

Anne Julian and Joe Roberts  
Present  
“Effective Sportsmanship Efforts”



# INTERACTIVE



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FROM YOU DURING THIS  
PRESENTATION.

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**What are some descriptor words for Sportsmanship?**

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# Sportsmanship is Universally Understood



*It is not Universally Honored nor Practiced*

**Sportsmanship is Inclusive**



## Definition of Sportsmanship:

Sportsmanship is an aspiration or ethos that a sport, or activity will be enjoyed for its own sake. This is with proper consideration for fairness, ethics, respect and a sense of fellowship with one's competitors. [Wikipedia](#).



How is YOUR Sportsmanship Affecting the Game?



Why is the Topic of Sportsmanship Important?

Most Important of the Conference...

If Administrators and Coaches cannot inspire players to value all that Sportsmanship encompasses then we are lost as Education Based Athletics.

Sportsmanship is the **GREAT EQUALIZER**. A person or team may lose on the playing field but learning and growing from these experiences leads to a growth mindset for LIFE.

“We just had so much fun, Stephenson said. “ It is a great group of girls. I’m proud of the culture they built this season. It was a really good year.”



Chaz Palla Tribune- Review  
Pine- Richland's Laura Krill plays Hempfield on  
Sept. 7th

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**Select the Obstacles that prevent administrators from creating unwavering sportsmanship events.**

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# Lack of Sportsmanship at its WORST....



# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

It starts with us the Administrator. You must completely buy in that sportsmanship is a must for all your programs, all your coaches, all your participants and all who enter your building on GAME DAY.

What does this look like?

- Professional Dress
- Clean, Orderly and Safe Facilities
- Continuous Consistent Education and Expectations.



The Buck Stops Here

Who is affected by Good Sportsmanship?

- Officials
- Coaches
- Players
- Communities
- Parents

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts



## Dress Professionally

- Not always a three piece suit but should make a statement that your presence means “business” and the event is important. (Administrators, Coaches, Officials)
- Game Management Personnel: Clock, Gateworkers, Scorekeepers.....
- Have workers dress in Team Gear or School Gear.

## APPEARANCE MATTERS



# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

## FACILITIES

## LOCKER ROOMS

## PARKING

Welcome your Guest ( Officials, Coaches, Trainers, Statisticians and Fans)

- Officials



- Have a safe place for Officials to go and secure their belongings. Create an **Appreciative Atmosphere**.
- Escort off floor to Officials room and to car.
- Do not allow an opportunity for unsportsmanlike behavior to occur.



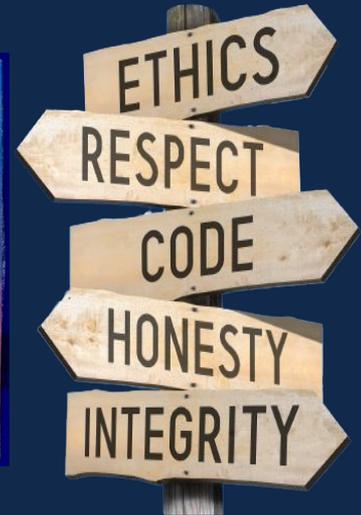
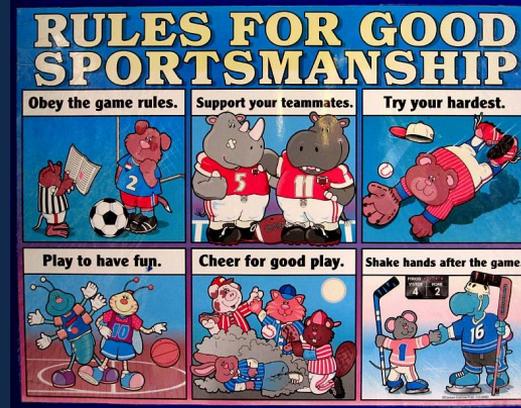
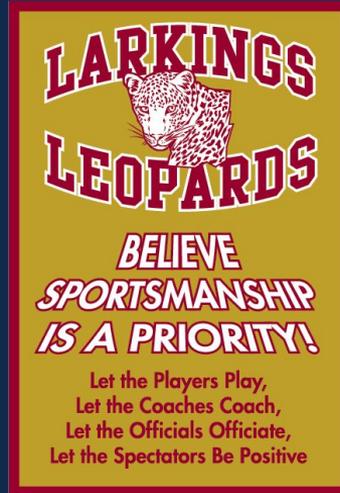
Respect and Appreciation

