



SPORTSMANSHIP SPOTLIGHT

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The IESA Sportsmanship Spotlight recognizes member schools for their contributions to molding our students through involvement in IESA activities and teaching them the many facets of sportsmanship. Our intent is to also provide schools with reminders and tips in regards to sportsmanship for all activities.

Good Sport Reports

IESA Good Sport reports enable us to recognize and promote good sportsmanship that's happening around the state in regards to IESA activities. Email leslie@iesa.org to let us know what you're seeing! Full reports can be found at this link: www.iesa.org/sportsmanship/reports.asp

Peru Parkside - Baseball

Mackinaw Dee-Mack - Baseball

Chicago Heights Washington - Basketball

NFHS #MyReasonWhy

You know the value of education-based athletics and activities - each day, you see students demonstrate leadership, dedication and respect in the classroom and on the field of play. The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) began their #MyReasonWhy campaign last year to bring awareness to why students get involved in interscholastic activities. This year, the NFHS is asking middle school students to share why they get involved and IESA wants to hear from you!

Email leslie@iesa.org to share your students' reasons and we will compile these responses to send out to all member schools. This can be a tool for our schools to use to promote IESA activities in the future - written and video statements are welcome!

Schools can also download a toolkit and order FREE posters to hang at your school. This would be a great introduction to pre-season meetings with parents to focus on why your school offers interscholastic activities and to hear from students directly. Click on the icon below to check out students' stories from across the Nation, order materials and see the #MyReasonWhy website.



Basketball Sportsmanship Reminders

- Administrators and coaches need to be proactive in setting the precedent for what is acceptable behavior - does your school announce expectations at the start of your home contests?
- Respect and acknowledge the integrity and judgment of the contest officials
- Remind those involved and attending that profanity doesn't have a place in middle school activities
- Adults should be modeling for student what is appropriate.
- It is acceptable to respectfully ask an official for clarification about a call but arguing with an official or using sarcasm demonstrates negative sportsmanship.
- A coach's behavior can very easily influence the behavior and attitude of the fans toward the officials.

Home Contest Management Tips

Each school should have an emergency action plan in place to deal with any unusual circumstances. Also, the home team's administration shall designate a game manager on site prior to the start of each contest.

The Game Manager should....

- Be knowledgeable of the emergency action plan
- Make officials aware of his/her primary location for the entire contest
- Provide proper security at each event
- Assume responsibility for crowd control such as ensuring that only authorized personnel are allowed in the team bench areas and locker rooms
- Make sure all fans remain in the stands
- Escort unruly or disruptive fans from the facility
- Provide a safe and secure area for officials to change
- Ensure that officials are safely escorted from the playing field/court and to their vehicles after each contest
- Meet with the student section leader prior to games to set expectations and describe positive cheers