



GISD Crowd Control Policy

In Georgetown ISD, we believe that public education is the foundation of our community and that community engagement enhances the educational experience. School-sponsored public events are embraced as opportunities for schools and our community to come together as a show of support for our students and an opportunity for meaningful relationship building. In support of this vision, GISD expects all attendees, coaches and participants at our events to model a high level of character and show appropriate behaviors.

The behavior expectations listed below are excerpts taken from the [UIL's Sportsmanship Manual](#) that can be applied to district public events. Please visit the linked site for more information and the full version of the document.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS FOR COACHES

- Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior and leadership, adhering to strong ethical and integrity standards.
- Respect the integrity and personality of the individual athlete.
- Do not ask an athlete to do anything that will put their integrity in question.
- Abide by and teach the rules of the game in letter and in spirit.
- Set a good example for players and spectators to follow.
- Refrain from arguments with officials or other coaches in front of players and spectators.
- Shake hands with the officials and opposing coaches before and after the contest.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
- Treat opponents and officials with respect and hospitality when hosting an event.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat in public and in talking with the media. Confine remarks to game statistics and the performance of your team. Never degrade the performance of any participant, coach, or official.

- Be no party to the use of profanity, obscene language or improper actions, which include the verbal or physical abuse of participants, coaches, officials or spectators

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT-ATHLETES:

- Accept and understand the seriousness of your responsibility, and the privilege of representing your school and community.
- Live up to standards of sportsmanship established by the school administration and the coaching staff.
- Treat your opponents with respect and integrity.
- Wish opponents good luck before the game and congratulate them in a courteous manner following the contest, no matter the outcome.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
- Do not say, write or post any derogatory comments about opponents, teammates, coaches, officials or spectators.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF CHEERLEADERS:

- Understand your responsibility as a cheerleader and take pride in representing your school and community.
- Establish acceptable standards for the squad and follow those standards at every event.
- Transfer your standards to those attending the event in an attempt to show proper crowd participation and sportsmanship.
- Treat opposing cheerleaders as guests when they come to your school.
- Always respect the judgment and integrity of the game officials.
- Applaud all participants during introductions and after the game, regardless of team affiliation.
- Select only positive cheers that will praise your team without degrading the opponent.
- Choose appropriate times to cheer. Give the other squad the same amount of time to cheer as you would expect.
- Show opposing athletes the same respect you would show your own team.
- Encourage a positive crowd alternative when booing or an inappropriate chant begins.

- Give encouragement to injured players and recognition to outstanding performances, regardless of team affiliation.

Behavior expectations of student-athletes and cheerleaders are communicated through their respective handbooks.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENT GROUPS AT EVENTS:

- Always provide positive support for your team. Never ridicule or degrade the opposing team or players.
- Conduct yourself in an exemplary manner. Remember that you represent your school both at home and away.
- Assist cheerleaders with yells, chants, etc. Always be a working part of pep assemblies with preparation, organization and involvement.
- Treat opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups with respect and enthusiasm. Applaud good performances on both teams.
- Always display proper sportsmanship toward officials and value their contributions to the game. Respect the judgments made during a contest.
- Use only positive cheers, signs and chants during a contest.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SPECTATORS:

- Always support your team and the efforts of all participants involved.
- Do not intimidate or ridicule a player, coach, or official before, during or after a contest.
- Always praise athletes for their actions during a game; never degrade a participant for their efforts.
- A ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally assault others or be generally obnoxious.
- Always respect the integrity and judgment of officials.
- Show respect for the opposing players, coaches, spectators and support groups. Treat them as guests to your school.
- Use only cheers that support and uplift the teams involved.
- Recognize and show appreciation for an outstanding play by either team.

- The use of any controlled substance (alcohol, drugs, etc.) before, during and after the game, on or near the site of the event (i.e. tailgating) is prohibited.

- Be a positive role model at events through your own actions and by censuring those around you whose behavior is unbecoming.

Behavior expectations for fans are posted throughout our facilities and shared prior to the event by our public announcer.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

- Develop and implement a program for teaching and promoting the ideals and fundamentals of good sportsmanship within the school district and community.

- Have proper sportsmanship rules and penalties in place before the athletic season begins and enforce them throughout the year.

- Support participants, coaches and fans that teach and display good sportsmanship.

- Attend events whenever possible and function as a model of good sportsmanship.

- Communicate with spectators what is acceptable and unacceptable behavior during an event.

- Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.

- Recognize exemplary behavior and actively discourage undesirable conduct by participants, coaches and fans.

More specific expectations for GISD administrators serving in admin roles during our events are provided to each individual prior to their supervisory assignment.

In addition to the application of the preceding behavior expectations, GISD also engages in the following practices to encourage and promote a positive and controlled environment:

- Student groups and spectators are seated in appropriate places. Bands or spectators are not seated near the visiting team bench and the visiting team seating area.
- GISD event workers and administrators are consistent in applying policies and rules.
- Supervisors and event workers are easily identifiable at events. They should be expected to be active and visible to spectators to discourage and quickly identify problems.
- Illegal substances are never allowed inside the contest facility.

- All persons with special needs are accommodated and assisted. We will make every reasonable attempt to ensure any person with special needs is able to enjoy the athletic contest.
- Emergency exits are visible and lighted to communicate to visitors appropriate exits in the case of an emergency.
- All spectators at GISD UIL events agree to abide by the Rules of Conduct set forth in the University Interscholastic, League, Constitution and Contest Rules, including:
 - No insults or personal comments of any kind are to be directed towards game officials, contest judges, referees, or workers;
 - Inappropriate language or profanity will not be tolerated and will result in immediate ejection from the event;
 - Taunting or ridiculing of either team or any participants is not allowed;
 - Spectators may not enter the court/field/contest area during a contest.

Spectators further understand that failure to comply with the above rules will result in the offending spectator being ejected from the event. Game officials and school district personnel are authorized to eject spectators from the contest area. Spectators who are ejected from the event will not receive a refund and could be prohibited from returning for the semester. Any spectator that commits an assault on a participant, inclusive of officials and contest judges, will be suspended from attending ALL future events and activities sanctioned by the UIL.