

Guidelines for Good Sportsmanship

Our goal for Gunter ISD athletics is to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all athletes and spectators. We ask that the parents remember the following:

Good sportsmanship is expected from everyone. The coaches and players are expected to, and are held accountable for, representing our school with dignity and class. We expect the same high standards of behavior from the parents.

Coaches are to be treated with the same respect as any other professional. Coaches put in many hours for very little financial compensation -- they do it because they are committed educators who enjoy the students and the sport. Their decisions during the games are based on their knowledge of the game, student ability, student conduct at practice, and strategy. The coach's main goal for any sporting event is to be successful. They will choose the best player for the situation at hand.

Behavior during an event:

The school and athletic department reserve the right **to remove or refuse admission** to persons who exhibit any of the following behaviors:

- Repeated berating, humiliating or taunting of our coaches or players;
- Repeated berating, humiliating or taunting of our opponent's coaches, players or spectators;
- Repeated berating and harassment of game officials;
- Racist, sexist, or profane remarks directed at any coach, player, spectator or official.

If you have any concerns about your child's coach or your child's athletic participation on a team, we ask that you use this procedure and follow the listed steps (IN ORDER) so that the issue may be discussed and resolved in a mature matter.

1. **Have your child speak to the coach.** Sometimes the coach is unaware of your child's concern or feelings. It is important that we work with our students in teaching them how to effectively communicate with adults and advocate for themselves.
2. **Arrange an appointment to speak with your child's coach.** Our coaches will respond to you as quickly as possible.
3. **Arrange an appointment with, call, or write to the athletic directors.** The athletic directors will investigate the situation promptly.
4. If you followed the above 3 steps and still feel the issue has not been adequately addressed or explained, **arrange an appointment to meet with the Principal.**

Anonymous letters, e-mails, and/or phone calls will not be acknowledged.