

Levels of Participation In Athletics

- **Instructional**

A league in which all athletes should be taught and have the opportunity to learn the rules of a game and to learn and practice the skills of that game. In the instructional leagues, it is expected that all students receive quality playing time, according to their league rules. In-structional generally applies to K-4 athletics.

- **Transitional**

A league in which all athletes continue to learn more about the game, have the opportunity to improve their skills, and begin to participate at a more competitive level. Fifth and sixth grade leagues are considered transitional. Minimum playing time requirements may apply, depending on local league rules.

- **Competitive**

A level at which athletes are placed on teams according to skill levels for varsity and reserve. Athletes in this league should expect that stronger skilled athletes may get more playing time. Athletes should NOT expect more playing time based ONLY on skill level if effort, attitude, and sportsmanship are not also displayed on a consistent basis. Athletics for Grade 7 through high school are considered competitive.

The GOOD SPORTS Concept

It is our intention to state our expectations for behaviors and attitudes that should be displayed by all invested parties regarding appropriate Christian sportsmanship. We look forward to providing opportunities for appropriate athletic competition where students can learn athletic skills and life skills; where students, coaches, and parents/fans will appreciate the gifts and talents of others as well as the opportunities to compete, win or lose. Our Good Sports program allows each of us to model, practice, and learn *respect, gratitude, and responsibility* among many other core values, through Christian athletic competition.

We intend for our Good Sports program to complement the guidelines described in the **Diocese of Owensboro Handbook for Catholic Schools (policy #416.)**

Please read, sign, and return to Mrs. Rhodes.

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Diocese of
Owensboro
Catholic
Schools

G o o l b a l l d
S p o r t s

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Owensboro is to share in the Church's mission, to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ as lived out in the Catholic Church which creates a worshipping community of believers whose service is a witness of their Christian love.

Athletes' Expectations

Show respect

- Accept the call of the officials.
- Listen to the coach.
- Show courtesy to fellow athletes.
- Appreciate levels of abilities of all athletes.
- Care for equipment and space.
- Commit to participating in practice.
- Compete your best.
- Commit to school team.

Show gratitude and appreciation

- Show gratitude for each other's gifts and talents.
- Shake officials' hands.
- Thank coaches after practices and games.
- Thank parents for support, driving, helping.
- Congratulate other team and your own teammates.
- Show school spirit.

Show responsibility

- Show commitment to school team.
- Communicate with coach.
- Be on time.
- Take care of equipment.
- Make grades and behavior in and out of school a priority.
- Come prepared to cooperate and work hard.

Coaches' Expectations

Model and teach respect

- Appreciate levels of abilities of all team members.
- Show respect for other coaches.
- Teach leadership and teamwork.
- Emphasize helping others become better.
- Respect officials and their calls.
- Speak positively to and about your athletes and their school.
- Shake hands of officials and coaches, win or lose.
- Emphasize school spirit and community.

Model and teach gratitude and appreciation

- Begin and end practices and games with prayer.
- Appreciate efforts of all your athletes.
- Appreciate effort, investment, and support of parents and school.
- Appreciate the game and teach athletes to be grateful for their talents and opportunities.

Model and teach responsibility

- Follow through and hold students accountable for behavior.
- Be on time.
- Communicate with athletes and parents.
- Give all athletes opportunities to grow and improve.
- Be positive.
- Build self esteem in athletes.
- Be a positive Christian role model.
- Teach athletes to be gracious winners and losers.

Parents' & Fans' Expectations

Show respect

- Cheer for a team, not against a team.
- Celebrate talents and accomplishments of all athletes.
- Respect all athletes, coaches, officials, and other fans.
- Do not approach officials, your coach, other coaches or fans before, during, or after practice or competition with negativity.
- Speak in a positive way about your athlete, other athletes, coaches, officials, and your school.
- Keep all things in perspective.

Show gratitude and appreciation

- Appreciate the time and effort of volunteer coaches and officials.
- Appreciate efforts and talents of all the athletes.
- Be positive before, during, and after the game with your athlete and others.
- Appreciate the opportunities athletes have to participate.
- Be grateful for the support and investment of time, talent, and treasure of others and the school.
- Keep all things in perspective.

Show responsibility

- Communicate with and about athletes, coaches, and other parents/fans in a positive and appropriate way.
- Be on time.
- Encourage team over individuals.
- Do not leave siblings unsupervised.