

SECTION II



Citizenship/Sportsmanship RULE 52



*Each member school has been provided copies of the
Citizenship / Sportsmanship Manual.*

INTRODUCTION—The effective American secondary school must support both an academic program and an activities program. We believe that these programs must do more than merely coexist—they must be integrated and support each other in “different” arenas. The concept of “sportsmanship” must be taught, modeled, expected and reinforced in the classroom and in all competitive activities. Therefore, all Kansas State High School Activities Association members stand together in support of the following sportsmanship policy.

PHILOSOPHY—Activities are an important aspect of the total education process in the American schools. They provide an arena for participants to grow, to excel, to understand and to value the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP and teamwork. They are an opportunity for coaches and school staff to teach and model SPORTSMANSHIP, to build school pride, and to increase student/community involvement; this ultimately translates into improved academic performance. Activities are also an opportunity for the community to demonstrate its support for the participants and the school, and to model the concepts of SPORTSMANSHIP for our youth as respected representatives of society. Sportsmanship is good citizenship in action!

***All ACTIONS are to be FOR, NOT AGAINST;
POSITIVE, NOT NEGATIVE or DISRESPECTFUL!***

Section 1 - General Regulations (apply to grades 7-12)

Art. 1: SPORTSMANSHIP is a general way of thinking and behaving. The following sportsmanship policy items are listed below for clarification:

- a. Be courteous to all (participants, coaches, officials, staff and fans).
- b. Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions.
- c. Win with character and lose with dignity.
- d. Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- e. Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school.
- f. Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities.

Art. 2: Enforcement Procedure:

- a. It is encouraged and recommended by the Kansas State High School Activities Association that local boards of education adopt these regulations and reinforce them as indicated herein.
- b. The Executive Board of the Kansas State High School Activities Association shall be responsible for the interpretation of these regulations, including “desirable and unacceptable behavior” and shall publish them in the Association’s Citizenship/Sportsmanship Manual.

Rule 52 Interpretations

*The following interpretations and policies were adopted by the KSHSAA Executive Board on November 17, 1988, in regard to **Citizenship / Sportsmanship Rule 52**. These are meant to clarify and assist member schools in their enforcement of this regulation. (revised April 11, 2008)*

Desirable and unacceptable behavior illustrations are “examples” and are not to be considered all inclusive. These examples can occur prior to, during, and after the game or contest.

In regard to 52-1-1a - Be courteous to all (participants, cheerleaders, coaches, officials, staff and fans): -

Desirable Behavior – Host cheerleading squads welcome visiting squads; **respect shown during National Anthem (hats removed, no talking, never change lyrics or yell mascot at the end)**; opposing coaches and contestants shaking hands before/after contest; applause during introduction of contestants, coaches and officials; contestants shaking hand of opponent fouling out while both sets of fans recognize contestant’s performance with applause; all showing concern for injured contestant; respectfully addressing officials during competition and thanking them for their performance regardless of agreement with all calls; helping opponents up during a game, host school extending hospitality to visiting contestants, coaches, cheerleaders and fans; any supportive chants and cheers which are directed toward your team.

Unacceptable Behavior – Any **non-supportive** chants, cheers, or actions which are directed toward the opposing team; chants or actions **which single out individuals**; fans or cheerleaders reading newspapers, turning their backs, making disrespectful actions, etc. during introduction of opponents **or shooting of free throws**; yelling, waving, etc., during opponent's free throws; derogatory/disrespectful yells, chants, songs, gestures, including “goodbye,” “you let the whole team down,” “air ball,” “you, you, you,” “scoreboard,” “warm up the bus,” “this is our house” at a visitor event, “bong-bong-bong-whooo” **while opposing team has ball**, and other such expressions.

In regard to 52-1-lb - Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions:

Desirable Behavior - Utilize every opportunity to promote understanding of the rules of the contest within the school and community; contestants utilize the team captain or coach for clarification of the call **to maintain positive rapport with officials**; accept the decisions of the officials; **hand ball to officials**; cheerleaders lead fans in positive school yells in a positive manner; **cheerleaders lead by coordinating signals and timing of cheers with student body section leaders**; cooperate with the news media in interpretation and clarification of the rules.

Unacceptable Behavior - Booming or heckling an official's decision; criticizing the merits of officiating; displays of temper and arguing with an official's call; derogatory remarks toward the official, **coach constantly questioning calls**.

In regard to 52-1-lc - Win with character and lose with dignity:

Desirable Behavior - Handshakes between opposing contestants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome; opposing contestants, coaches and fans engaging in friendly conversations before and following contest; treating competition as a contest, not a war; applause at end of contest for performance of all contestants.

Unacceptable Behavior - Chants or actions which **single out individuals**; yells that antagonize opponents when you feel you have won the contest; refusing to shake hands or give recognition to winner for good performance; blaming loss on officials, coaching, individual contestant's performance, or other rationalizations; **rushing the field/floor** or victory celebration on the playing surface/field.

In regard to 52-1-ld - Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team:

Desirable Behavior - Coach/contestants search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching; all fans recognize an outstanding participant's performance by applause, regardless of its impact on the contest; discuss outstanding performance of opponent with visiting and home fans.

Unacceptable Behavior - Laughing, pointing finger, name calling, **yelling player name or number**, etc., directed at opponents in an attempt to distract; to degrade an excellent performance by opponents.

In regard to 52-1-le - Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school:

Desirable Behavior - Support the activity by learning yells of cheerleaders and displaying total unity as fans in following their lead; **cheerleaders leading by coordinating signals and timing of cheers with student body section leaders to redirect crowd from a controversial call**.

Unacceptable Behavior - Displays of anger, boasting, use of profanity, bouncing beach balls, antics which draw attention to you instead of the contest; doing own yells instead of following lead of the cheerleaders; doing unsportsmanlike yells/gestures, such as “you, you, you!” while pointing finger at fouling opponent; **singling out individuals**.

In regard to 52-1-lf - Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities:

Desirable Behavior - Positively encourage those around you to display only sportsmanlike conduct; report poor sportsmanship to school officials; member schools insist that sportsmanship be a priority; administrators help coaches teach, model and reinforce sportsmanship; recognize coaches for sportsmanlike conduct; coaches playing those who exhibit positive sportsmanship; administrators taking appropriate action to ensure sportsmanlike behavior.

Unacceptable Behavior - Fans', **cheerleaders'**, contestants', coaches', administrators', or member schools' unwillingness to get involved and take a stand to defend one of the main tenets of school activities-teaching and promotion of SPORTSMANSHIP.

Rule 52 Violations

Violations of the Code of Ethics, KSHSAA Rules and Regulations or Citizenship/Sportsmanship Rule 52 by member schools and/or individuals shall be subject to consideration by the KSHSAA.

- Action may result in the form of a reprimand, probation or suspension of the school and/or individual depending upon the degree of the violation.
- If a member school is not willing to impose disciplinary measures acceptable to the KSHSAA, a hearing (informal or formal) will be held and restrictions imposed by the KSHSAA.
- School/coaches are encouraged to use Form S from the on-line entry forms to call attention to unusual situations, positive or negative, immediately following the contest. These forms are to be submitted to the KSHSAA.
- If a problem is severe, then the KSHSAA should be notified by telephone or E-Mail: (kshsaa@kshsaa.org) so the situation can be followed up immediately.

Good Sportsmanship Requires

Advance planning; communication as to expectations; consistent and constant monitoring; and the willingness to address inappropriate, unacceptable conduct.