

# Good Sportsmanship: The Core of Catholic School Athletic Programs

*This was adapted with a Christian perspective from "Be a Sport" by the National Federation of Sports Associations*

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## **ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

What would Jesus do?

All Participants Should:

1. Pray together before the game.
2. Applaud during the introduction of players, coaches, and officials.
3. Recognize player's performance with applause.
4. Accept decisions of officials.
5. Shake hands at the end of contest.
6. Cheer in a positive manner only.
7. Treat competition as a game, not a war.
8. Search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.
9. Applaud at the end of the game.
10. Show concern for an injured player, regardless of the team.
11. Encourage all participants and fans to display good sportsmanship.

## **UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR**

1. Yelling or waving arms during opponents' free-throw attempts.
  2. Disrespectful or derogatory yell, chants, songs, or gestures.
  3. Booing or heckling an official's decision.
  4. Cheers that antagonize opponents.
  5. Criticizing officials in any way or displays of temper with an official's call.
  6. Refusing to shake hands or give recognition for good performances.
  7. Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches, or participants.
  8. Use of profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.
  9. Coaching from the stands.
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