



Williamson County Schools Interscholastic Athletics Code of Ethics

Williamson County Schools would like to emphasize to all of those involved in athletic events (players, coaches, school administrators, parents and other spectators) the importance of your leadership role in sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity. The professional manner in which you conduct yourself prior to, during and following an event impacts the behavior of everyone involved.

The Williamson County Schools have established guidelines for sportsmanship and Code of Ethics for all to follow. Please read these carefully so we can enjoy the athletic events to the fullest and set a good example for others.

Sportsmanship

Good sportsmanship is viewed by the National Federation of State High School Associations as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others:

- Fair Play: accept a loss without complaining and a win with humility
- Treat others as you wish to be treated
- Respect others
- Recognize and appreciate good play from both teams
- Displaying good characteristic traits
- Be an excellent role model

Players Code of Ethics

- I will encourage good sportsmanship from my teammates through my actions.
- I will do my very best to listen and learn from my coaches.
- I will treat everyone with respect and expect to be treated accordingly.
- I will do my best in all of my classes and set a good example for other students to follow.
- I will follow school policies and the team requirements.
- I will play by the rules and in the spirit of the game.
- I will remember that coaches and officials are there to help me. I will respect and abide by their decisions.

Coaches Code of Ethics

- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of the players ahead of any personal desire to win.
- I will do my best to provide a safe playing environment for the players.
- I will lead by example in demonstrating fair play and sportsmanship to all.
- I will remember that the athletes need a coach they can respect and give praise when appropriate.
- I will obtain proper training and continue to upgrade my coaching skills.



Parent's Code of Ethics

- I will encourage good sportsmanship by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials at every game and practice.
- I will place the emotional and physical well-being of my child ahead of a personal desire to win.
- I will support coaches and officials working with my child to promote a positive and enjoyable experience.
- I will do my best to make participating in athletics fun for my child.
- I will encourage my child to show respect and display excellent sportsmanship traits to all.
- I will remember that the game is for the athletes and not the adults.

Parents' Role in Interscholastic Athletics (from the OSSAA):

Communicating With Your Children

- Make sure your children know that you appreciate their efforts regardless of the score. Be the one in the stands they can look to for positive reinforcement.
- Be honest of your child's athletic ability, competitive attitude and sportsmanship.
- Do not relive you athletic life through your child in a way that creates pressure. Athletic children need their parents. If the child is comfortable with you regardless of the outcome of the game, then they will enjoy participating in athletics.
- Do not compare the skill, courage or attitude of your child with other players on the team.
- Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition and working to improve their skills and attitudes.

Communicating with the Coach: Information You Should Expect from Your Child's Coach

- Expectations the coach has for all of the players.
- Schedules for practices and games
- Team requirements.
- Discipline procedures which affect your child's participation

Communication Coaches Should Expect From Parents

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
- Illnesses and/or injuries of your child

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches

- The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- Areas and ways to help your child improve.
- Concerns about your child's behavior



Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss With Coaches

- Playing time
- Team Strategy
- Other players on the team

Displaying good sportsmanship will help everyone enjoy athletic events and appreciate all of the hard work these young men and women put forth. The Codes of Ethics should be followed by all parties. By adhering to these guidelines the athletic teams in the Williamson County Schools will represent our schools with class and dignity and will earn the respect of their opponents and their fans.