

# **Fundamentals of Sportsmanship**

**SPORTSMANSHIP reveals CHARACTER  
regardless of the final outcome.**

## **Gain an Understanding and Appreciation for the Rules of the Contest**

Being well informed is essential. Know the rules. If you are not knowledgeable about the rules, refrain from expressing opinions on decisions made by officials, coaches, and administrators.

## **Exercise Representative Behavior at All Times**

The true value of interscholastic competition relies upon everyone exhibiting behavior, which is representative of a sound value base. Your behavior influences others whether you are aware of it or not.

## **Exhibit Respect for the Officials**

The officials of any contest are trained, impartial arbitrators who perform to the best of their ability. Mistakes by all those involved are a part of every contest. We should not rationalize our own poor or unsuccessful behavior by placing responsibility on an official. A rule of good sportsmanship is to accept and abide by the decision made.

## **Openly Display Respect for the Opponent at All Times**

Opponents are guests and should be treated cordially, provided with the best accommodations, and accorded tolerance at all times. Be a positive representative of your school, team, or family.

## **Display Pride in Your Actions at Every Opportunity**

Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgment and your responsibility as a school representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, player, coach, or official this value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.