

Department of Education · City of New York
THE LEON M. GOLDSTEIN HIGH SCHOOL FOR THE SCIENCES
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“Academic Excellence in a Caring Community”

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Sportsmanship Policy

Everyone involved in sports seem to talk about sportsmanship and how important it is in youth sports. But what is Sportsmanship? Webster’s Dictionary describes *sportsmanship* as *the qualities and behaviors of athletes who treat their opponents with fairness and who can take a defeat without complaining and take a victory without gloating*. We must remember that everyone has different backgrounds and experience in sports. You may have played the particular sport for a couple years but you probably have teammates who are new to the sport. In order for your team to be successful, you must encourage these newer or less skilled athletes so they can improve themselves and help the team. Making fun of them or giving them a hard time when they make mistakes is poor sportsmanship. Good teams are teams where everyone works together to help each other. Cooperation within a team is very important.

Expectations of Parents, Students and Other Fans or Audience Members

- Realize that a ticket is a privilege to observe a contest and support high school activities, not a license to verbally assault others or to be generally obnoxious.
- Respect decisions made by contest officials.
- Refrain from making negative comments toward participants, coaches, officials, or judges.
- Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach.
- Respect fans, coaches, directors, and participants.
- Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.
- Maintain enthusiasm and composure, serving as a role model.
- Encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.
- Recognize outstanding performances on either side of the playing field or court.
- Show concern for injured player, regardless of team.
- Applause at end of contest for performances of all participants.
- Treat competition as a game, not a war.
- BE A FAN ... NOT A FANATIC.

I have read and understand the above information. Unsportsmanlike conduct will be dealt with appropriately based on the level of severity of the conduct.

Student/Athlete’s Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Athletic Director’s Signature _____