

Character Education



Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship Definition:

“Playing fair - Following the rules of the game –
Respecting the judgment of referees and officials –
Treating opponents with respect”



Good Sportsmanship Rules

1. The “Golden Rule” – Do unto others as you would have others do unto you.

Show respect for them if you expect it yourself.

Good Sportsmanship Rules

2. Have an understanding and an appreciation of the rules.

The spirit of good sportsmanship depends on conforming to the intent of the rules and not look for a loop hole – all players present must bat so several weak hitters are asked to stay home for an important game.

Good Sportsmanship Rules

3. Enjoy yourself and encourage enjoyment for others.

We play sports for recreation so lets make it that.

Good Sportsmanship Rules

4. Take responsibility for your actions.

Don't blame others for your mistake or find excuses for poor behavior.

Good Sportsmanship Rules

5. Recognize and appreciate good performance, especially by the opponent.

Applause for an opponent's good play demonstrates generosity and courtesy. It shows a true awareness of the game and athletic ability.

Good Sportsmanship Rules

6. Exhibit respect for the officials.

Umpires are impartial arbitrators who perform to the best of their ability to make sure the game is played fair and within the rules. Mistakes made by all those involved are part of the game and must be accepted.

Good Sportsmanship Rules

7. Expect proper behavior from your teammates.

If you allow a teammate to cheat, to play dangerously, to argue and scream at officials, you are condoning that behavior.

Example of 'Unbelievable' Sportsmanship

The Associate Press

Updated 1:43 p.m. PT, Wed., April 30, 2008

PORTLAND, Ore, - With two runners on base and a strike against her, Sara Tucholsky of Western Oregon University uncorked her best swing and did something she had never done, in high school or college. Her first home run cleared the center-field fence.

But it appeared to be the shortest of dreams come true when she missed first base, started back to tag it and collapsed with a knee injury.

Example of 'Unbelievable' Sportsmanship

She crawled back to first but could do no more. The first base coach said she would be called out if her teammates tried to help her. Or, the umpire said, a pinch runner could be called in, and the homer would count as a single.

Then, members of the Central Washington University softball team stunned spectators by carrying Tucholsky around the bases Saturday so the three-run homer would count – an act that contributed to their own elimination from the playoffs.

Central Washington first baseman Mallory Holtman asked the umpire if she and her teammates could help Tucholsky.

Example of 'Unbelievable' Sportsmanship

The umpire said there was no rule against it.

So Holtman and shortstop Liz Wallace put their arms under Tucholsk's legs, and she put her arms over their shoulders. The three headed around the base paths, stopping to let Tucholsk touch each base with her good leg.

As the trio reached home plate the entire Western Oregon team was in tears.

Central Washington coach Gary Frederick, a 14 year coaching veteran, called the act of sportsmanship "unbelievable."

Example of 'Unbelievable' Sportsmanship

Tucholsky's injury is a possible torn ligament that will sideline her for the rest of the season. Her home run sent Western Oregon to a 4-2 victory, ending Central Washington's chances of winning the conference and advancing to the playoffs.

"In the end, it is not about winning and losing so much," Holtman said. "It was about this girl. She hit it over the fence and was in pain, and she deserved a homerun."

Example of 'Unbelievable' Sportsmanship



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One man practicing good sportsmanship is far better than 50 preaching it.

Knute K. Rockne

Remember that sports are meant to be fun. Don't let someone make the sport unfun for you.

A.J. Kitt

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Good coaches teach respect for the opposition, love of competition, the value of trying your best, and how to win and lose graciously.

Brooks Clark

Champions aren't made in gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them: A desire, a dream, a vision. They have to have the skill and the will. But the will must be stronger than the skill.

Muhammad Ali

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Victory is in the quality of
competition, not the final score

Mike Marshall

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