

**VERMILION LOCAL SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

SPORTSMANSHIP GUIDELINES

SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS FOR SPECTATORS/PARENTS:

EACH SPECTATOR/PARENT is expected to:

- A. Remember that he/she is at a contest to support and yell for the team and to enjoy the skill and competition, not to intimidate or ridicule the other team and its fans.
- B. remember that participation in school athletics is intended to provide learning experiences for students and that 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.
- C. Remember that a ticket to a school athletic event is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and generally obnoxious.
- D. Learn the rules of the game, so that he/she may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- E. Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. Treat them as one would treat a guest in his/her own home.
- F. Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to the opponents during the game especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- G. Respect the integrity and judgment of game 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.
- H. Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play(s) by either team.
- I. Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before and during the games, and afterwards on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating).
- J. Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- K. Recognize and compliment the efforts of school and league administrators in emphasizing the benefits of educational athletics and the role of good sportsmanship to that end.
- L. Be a positive behavior role model through his/her own actions and by censuring those close by whose behavior is unbecoming.

Any form of unacceptable behavior by any student is subject to discipline, which may include removal from the event, suspension of participation in all athletic events for a season or school year, suspension from school, and/or referral to the police. Unacceptable behavior by non-student spectators may result in removal from the event, denial of admission to school athletic events for a season or school year, or referral to local authorities.

SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT ATHLETES:

EACH STUDENT ATHLETE is expected to:

- A. Accept and understand the seriousness of his/her responsibility, and the privilege of representing the school, district and community.
- B. Live up to the standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- C. Learn the rules of the game thoroughly and discuss them with parents, fans, fellow students, and elementary students. This will assist the student and others to achieve a better understanding and appreciation of the game.
- D. Treat opponents the way the student would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than the participating athlete can understand all the hard work and team effort that is required of the sport?
- E. Refrain from taunting, trash talking, and making any kind of derogatory remarks to opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- F. Refrain from intimidating behavior
- G. Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- H. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. The officials are doing their best to help promote athletes and the sport. Treating them with respect, even if the athlete disagrees with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of the athlete and the team in the eyes of the officials and all the people at the event.
- I. Win the humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity. Avoid excessive celebrating after a play or end of a game.

Any form of unacceptable behavior by an student is subject to discipline, which may include removal from the event, suspension of participation in all athletic events for a season or school year, suspension from school, and/or referral to the local authorities.

SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS FOR CHEERLEADERS

EACH CHEERLEADER is expected to:

- A. Understand the seriousness and responsibility of his/her role, and the privilege of representing the school, district and community.
- B. Treat opposing cheerleaders the way the student would like to be treated, as a guest or friend. Who better than the cheerleader can understand all the training and team effort that goes into a cheerleading squad?
- C. Wish opposing cheerleaders good luck before the game and congratulate them in a sincere manner following either victory or defeat.
- D. Establish standards of desirable behavior for the squad and attempt, in a cheerful manner, to transfer that to the school's spectators.
- E. Select positive cheers which praise the school's team without antagonizing the opponents.
- F. Encourage a positive crowd alternative when booing or an inappropriate chant begins by starting a popular cheer.
- G. Use discretion in selecting the times to cheer. Give the opposing school the same amount of time the schools squad would want in performing cheers, and treat opposing players like the school's team is treated.
- H. Give encouragement to injured players and recognition to outstanding performances for both teams.
- I. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if the cheerleader disagrees with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of the team, the squad, and community in the eyes of the officials and all at the event.

Any form of unacceptable behavior by any student is subject to discipline, which may include removal from the event, suspension of participation in all athletic events for a season or school year, suspension from school, and/or referral to the local authorities.

SPORTSMANSHIP EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT GROUPS

MEMBERS OF OTHER STUDENT GROUPS (PEP CLUB, BAND, ETC.) are expected to:

- A. Establish themselves as leaders in conduct before, during and after contests and events. Always provide positive support for the school's team, rather than intimidating or ridiculing the other team.
- B. Assist cheerleaders with yells, chants, etc., and be a working part of pep assemblies, with preparation, organization and involvement.
- C. Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups with respect and enthusiasm.
- D. Refrain from taunting or making any kind of derogatory remarks to opponents during the game, especially comments of ethnic, racial or sexual nature.
- E. Conduct themselves in any exemplary manner, remembering they represent the school both home and away.
- F. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials. Treating them with respect, even if disagreeing with their judgment, will only make a positive impression of the group, the team, and community in the eyes of all people at the event.
- G. Be exemplary role models by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.

Any form of unacceptable behavior by any student is subject to discipline, which may include removal from the event, suspension of participation in all athletic events for a season or school year, suspension from school, and/or referral to the local authorities.