

SPECTATOR EVENTS/CROWD CONTROL

General –

Barbour County Schools recognizes the value of athletic competition of interscholastic age student – athletes. Athletics that embody a high standard of ethics and sportsmanship play a significant role in the development of good character and other important life skills. With this view in mind, Barbour County Schools will take proactive steps to ensure that students, student-athletes, teachers, coaches, parents, and community members behave in a manner conducive to appropriate sportsmanship and conduct at all spectator events. Violation of school, county, West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission (herein known as the WVSSAC) and state policy may lead to suspension or termination of attendance privileges or legal action.

Note: This policy shall not supersede the Student Code of Conduct and other applicable state or county policies.

Duties and Responsibilities -

- I. High School Principals, Middle School Principals and Athletic Directors shall take the following proactive measures to foster a climate conducive to good sportsmanship.
 1. Annually review and implement WVSSAC Policy §127 – 4 – 2: Sportsmanship.
 2. Annually review and implement, as appropriate, the recommendations of the WVSSAC “Crowd Control Procedures for Athletic Events”.
 3. Hold school-level meetings with students prior to the fall, winter and spring sports seasons to review school, county, WVSSAC and state policy.
 4. Hold meetings for the community and parents prior to the fall, winter and spring sports seasons to review school, county, WVSSAC and state policy.
 5. Emphasize at all meetings §61-2-15a (assault, battery on athletic officials; penalties).
 6. Annually update parent/student handbooks on spectator behavior.

- II. High School Principals and Middle School Principals shall:
 1. Enforce school, county, WVSSAC, and state policy.
 2. Take immediate action in addressing violations of school, county, WVSSAC or state policy. Actions may include but not be limited to: verbal and written warnings, ejection from an event, suspension or termination from attendance privileges, or legal action.
 3. Notify the Superintendent or the Superintendent’s designee, in writing before the close of the next business day, of violations occurring during spectator contests/events, of school, county, WVSSAC or state policy and the action(s) taken.
 4. Make recommendations to the Superintendent regarding legal action that may be taken as a result of flagrant violations of misconduct.

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III. Code of Conduct at Spectator Events:

Good Sportsmanship:

The goal of this policy is to foster a climate of good sportsmanship. Sportsmanship may be defined as respectful and ethical behavior in sports. It may also be defined as citizenship. Sportsmanship is reflected in the following qualities or Code of Conduct.

1. Playing fair.
2. Following the rules of the game.
3. Respecting the judgment of referees and officials.
4. Treating opponents with respect.

Good sportsmanship is demonstrated when you show respect for yourself, your teammates, and your opponents, for the coaches on both sides, and for the referees, judges, and other officials; however, sportsmanship is not just reserved for the people on the field. Cheerleaders, fans, parents, and school personnel also need to be aware of how they behave during competition.

Unacceptable Sportsmanship:

Unacceptable sportsmanship is defined as disrespectful and unethical behavior in sports. Unacceptable sportsmanship is the absence of good citizenship. It is reflected in the following behaviors.

1. Loud, abusive and/or profane language directed towards players, coaches, teachers, administrators and/or game officials before, during and after events/contests.
2. Rude and inconsiderate behavior.
3. Violations of school, county, WVSSAC and/or state policy.
4. Creating disturbances that interfere with or disrupt the administrator of the events/contests.

Barbour County Schools will not tolerate acts of unacceptable sportsmanship at any spectator events/contests at any time.

Violations:

The school administrator or designee has the authority to administer consequences for violations of this policy. Consequences may include, but are not limited to:

1. Verbal warnings.
2. Removal from event.
3. Exclusion from future events.

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4. No trespassing warrants.
5. Legal action.

The superintendent reserves the right to impose additional penalties to violators as the right to impose additional penalties to violators as the situation warrants.

IV. The Board of Education shall:

1. Review incidents of flagrant violations of school, county, WVSSAC and state policy.
2. Consider recommendations made by the principal and/or superintendent regarding penalties relating to flagrant violations of school, county, WVSSAC and state policy.

Source: Board of Education Minutes

Date: 03/12/07

Legal Reference: West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission