

RESPECT, ETHICS AND INTEGRITY IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
SPORTSMANSHIP, ETHICS, AND INTEGRITY

I. Associated Regulation: JFCB-R: Prohibition of the Use of Hate Speech, Ethnically or Racially Insensitive Expressions in Extracurricular Activities

II. Definition

Sportsmanship: Qualities of behavior, characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others, including an awareness of the impact of an individual's influence on the behavior of others. Good sportsmanship is viewed as a concrete measure of the understanding and commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity (National Federation of State High School Associations). A prerequisite to good sportsmanship requires one to understand their prejudices that may become a factor in their behavior.

III. Generally

The School Board Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) recognizes the value of extracurricular activities in the educational process and the values that students develop when they have the opportunity to participate in an organized activity outside of the traditional classroom. Achieving the true value of extracurricular activities and interscholastic competition relies upon all participants exhibiting behavior that engenders respect for the abilities and accomplishments of all people. Therefore, Participants and responsible students and adults involved in School Board ACPS-approved extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate the same level of responsibility and behavior at practice and competitions as is expected in the classroom.

One of the main goals of ACPS extracurricular activities and competitions is to teach the concept of sportsmanship. Good sportsmanship requires that everyone be treated with respect. This includes fellow students, members of an opposing team, officials, coaches and spectators. In addition, extracurricular activities can:

- provide educational opportunities for students beyond the classroom;
- ensure fairness and equity through safe competitions;
- pave the way for personal growth;
- offer opportunities for students to develop teamwork and leadership skills; and
- promote respect, ethics and integrity through student activities.

Good sportsmanship includes showing courtesy and kindness towards opponents as well as team members, and recognizing that winning at any cost is not the goal. Negative treatment of any participant reflects on the school division and community, and is outside the spirit and interest of ACPS' core values: to be welcoming, empowering, equity-focused, innovative and results-driven. The conduct of ACPS students and staff is extended to parents/guardians and fans before, during, and after extracurricular events and competitions.

Comment [JA1]: 10/26/21 Committee Comments:

- Clarity... what does this lead to? There should be clarity and specific to what happens next if determined to be "unsportsmanlike"?
- What responses to unsportsmanlike behavior are triggered by with those we engage in play with, and by our own behavior?
- Add racial discrimination to the policy or a reference to other polices that this could lead to
- Opportunities to include extracurricular activities relationship between this policy and other policies
- We will communicate with surrounding school divisions to get on the same page
- What will we do as a school division when bad events happen with other schools (formal process)? How will we interact with them and what steps will we take?
- Potential to adjusting the title of the policy to be inclusive of extracurricular activities
- Retitle so it's not only about sports
- too vague, too short
- What is the goal?
- How do we connect this with Policies JFHA, JB, etc.?
- Specific steps: This behavior is not tolerated; here's how you report it; here's what the responses are, etc.
- Set the example; what behavior do we want to model?
- Best practices? How could these 3 things discussed have positive impact on the classroom?

IV. Guidelines

Participation in athletics and other ACPS extracurricular activities is a privilege that carries with it varying degrees of responsibility and sacrifice. Those who choose to participate are expected to follow the rules established for that activity by ACPS and any interscholastic governing body, such as the Virginia High School League (VHSL) or the Virginia Scholastic Rowing Association (VASRA).

The School Board/ACPS further encourages the development and promotion of sportsmanship, respect, ethics, and integrity in all phases of the educational process and in all segments of the community its extracurricular activities, including for administrators, participants, adult supervisors, parents/guardians, fans, spirit groups, and support/booster groups.

ACPS believes that administrators and coaches accept the responsibility of making each extracurricular competition a showcase for education, and will model that good sportsmanship is the goal, and that poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated.

Adult spectators must realize that they also must exhibit good sportsmanship at athletic events. Spectators serve as a model for their own children and for other young people in the community.

The School Board will support staff members and administrators who enforce sportsmanship rules at athletic and other extracurricular events, including evicting students or adults who violate this policy in accordance with the procedures outlined in Regulation JFCB-R.

Adopted: December 5, 1996
Amended: June 20, 2002
Amended: December 19, 2013
Affirmed: June 11, 2015
Amended:

Legal Refs.: Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, §§ 22.1-78, 22.1-208.

Virginia High School League Policy 27-16-1, Use of Hate Speech, Ethnically or Racially Insensitive Expressions

Cross Refs: IGDA Student Organizations, Co-Curricular Programs and Extracurricular Activities
IGDAA Grade Average Requirement for Eligibility to Participate in Athletic and Co-Curricular Programs
IICA Field Trips
IICA-R Field Trip Procedures
JB Nondiscrimination in Education

<u>JB-R/JFHA-R</u>	<u>Procedures for Investigating Student Complaints of Discrimination, Harassment and Bullying (PDF)</u>
JFC	Student Conduct
JFC-R	Standards of Student Conduct
<u>JFCB-R</u>	<u>Prohibition of the Use of Hate Speech, Ethnically or Racially Insensitive Expressions</u>
JFCC	Student Conduct on School Buses
<u>KG</u>	<u>Community Use of School Facilities</u>
<u>KG-R</u>	<u>Community Use of School Facilities Regulations and Application</u>
KQ	Commercial, Promotional and Corporate Sponsorships and Partnerships

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