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

First Impressions will set the TONE of your event.

When hosting an event, your opponents are the guest and should be treated with courtesy and hospitality.

Facility should be welcoming and expectations posted.



# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

- Visiting Team Locker Room
  - Greet the Coach and Players
  - Make Sure Clean and Accessible
  - Provide White Board Markers
  - Make sure secure and Close to Gym
- Visiting Fans
  - Friendly Greeting by Gate Workers
  - Clearly Mark Fan Sections.. No Opposing Fans behind benches.
  - Have a section marked for Student Pep Club
- Guest Coaches and Player Expectations
  - Leave the facility better than you found it
  - Thank the Administration, trainers



# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

## Establish Expectations of Parents as Spectators

- Your child wants you to attend his or her game; let's keep it that way
- Your participation in the event as a supportive spectator for all the children is a privilege not a right
- Let those around you who are negative know they are not appreciated
- Respect the calls made by the officials and the decisions made by the Coach
- Learn the rules of the game
- Watch the game with TEAM goals in mind
- Accept the outcome of the game; win with class, lose with dignity

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

## Parent Meetings

- Athletic Director Protocols and Expectation Mandatory Meeting for Parent and Student Athletes
  - Offer 3 Dates over the Summer... Only 1 hour session
  - Administrator should address Sportsmanship as #1 priority for program
  - Go over Athletic Handbook and have a page in which parent/guardian signs
- Sport Specific Parent Meeting
  - Administrator should attend
  - Have printouts for audience to reference as needed throughout the season
  - Coach should address Sportsmanship as #1 priority for program

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

## Administrators and “The Parent”

The First Step to changing a cultural habit or personal habit is understanding where the habit first formed... THE WHY.

The United States is the leader in world with a 60% survey response to ever witnessing abusive parent behavior.

### Excerpt from “Why Do Parents get Angry During Their Kids Sport’s Games”

Sports psychologists Frank Smoll and Ronald Smith, University of Washington professors and authors of “Sports and Your Child: A 50-Minute Guide for Parents,” have found that identifying strongly with a team leads to increased aggression from spectators. In one study, fans who identified highly with a specific team were more aggressive to the referee than fans who weren’t as connected to their team (Wann, 2006). While this specific study looked at college basketball fans, it’s easy to see how the results would replicate even more strongly for parents whose kids are on the team!

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts



PUT MY BOY IN COACH... YOU SUCK REF

## WHY ARE Parents ACTING IN ANGER?

Parents are identifying with their youth or teen more strongly than ever through their child's activities. It has become an EMOTIONAL INVESTMENT.. A TIME TO BOND.... A TIME TO SHARE IN A MOMENT

It goes beyond reliving their athletic days or living through their child's sport.

Parents stated, the reason for their anger was a result of an injustice:

- ★ Officials make a bad call, not knowing the rules, inconsistency with calls
- ★ Unsportsmanlike behavior from opponents (players, coaches or fans)
- ★ Coach's decision on playing time, game decisions costing points

The Parent strongly believes it is their responsibility to protect their child from the perceived injustice

**Parents have gone from Feeling Anger to Acting in Anger**

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

Effective Sportsmanship Efforts with Parents begins with Relationship Building.

Administrators and Coaches need to find ways to get to know the family of players.

