

PUBLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR USE AT HOME ATHLETIC EVENTS

Pre-Game Announcements

Welcome to today's contest between ___ and ___. As member schools of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, they remind you that sportsmanship and the objectives of educational athletics are what set this event apart of other levels of competition. Your cooperation and support of the values promoted by these two schools is appreciated.

The schools participating in this event are members of the Michigan High School Athletic Association which have adopted the rules under which the games are conducted. A strong commitment to excellence, fair play, and sportsmanship are all vital to this activity's success. _____ and _____ high schools appreciate your recognition of the values being taught at this educational event.

We are pleased to welcome you today to _____ High School. Good sportsmanship is one of the primary purposes of educational athletics. Our student-athletes recognize that judgment calls -- by coaches, officials and themselves -- are made in good faith and should be respected. Spectators can support both of these teams by refraining from derogatory or demeaning comments and cheers today. We hope that you will enjoy the game and support the students in a positive and sportsmanlike manner.

Welcomes - Prior to Player Introductions

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. These games depend on an educational atmosphere. Everyone can do their part by respecting the game, each other, and the officials. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. The start of another game is a call for people to treat opponents and officials with the sort of sportsmanship we expect in school sports. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. No matter what takes place today – stay calm...stay classy...and stay respectful. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. We wouldn't be here today without a love for the game. And if you love the game...really love the game...you've got to show good sportsmanship. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. Our expectations in school sports should not be to employ gamesmanship, but rather to display honesty and sportsmanship to respect the game and everyone around us. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. Is there anything wrong with good sportsmanship? Of course not. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. The key to the game today is sportsmanship. You can't be successful without it. Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. Who wins the big game today? Everyone who gives us their best sporting behavior. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. Today you represent your school and community. Please represent with respect. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Good _____. (Name of School) High School welcomes you to today's game. While the scoreboard defines the length of the game...the real final score is determined by the sportsmanship we display...because nothing beats good sportsmanship.

After Lineups Are Introduced -- Introduce Officials

Your officials for today's game are _____ and _____. These officials are registered by the Michigan High School Athletic Association and are hired by **(Name of your school) (or assigned by) (Name of league/conference)** to help the athletes learn on the playing field. These individuals have worked hard to learn the rules and apply them fairly. We request you respect their honest efforts in administering this contest.

Your officials for today's game are _____ and _____. These officials are registered by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. They are hired by **(Name of your school) (or assigned by) (Name of league/conference)** with the mutual agreement of schools participating in this event. Their experience and integrity qualify them to administrate the rules of the game. An attitude of good sportsmanship should be upheld by all spectators, players and coaches, no matter what their personal feelings or loyalties may be in this contest.

National Anthem Introduction

Ladies and gentlemen: The privilege of this event was made possible by those who have fought – and continue to fight for – the freedoms we enjoy. Let us now honor and respect their efforts and our country. Civilian gentlemen, please remove your hats. All veterans - we encourage you to render the appropriate salute, and everyone able - please stand at attention, placing your hand over your heart, as we proudly sing our National Anthem.

To Be Read During Breaks In The Action

Sportsmanship is winning without gloating – losing without complaining – and treating your opponent and the officials with respect. It's one of the biggest reasons these games exist. To learn more about sportsmanship, visit the MHSAA Website. Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Remembering how to be a good sport is simple. If you win – don't rub it in. If you lose, don't make excuses. And always represent your school with respect. To learn more about sportsmanship, visit the MHSAA Website. Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

How you play the game still matters. You won't be remembered for that great pass, but you will be for the class you display. You'll be remembered for being a great teammate, for your respect of the game and of others. You'll be remembered for all the right things. Not the final score. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

We'd like to thank our officiating crew tonight. Thank you for putting player safety first. For putting up with the repercussions of a tough call. For giving your time, energy and patience to help kids learn. We often take for granted what it really takes to officiate a game, because without them, there would be no games to play.

Imagine a game played without good sportsmanship. It wouldn't look like school sports...that's for sure. Sportsmanship gives our games educational value that sets them apart and above all others; and teach values that last for a lifetime. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Is there anything wrong with being a good sport? Helping an opponent up after knocking them down? Sincerely congratulating the other team after the game – win or lose? Showing respect for the referees? It how we should act every day at every game because nothing beats good sportsmanship.

A great game in sports is when your team puts it all together, but it's not just how you executed as an athlete – it's how executed as a person. It's showing good reflexes and respect. It's showing confidence and character. It's showing skillfulness and sportsmanship. Now that's a great game. Nothing beats good sportsmanship.

You can make the winning play, you can take home the gold, but it doesn't mean a thing without good sportsmanship. These games don't exist without the foundation of good sportsmanship to teach lifetime lessons. So remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Wins and losses aren't the real measuring stick in school sports. It's teaching our kids the importance of ethics, integrity, respect – elements of life that are summed up in the word sportsmanship. It's the good sport who is the real champion – whether they're undefeated or winless. Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

In a twisted sports world where being elite seems to be everything, school sports begin by being firmly grounded in lifetime values like sportsmanship. Programs and participants grounded by sportsmanship are the true elite performers. Remember, absolutely nothing beats good sportsmanship.

Fans, the best way to support your team is with respect – respect for your team, the opposing team, the coaches and the officials. It sends a message that sets a positive tone for this educational event. So do your part today and remember, when the game is on the line, it's all about sportsmanship.

Little eyes are watching. How many times have you heard that before? But isn't it true? The young players between the lines are watching how their coaches and their parents treat the other team and the officials. The younger kids in the stands are watching the players, coaches and the parents as well. What kind of lesson are you teaching them? Remember, when the game is on the line, it's all about sportsmanship.

It's getting harder to recruit and retain game officials for high school sports because of abuse from players, coaches and fans. Abusive behavior has no place in schools – or school sports – and referees railed on won't stick around very long – even if they're good. So give 'em a break and respect the fact that they're out there trying to help and you're not. Remember, when the game is on the line, it's all about sportsmanship.

We know that not everyone can officiate. But everyone can help officials. No, not by sharing your two cents from the stands, but by understanding that officials prepare every week for these games just like the coaches and athletes, and that they're human, just like the coaches and athletes and worthy of your respect for taking on a tough job. Remember, nothing beats good sportsmanship.

(For sub varsity games only)

These games depend on an educational atmosphere, which includes respect for the officials. Just as the players and many coaches are honing their skills, so are our newer officials. So we need everyone – players, coaches and parent in the stands to treat our game officials with the respect they deserve for being out there.