports to have fun – not to be number one!
3. It's how you play the game that counts.
2. It's simply the right thing to do.
1. Because sportsmanship begins with you!