- Welcome to the School Year Events
- Fundraising Projects
- Booster Club

Sport Specific Get to Know You Events

- Team Dinners
- Team Parent/Athlete Volunteer Activities

Officials, Coaches and Parent's Education Social

- Rule Interpretation
- We are all in this together

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

## The Greatest Scapegoat in Sports!

Officials are leaving the profession in multitudes for a variety of reason....

- “Incessant Verbal Abuse”
- “Threats of Physical Attacks”
- Low Pay
- Covid-19



Official Shortage = Limited Game Opportunities, Overuse of Officials, Thursday Night Lights? High Demand results High Cost

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts



Coaches and Officials..... Allies or Adversaries?

A Coach can influence PLAYER & FAN behavior towards officials according to how he or she is behaving on the sideline.

The Integrity of the Game must be supported by all stakeholders.

What gets in the way?

- Perception Issues
- Coaches are focused only on what is best for their team and not for the game.
- Official Objective rating by a coach determines postseason assignment.

**Coaches and Officials: On the Same Side of the Spectrum?**

By Dana M. Pappas on November 21, 2017

This is a great article offered by the NFHS

# Media's Promotion of Unsportsmanlike Behavior

Stephen Pinker wrote an article in 2018 titled, “ The Media Exaggerates Negative News. The Distortion has Consequences.”

Article Excerpt: The consequences of negative news are themselves negative. Far from being better informed, heavy newswatchers can become miscalibrated. Consumers of negative news, not surprisingly, become glum: a recent literature review cited “misperception of risk, anxiety, lower mood levels, learned helplessness, contempt and hostility towards others, and desensitization.”

Ratings and “going viral” encourage media outlets to publish the most negative stories. We as viewers support this trend by subscribing to these stories, even though the majority of people stated they wanted more “feel good” stories, those stories did not have as much traffic.

Is Unsportsmanlike behavior as prevalent as it appears?



# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

## Media as a Promoter of Sportsmanship

Instruct your Coaches and Students on how to speak to News Media in a Sportsmanlike manner. Win or Lose.

- Compliment the Opponent
- Have teammate give credit to other team members, coaches, officials

Use Social Media to promote Sportsmanship

- Publish pictures of Fun Fan Sections for both schools
- Publish great plays.... Broken records....

# Effective Sportsmanship Efforts

We can be the difference makers

Use Resources Available

Attending the National Convention

Taking LTI courses to add to your arsenal to promote Sportsmanship

**LTC 705 Athletic Administration: Coach Centered Educational Athletics a Character Based Coach to Coach Mentoring Program**

**LTC 712 Athletic Administration: Ethical Decision Making in Education-Based Interscholastic Sports Programs**

**LTC 716 Athletic Administration: Partnering With Parents Building a Positive Culture in Education-Based Athletics**

**LTC 721 Athletic Administrations: Positive Sporting Behavior-For the Love of the Game**

# Resources that have Proven to be Effective in Developing a Culture of Sportsmanship

Positive Coaching Alliance

Play Like a Champion

NFHS Fundamentals  
of Coaching

NAIA Champions of Character

Janssen Peak Performance

Proactive Coaching

Citizens Through Sports Alliance

Champions of Character

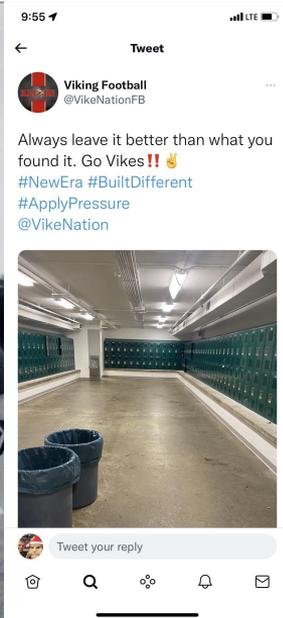
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**Please share Ideas that  
have worked for you?**

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.

# Connectivity.... Creating A Legacy of Sportsmanship



We RECOGNIZE  
your PASSION for  
your craft and  
THANK YOU for  
attending this  
workshop.

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