

Havana Community School District #126 Spectator and Fan Code of Conduct

Establishing an appropriate positive playing environment is a top priority for our athletic department. While winning is an important goal for all of our competitive programs, how we play and conduct ourselves at our various school events is equally, if not more, important. In an effort to encourage good sportsmanship, we ask that all spectators review the following and discuss the importance of proper behavior at sporting events with their children. Please continue to model appropriate behavior so that you can enjoy attending all district extracurricular activities.

At a contest, we ask that you:

- Enthusiastically encourage your team
- Refrain from negative or irritating remarks such as booing and taunting
- Stay positive with all athletes, coaches, and officials
- Accept all decisions made by officials
- Remain in the stands while play is in progress
- Do not throw objects on the playing surface
- Follow state regulations that prohibit noisemakers, signs, and banners
- Applaud outstanding play by both teams and athletes
- Do not confront officials, coaches, assistance, volunteers, or players verbally or otherwise
- If there are any issues and/or concerns, please seek the event supervisor
- Most important – Be a positive role model

Guidelines for acceptable behavior are not limited to those listed above

Spectators have an important role in the success of an athletic program. If the program is going to be successful, spectators must encourage good sportsmanship, courteous treatment of visitors, and absolute respect under all conditions. Remember, it is a privilege to attend and participate in junior high and high school athletic contests. Negative behavior from players, fans, parents, and/or guardians, will NOT be tolerated and may lead to ejection from an event, as well as loss of privileges to attend and/or participate in future athletic contests.

At a district sponsored event or activity, a spectator may be removed from the event by the supervisor/school representative. If needed, law enforcement may be contacted. The superintendent may recommend the exclusion of a spectator at future district sponsored events and/or activities for the following conduct:

- Becomes physically or verbally abusive, uses vulgar language, uses obscene demeaning expressions, or in any way impeded the performance of an activity
- Brings alcohol, drugs, or uses tobacco products on school grounds and/or at a district sponsored event or activity
- Being under the influence of a substance

- Bringing a pet on school grounds at a district sponsored event unless the pet is a service animal. The person bringing a service animal is liable for any damage done to any person, the premises, or any facility by the animal. A “service animal” means the animal has been specifically trained at a recognized training facility to assist a person with a disability
- Students, parents/guardians, and other spectators associated with using social media in a way that is hurtful, inappropriate, derogatory, harassing, making threats, containing inappropriate pictures, teasing, racist or sexist comments, comments attacking coaches or players, will not be tolerated. These types of negative behaviors are subject to warning, suspension, or dismissal from an activity. Parents engaging in this type of behavior will be asked to cease; if behavior continues their attendance and participation as a spectator will be revoked.

This is not an exclusive list of unacceptable behaviors or actions at district sponsored activities. Other prohibited behavior or conduct, which is of such nature as to constitute a violation of the spirit or intent of good sportsmanship, though not explicitly stated, may result in removal from the event by the supervisor/school representative of the event. If needed, law enforcement may be contacted. The superintendent may recommend the exclusion of a spectator at future district sponsored events and/or activities in the future.

The duration of the recommended exclusion will be determined on a case-by-case basis and will depend on the severity of the act and the amount of cooperation from the individual that conducted the act.

Upon the recommendation of the superintendent, the Board of Education shall cause a notice of exclusion from district sponsored events and/or activities to be sent to the spectator involved. The notice shall advise the spectator of the school district’s right to exclude the individual from district sponsored events and/or activities and the duration of the exclusion. The spectator has the right to address the board of education about their case at the same board of education meeting in which action will be determined.

If a final decision has been made and the spectator has been notified yet they disobey the school and/or district’s order to not attend the event and/or activity, then law enforcement authorities may be contacted and asked to remove the spectator. The spectator will also be banned from all district and/or school events and activities for the remainder of the school year.