

Sportsmanship



Good sportsmanship is essential in maintaining a safe, fun, and accepting sporting atmosphere for all participants. Respect for teammates, opponents, officials, and the Milwaukee Recreation staff is imperative for the enjoyment of competition by all participants. Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sports is committed to upholding sportsmanship values and expects all teams to maintain accountability for their players, coaches, and fans. Unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated in Milwaukee Recreation Youth Sport programs.

Responsibilities of the Coaches

- Set a positive example for players and spectators at all times.
- Instruct athletes regarding sportsmanship responsibilities.
- Develop and enforce penalties from participants who do not abide by sportsmanship standards.
- Treat opponents as guests.
- Show respect for the officials' judgment and their interpretation of the rules.
- Shake hands with the officials before the game.
- Shake hands with the opposing coach by always showing respect for your athletes and your sports.

Responsibilities of the Athletes

- Use appropriate language.
- Abusive or profane language will not be tolerated.
- Treat opponents with respect due them as guests or hosts.
- Shake hands with opponents after the game.
- Exercise self-control at all times.
- Respect the officials' judgment and interpretation of the rules.
- Accept the responsibility and privilege of representing your school in a positive fashion by acting in a manner that will create a positive attitude in your fans.

Responsibilities of the Spectators

- Realize that attendance is a privilege to observe a contest and support youth sports activities, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.
- Greet visiting teams with friendly applause.
- Respect the property of the school and the authority of supervisory personnel.
- Show respect for an injured player when she/he is removed from the game.
- Respect decisions made by contest officials.
- Refrain from applauding mistakes by opponents or penalties called against them-the approach should be positive.
- Respect the judgment and strategy of the coach and the efforts made by players.
- The use of obscene language, cheers or remarks is prohibited
- Avoid criticizing players, coaches and officials after the game.
- Throwing of objects of any kind is prohibited, but confetti is allowed at outdoor events.
- Banners are allowed at sporting events as long as they have prior approval of the principal or his/her designee. Hanging or use of the banner will be under the direction of the game manager.

Only if each of us accepts personal responsibility for good sportsmanship can we work together to build a good image for our schools.

The Sportsmanship Rating System



After each contest, the officials, league director, and scorekeeper will award a score to each team based on the behavior, actions, and attitudes exhibited during play.

The Youth Sports Supervisor or Manager may provide input which could raise or lower an assigned rating. Behavior before, during, and after contests will be a factor for each team's rating. It is the responsibility of the sports coordinator and coaches to inform players and parents about the rating system. Ratings will be given based on a scale of 1-5. A below average score will be subject to league discipline.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- A team that forfeits any game will receive a 2.0 rating while the opposing team automatically receives a 5.0 rating UNLESS the forfeiting team has notified the Youth Sports Office thirty-six hours prior to game time.
- Teams that average below a 2.0 rating may be subject to sanctions.
- Teams that receive below a 2.0 rating during playoffs will not be allowed to advance.
- Teams that receive a Sportsmanship Rating of 1.0 may require a Sportsmanship Action Meeting with the team's coaching staff, sports coordinator, principal, and Youth Sports Supervisor and Manager prior to that team's next game.
- Administrative technical fouls will not count against a team's sportsmanship rating.



Sportsmanship Rating Criteria

The Sportsmanship Rating System is based on, but not limited to, the following criteria:

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| 5 | EXCELLENT SPORTSMANSHIP
Team and spectators demonstrate excellent sportsmanship throughout the game. Players and spectators cooperate fully and are respectful to players, staff, and spectators. Examples of excellent sportsmanship include, but are not limited to: Respect shown to the game and staff by participants, coaches and spectators, appropriate verbiage to others, shaking hands with opponents after game, helping players up from the ground, avoiding excessive celebration, maintaining complete control, managing emotions of team and cheering for their teammates. |
| 4 | GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP
Teams being at this level, and if no positive or negative actions occur, the team will receive this score. Teams and spectators are respectful of opponents with minor incidents. At no point is control of the game lost. Participants may display small disagreements/frustrations with decisions of staff/officials. Infrequent questioning of judgment/rules interpretation not presented in a respectful manner. |
| 3 | AVERAGE SPORTSMANSHIP
Some incidents of questioning of judgment/officiating abilities and/or public gestures showing displeasure with staff. Some incidents of unsportsmanlike behavior towards opponent, spectator or staff. Teams who receive one technical conduct foul/unsportsmanlike conduct penalty may not receive higher than a 3.0 rating. |
| 2 | BELOW AVERAGE SPORTSMANSHIP
Frequent questioning of judgment/officiating abilities and/or public gestures showing displeasure with staff. Frequent incidents of unsportsmanlike behavior towards opponents, spectators, and or staff. Players and/or coaches are continuously “trash talking” opponents, staff, officials, and/or opponents. Teams who receive multiple technical fouls, warnings, unsportsmanlike conduct penalties, or cautions may not receive higher than a 2.0 rating. Teams that forfeit their game receive an automatic score of 2.0. |
| 1 | UNACCEPTABLE SPORTSMANSHIP
Multiple unsportsmanlike calls, technical fouls, cautions and/or team warnings (not on the same participant) and/or spectator’s harassment of the officials/opposing team. Players and teams are out of control or exhibit disregard for MPS Youth Sports Program policies. Threatening and/or making physical contact in an aggressive manner towards staff, officials, and/or opponents. Multiple players and/or coaches are ejected from the contest. Any team whose member(s) take part in a fight, instigates a fight, or throws a punch (whether connected or not) will receive a 1.0 and those individual players and coaches may be suspended. |