

Sportsmanship

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Defined as:

“Playing by the established rules of a contest; competing and accepting the result without complaining, gloating or taunting; and cheering in only an enthusiastic and supportive manner that does not disrespect, taunt, distract, ridicule, or attempt to intimidate an opponent, its fans, or game officials.” “Sportsmanship reveals character regardless of the final-outcome.” WIAA (WI)

Elements of strong Sportsmanship

- **Know the rules of the game** / Gain an understanding and appreciation for the rules of the contest
- **Exercise “representative” behavior at all times** / Recognize good play by both teams. Display pride in your actions at every opportunity; be respectful
- **Respect your opponent and its spectators** / Opponents are guests. Be a positive representative of your school, team, or family
- **Exhibit respect for the officials** / Accept and abide by the decision made. Realize that “bad plays lose more games than bad calls”
 - WIAA (WA): “Referee abuse is unacceptable by anyone, anywhere, at any time”!
- **View the game with “your head instead of your heart”** / Regardless of whether you are an adult, student, parent, player, coach or official, this element is paramount, since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you

Middle School Sports constructs, BSD. We strive to provide an environment that is:

- **Fun**
- **Safe**
- **Inclusive**
- **Focused on Skill Development/Differentiated**
- **A Team Experience**