

Buccaneers Are Champions of Character

Sportsmanship is a learned response and an educated choice that demonstrates integrity, ethics, and respect. Good sportsmanship and citizenship are keys to the public's perception of interscholastic athletics and activities and their role in the educational system. Athletics that display good sportsmanship and citizenship show a positive and productive part of the total educational program. We must accept the responsibility to teach our children and students good sportsmanship by modeling it for them.

Win with humility; lose with grace. Do both with dignity.

I understand....

1. The value in praising student athletes for their efforts to improve themselves recognizing that athletics are learning experiences just like the classroom.
2. Crowd participation should be supportive in a way that builds team unity and the team's chance for victory.
3. Unsportsmanlike behavior is distracting to athletes and fellow fans and can embarrass my child, the team, the community, and myself.
4. My child's success in athletics is related to the success of the whole team.
5. Parents should attend pre-season meetings and be familiar with team rules to present a consistent message to student athletes.
6. Parents should first communicate with their child to clarify concerns such as playing time.
7. Parents should practice the 24-hour rule, and refrain from talking to coaches until the day after a competition, rather than during the emotional moments after an event, allowing coaches and parents to consider and reconsider issues.
8. Buccaneer fans should be models of good sportsmanship. As fans, our conduct reflects upon the reputation of the athletes, the athletic programs, the school, and the community.

The MHSAA and Grand Haven High School respectfully remind you to:

- Be a positive role model through your actions at events.
- Treat tickets to sporting events as a privilege.
- Please avoid, and don't condone negative behaviors such as:
 - o Challenging or undermining the authority of coaches and administrators.
 - o Challenging the authority of officials.
 - o Shouting criticism specific to individual athletes.
 - o Shouting instructions such as how to play.
 - o Carrying on in a manner that attracts attention away from the game.
- Enjoy your child's participation in athletics. Celebrate the positive and help them grow through challenging times.

Champions of Character help their student athletes before, during, and after competition.

- Before – Know their goals, roles, and needs, and accept them. Release them to the game, their coach, and team.
- During – Model poise, confidence, and correct behavior. Focus on our team.
- After – Give them all the time and space they need. Be a confidence builder.