

Buford City Schools Sportsmanship Plan for Athletics

The school system of Buford City Schools believes that sports programs serve educational purposes in the lives of the students. One of these purposes is the development of good sportsmanship. The primary focus of the challenge of achieving good sportsmanship is on the student-athlete, but others are involved.

Administrators and coaches shall practice good sportsmanship. Student-athletes will be taught good sportsmanship and be held accountable for their actions. Spectators will be reminded and encouraged to be appropriate role models for young people. The Buford City Schools will support staff and administrators who enforce sportsmanship rules at athletic and other competitive events, including evicting students or adults who violate school system policy.

Expectations

Individuals who are involved in athletic activities that represent Buford City Schools should make every effort to meet the following expectations:

School Administration

- ✓ Provide appropriate supervisory personnel for athletic events
- ✓ Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches, and fans
- ✓ Show commitment to students and school activities by regular attendance at school events
- ✓ Apply sportsmanship policies and rule equitably
- ✓ Be prepared to address fan and participant behavior at both home and away events

Coaches

- ✓ Accept decisions of officials
- ✓ Avoid offensive gestures and language
- ✓ Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- ✓ Avoid public criticism of game officials
- ✓ Lead by example, respect the rules, the officials, and opponents and teach my student-athletes to do the same

Student-Athletes

- ✓ Show respect at all times for coaches, opponents, and game officials
- ✓ Accept the decisions of contest officials
- ✓ Avoid offensive gestures or language
- ✓ Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- ✓ Show respect for public property and equipment
- ✓ Remember that as a participant for Buford that you represent the school

Spectators

- ✓ Avoid criticism and harassment of game officials and coaches
- ✓ Appreciate good performances by opposing players and teams
- ✓ Respect and show appreciation for coaches
- ✓ Stay off the playing area
- ✓ Show respect for public property and equipment
- ✓ Take part in cheers with the cheerleaders
- ✓ Work cooperatively with school officials and supervisors in keeping order

Cheerleaders and Band

- ✓ Know the contest rules and perform at the proper times
- ✓ Encourage support for any injured player
- ✓ Show respect for opposing players and cheerleaders, game officials, and spectators
- ✓ Lead positive cheers and praise for your team
- ✓ Show respect for public property and equipment

Appropriate Behaviors

- ✓ Applause during introduction of athletes, coaches, game officials
- ✓ Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest
- ✓ Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants
- ✓ Everyone showing concern for an injured athlete
- ✓ Showing respect for another school's logos, banners, Alma Mater, etc.
- ✓ Spirit leaders leading fans in positive manner

Unacceptable Behaviors

- ✓ Using disrespectful, taunting, or derogatory yells, chants, songs, or gestures or any cheers that gloat in victory
- ✓ Singling out individuals on an opposing team for derogatory or insensitive treatment
- ✓ Doing own yells instead of following lead of cheerleaders
- ✓ Using hand-held signs containing derogatory language or pictures
- ✓ Throwing of any objects onto or near the field of play
- ✓ Displays of temper with an official's call
- ✓ Using yells to antagonize opponents
- ✓ Refusing to shake hands or to give recognition for good performance
- ✓ Unauthorized visiting of other school's rooting section
- ✓ Using profanity or displays of anger that draws attention away from the game

Promotion of Sportsmanship

1. Sportsmanship Plan presented to every student-athlete at a pre-season team meeting by the head coach.
2. Pre-season Parents Meeting in each sport where the Sportsmanship Plan is explained and expectations are listed
3. Game programs will contain language reminding all involved with the event to practice good sportsmanship
4. Sportsmanship Plan explained and expectations listed at boosters club meetings
5. Codes of Conduct signed by players and parents
6. Pre-game messages by PA announcer promoting good sportsmanship
7. Sportsmanship plaques may be presented to a deserving student-athlete at each sports awards program.
8. Instances of failure to meet expectations will result in disciplinary action and failure to correct negative behavior could result in possible suspension from athletic events