## SASKATCHEWAN HIGH SCHOOLS ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



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## **SPECTATOR CONDUCT**

The SHSAA accepts the following as its policy regarding spectator conduct at all SHSAA Events.

The guiding principle for all SHSAA activities is that all participants; players, coaches, game and minor officials alike deserve respect and consideration.

- Respect the players in the game. Fans are expected to cheer showing their support "for" their team, not disrespect for their opponents. It will be unacceptable for fans to make noise of any kind during situations such as a foul shot in basketball or during the serve in volleyball.
- School supporters are asked not to applaud errors by opponents, nor heckle, jeer or distract members of the opposing team.
- Respect the officials. They are doing the best job that they can, and should not be criticized for the
  judgments that they make but applauded for the service they provide to high school sport.
- Refrain from taking food or drink into high school gymnasiums when posted. NO OUTSIDE drinks will be allowed into the gymnasiums.
- Fans must respect the property of the schools and the authority of the school officials.
- The use of artificial noisemakers, drums or other musical instruments is prohibited. The
  exception to this policy would be a school Pep Band under the direct supervision of
  authorized school personnel, with the understanding that nothing will be done to interfere
  with the performance of the opposing team.
- It is the SHSAA position that if the actions of a spectator are deemed by the officials to be interfering with play or the official's ability to perform their duties, that the game should be stopped. The host school should be asked to intervene to have the disruptive action stop and if appropriate issue a warning to that spectator. If the allegiance of the individual can be determined to be with the visiting team, it is appropriate to ask the visiting coach to intervene to stop the disruptive action. If the officials determine that the disruptive action is beyond a warning or intervention then they should ask the host school and/or the visiting coach (if appropriate) to see to it that the spectator leaves the premises. The officials having taken this action must not continue the game until their request has been fulfilled. The officials should not take it upon themselves to confront the spectator about their conduct or their removal.

BE A SPORT - BLEND YOUR CHEERS FOR "YOUR TEAM" WITH APPLAUSE FOR YOUR OPPONENTS. OBSERVE THE LETTER AND SPIRIT OF THE RULES AND SHOW CONSIDERATION FOR OTHERS.

Coaches and school administrators should make certain that the school team, as well as, any team followers taking part in a high school athletic event are made aware of these expectations. Thank you for doing your part to make High School Athletics – Education Through Sport.

