

**PUBLIC CONDUCT AT SCHOOL SPONSORED
SPORTING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

Policy

It is the policy of the Trumbull Board of Education that spectators will not be allowed to interfere with the enjoyment of the students' participation, other spectators, or with the performance of employees and officials supervising the school sponsored or approved activities. Spectators are permitted and encouraged to attend these activities as guests of the District, and accordingly as a condition of such permission they must comply with the District's policies. Spectators, just as the student participants, are expected to display mature behavior and sportsmanship. Failure of spectators to do so is disruptive and embarrassing to students, the school district and the entire community.

Good sportsmanship is viewed as a commitment to fair play, ethical behavior and integrity. In perception and practice, sportsmanship is defined as those qualities that are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. The ideals of sportsmanship are critical and apply equally to all. All individuals, regardless of their role, are expected to be aware of their influence on the behavior of others and to model good sportsmanship. Any spectator using or shouting inappropriate or abusive language will be removed from the activity and may be charged with disorderly conduct. The school will cooperate with law enforcement personnel provided at these facilities that are hired to ensure spectator and player safety and enjoyment.

Adopted: 09/03/02
Revised: 08/01/06, 7/16/13

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Regulations

To protect the rights of students to participate without fear of interference and to allow sponsors and officials of such activities to perform without interference the following provisions shall be in effect:

- Abusive, verbal or physical conduct of spectators directed at participants, officials or staff involved in such activities will not be tolerated.
- Verbal or physical conduct of spectators that interferes with the performance of students, officials or staff involved in such activities will not be tolerated.
- Smoking, use of tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, and firearms are prohibited in all facilities and all school grounds controlled by the Board of Education. -

If a spectator at an approved or sponsored activity becomes physically abusive, verbally abusive, uses vulgar, obscene or demeaning language, or in any way impedes the performance of an activity, the spectator will be asked to leave the event by the individual in charge of the event and/or by the police.

Guidelines

1. The following guidelines will be used for spectator removal procedure:
 - a. For all incidents except those listed above, the appropriate procedure is to give the offending individual a warning to allow him or her to correct the misbehavior.
 - b. Upon continued misbehavior, either at the same or future event, a school official will ask the individual to leave the event.
 - c. Following the removal, a school official will follow-up with a letter. A number of issues should be addressed in the letter, including:
 - behavioral expectations of spectators;
 - the individual being banned from future activities;
 - d. a timeframe as to if/when the individual will be allowed to return as a spectator.

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Guidelines cont'd.

2. The following guidelines may be used to notify the public of the level of behavior expected of them:
 - a. Make an announcement at the beginning of an event letting those present know the behavioral expectations and that a violation could warrant removal from the event.
 - b. Have signs posted at entrances to facilities where activities are taking place stating that individuals whose behavior violates Board policy may be removed from the activity.
 - c. Lack of signage shall not constitute a waiver of Board regulations.

References

Section 19a-342, Smoking prohibited in certain places, General Statutes of Connecticut.

Trumbull Board of Education Policies:

Standard of Conduct, Policy Code 5131

Student No Smoking and Tobacco Use, Policy Code 5116

Staff No Smoking and Tobacco Use, Policy Code 4118