

10 Things Kids Say They Don't Want Their Parents To Do...

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1. Don't yell out instructions. During the game I'm trying to concentrate on what the coach says and working on what I've been practicing. It's easier for me to do my best if you save instructions and reminders for practice or just before the game.
2. Don't put down the officials. This embarrasses me and I sometimes wonder whether the official is going to be tougher on me because of my parents yell.
3. Don't yell at me in public. It will just make things worse because I'll be upset, embarrassed, or worried that you're going to yell at me the next time I do something "wrong".
4. Don't yell at the coach. When you yell about who gets to play what position, it just stirs things up and takes away from the fun.
5. Don't put down my teammates. Don't make put-down remarks about any of my teammates who make mistakes. It takes away from our team spirit.
6. Don't put down the other team. When you do this you're not giving us a very good example of sportsmanship so we get mixed messages about being "good sports".
7. Don't lose your cool. I love to see you excited about the game, but there's no reason to get so upset that you lose your temper! It's our game and all the attention is supposed to be on us.
8. Don't lecture me about mistakes after the game. Those rides home in the car after the game are not a good time for lectures about how I messed up. I already feel bad. We can talk later, but please stay calm, and don't forget to mention things I did well during the game!
9. Don't forget how to laugh and have fun. Sometimes it's hard for me to relax and have fun during the game when I look over and see you so tense and worried.
10. Don't forget that it's just a game! Odds are, I'm not going to make a career out of playing sports. I know I may get upset if we lose, but I also know that I'm usually feeling better after we go get a pizza. I need to be reminded sometimes that it's just a game.

SECTION VII EXPECTATIONS:

- **Positive Cheering** – Cheering for great plays, cheering for each team. NOT cheering for errors and mistakes from the other team.
- **Supporting Officials** – There is a nationwide shortage of officials. More than ever they need our support. They make many judgment calls throughout each contest. Please don't berate officials when a call goes against your team.
- **Acceptable Language** – Foul language has no place within the confines of an athletic event. Student-athletes, coaches and fans will be held to this standard.
- **Respectful Behavior of Coaches** – Coaches will be held to the same standards as student-athletes. Coaches must model respectful conversations with officials; disagreements must be handled with class and civility.
- **Social Media** – Social Media should be used to promote teams and players, not disrespect or sound off against others. This includes times before during and after contests.

Section VII has addressed these expectations with all athletic administrators and coaches for the upcoming winter season. We encourage you to help support our student-athletes in their endeavors and keep in mind these expectations. Please help Section VII continue to be a leader of civility, sportsmanship and competition.



Section VII is committed to promoting the proper ideals of Sportsmanship within all activities and events.

Currently *Section VII* is coming off a second *Stay in the Game Win* as the section with the lowest percentage of disqualifications among member schools.

With that said we are making it our goal to be exemplar in our promotion of Sportsmanship. This applies to student-athletes, coaches, and fans. *Section VII* is charging all those parties to double down and take Sportsmanship to the next level.



CHEERS AND CHANTS

ACCEPTABLE

Let's-go-Eagles!

(or your school's mascot/nickname)

De-Fense!

Hey Everybody, get on your feet!

(team name) can't be beat!

Yell Go-Fight-win! YEAH!

C'mon crowd, yell it loud!

Yell Go-Fight-Win

*(cheer for your TEAM, not against the opponent,
fans or officials)*

OUT-OF-BOUNDS

Warm up the bus! Warm up the Bus!

*Na, Na..Na, Na, Na..Na, Na, Na...Hey Hey Hey...
Goodbye!*

You-can't-do-that!

We-can't-hear-you!

Check-the-score-board!

Whose that? Winning Team!

Whose that? Losing Team!

NOTE: These are examples and are not limited. The host school has final discretion on what is acceptable and out-of-bounds.

TEAM EFFORT

ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS

- Inform and provide insight to superiors.
- Establish expectations with coaches.
- Initiate programs and messages for athletes.
- Engage Parents as Partners in promoting sportsmanship.

COACHES

- Be a good role model.
- Emphasize sportsmanship from the beginning.
- Talk about combining seriousness and playfulness.
- Communicate the importance of sportsmanship to fans.
- Know and teach the rules of the game.
- Don't forget to have fun.

STUDENT ATHLETES

- Abide by the rules of the game.
- Try to avoid arguments.
- Share in the responsibilities of the team.
- Always play fair.
- Respect the other team's effort.
- Offer encouragement to teammates.
- Accept the judgment calls of the game officials.

OFFICIALS

- **NYSPHSAA & Section VII** requires officials to enforce all sportsmanship rules for athletes and coaches

PARENTS

- Get involved in promoting citizenship.
- Be intentional about citizenship-use teachable moments.
- Be good role models.
- Set high expectations and limits.
- Reinforce positive behavior; address negative behavior.

SPECTATORS

- Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive!
- Be a FAN, not a fanatic
- Support local rules & regulations

EVENT MANAGEMENT

Here are a few suggestions to consider to improve the overall athletic experience.

- Have signs that clearly define the expectations of your school
- Properly educate and train your supervisors
- Implement a system to monitor entrance into your facility
- Address concerns before they become a problem



PA ANNOUNCEMENT

BE LOUD

BE PROUD

BE POSITIVE

The *New York State Public High School Athletic Association* and *Section VII* supports and encourages spectators to enjoy the competition between our student-athletes and cheer for their teams in a positive manner.

Negative comments and behavior will be addressed by the appropriate site personnel. Spectators should "Be Loud, Be Proud, Be Positive" toward all players, coaches, officials and spectators.

Thank you for your support and enjoy the game.