

## **GUIDELINES FOR SPECTATORS (PARENTS)**

- ☞ Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of being a parent of a student-athlete who is representing the school and community.
- ☞ Remember that school athletics are 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.
- ☞ A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others and be generally obnoxious.
- ☞ Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
- ☞ Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators, and support groups. Treat them as you would a guest in your own home.
- ☞ 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.
- ☞ Recognize and show appreciation for outstanding plays by either team.
- ☞ Refrain from the use of any controlled substances (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, and during games, and afterwards on or near the site of the event.
- ☞ Use only those cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- ☞ Communicate openly with your son/daughter about being a good sport.
- ☞ Be a role model. You must set an example for the students/athletes.

## **EXAMPLES OF UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

- ☞ Yelling or waving arms during opponent's free throw attempt, serve, etc.
- ☞ Disrespectful or derogatory yells, chants, songs, or gestures.
- ☞ Booing or heckling an official's decision.
- ☞ Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
- ☞ Yells that antagonize opponents.
- ☞ Refusing to give recognition for good performances.
- ☞ Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches, or participants.
- ☞ Name-calling in any form (officials, coaches, participants).
- ☞ Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
- ☞ Doing your own yells instead of following the lead of the cheerleaders.