

# **Smithville ISD Athletic Department**



**2018-2019**

**Handbook & Code of Conduct**

## Table of Contents

Introduction.....	4
Beliefs .....	4
Goals .....	4
Governing Bodies and Regulations .....	5
Smithville Athletic Code of Conduct.....	5
Legal Offenses .....	5
Minor Legal Offenses .....	5
Summer .....	5
School Year.....	5
Major Legal Offenses .....	6
Internet/Social Media Activity.....	6
DAEP .....	6
Minor Disciplinary Offenses.....	6
After School Detention (ASD).....	6
In School Suspension (ISS) .....	7
Disciplinary Appeals Process .....	7
Hazing .....	7
UIL Standards .....	8
SISD Standards .....	8
Grade Checks .....	8
Tutorials .....	9
Equipment and Uniforms .....	9
Personal Appearance.....	9
Athletic Security .....	10
Athletic Travel .....	10
General Expectations of Student Athletes .....	11
Quitting a Sport.....	12
Quit Form.....	13

LOYALTY    COMMITMENT    TEAMWORK    WORK ETHIC    DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

Athletic Passes ..... 14

Athletic Awards ..... 14

    Letter Jackets ..... 14

Parent Code of Conduct ..... 14

    Parent/Coach Relationship..... 15

Coaches’ Expectations ..... 16

An Open Letter to the Fans from The University Interscholastic League (UIL)..... 16

Student Athlete Conduct Policy..... 18

Signature and Acknowledgement of Receipt of Handbook and Athletic Code of Conduct..... 19

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

## **Introduction**

School athletics has a tremendous potential for meeting the needs of our youth. Both competition and cooperation have long been prized by our American culture. Both are fostered by well conducted and competently directed athletic games. An intensive, well-balanced program of interscholastic sports will therefore be offered to all students. The goal of the Smithville ISD athletic program is to offer the opportunity of participation to every student who has the ability and desire to do so. The program shall be based on sound educational principles with the thought that athletics is an integral part of the educational program and participants are students first and athletes second.

Student athletes and parents/guardians must also understand that it is a privilege to participate in Smithville's interscholastic athletic program. A condition to participating in the Smithville Independent School District athletic program is a commitment to follow the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures established by the district for the implementation of its athletic program. It must also be understood that athletes who violate the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures will face disciplinary action. It is the goal that athletes will develop and demonstrate good character and sportsmanship both on and off the playing field.

## **Beliefs**

The combination of sports and academics can be a tremendous experience in a young person's life. A broad and sound sports program for all students can provide invaluable experiences for the participants. It is important to see athletics as a part of the total educational program. It should complement and contribute to the overall educational process.

A sound, wholesome sports program will contribute to and offer involvement to all students as participants, support groups, or as spectators. It will also serve the community by providing entertainment and establishing a common ground of interest, which will draw citizens together in support of the various sports and activities.

## **Goals**

Develop the whole student; academically, socially, and physically.

Encourage the student athlete to achieve academic success.

Teach all student athletes' personal acceptance of responsibility.

Teach all student athletes the importance of teamwork and to value each team member.

Develop an appreciation for the importance of practicing sportsmanship.

Reach the maximum athletic potential of each individual and each team.

Encourage a level of competition that will develop success within our sports program and in the future endeavors of each individual.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

## **Governing Bodies and Regulations**

The rules and information within in this handbook are additional and in no way supersedes state law, SISD policy, or the SISD student handbooks. Information about the governing body of high school athletics can be found in the following places listed below.

University Interscholastic League [www.uiltexas.org](http://www.uiltexas.org)

TEA and UIL Side by Side <http://www.uiltexas.org/policy/tea-uil-side-by-side>

Smithville Independent School District [www.smithvilleisd.org](http://www.smithvilleisd.org)

## **Smithville Athletic Code of Conduct**

The Smithville I.S.D. Athletic Code of Conduct(COC) is written to establish a standard for all athletes. We ask that our athletes work hard to follow SISD Athletic COC. Athletics is a privilege, so all athletes will be held to the highest standard. Athletes are expected to follow the Athletic COC at all times.

## **Legal Offenses**

### **Minor Legal Offenses**

Minor legal offenses are those denoted in the state of Texas as Class C Misdemeanors and most Class B Misdemeanors (please see note below). For these offenses, discipline will be separated into two separate time periods: summer and school year.

- **Summer** – Any time between the last day of the school year and the first day of the following school year or the first day of practice prior to the start of the school year.
- **School Year** – Any time between the first and last day of the school year

### **Summer**

1<sup>st</sup> time: 25 miles discipline + other measures as appropriate

2<sup>nd</sup> time: 50 miles discipline + other measures as appropriate

3<sup>rd</sup> time: Suspension pending reinstatement approved by Athletic Director + other measures as appropriate

### **School Year**

1<sup>st</sup> time: 25 miles discipline + 10-20% contest suspension of scheduled games

2<sup>nd</sup> time: 50 miles discipline + 20-30% contest suspension of scheduled games

3<sup>rd</sup> time: 30-100% contest suspension pending reinstatement approved by Athletic Director + other measures as appropriate

**NOTE:** For some Class B Misdemeanors, discipline will be enhanced up to and including suspension from SISD athletics. Violence, drug involvement, and human depravity related offenses will be considered for this enhancement.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

## Major Legal Offenses

Major legal offenses are those denoted in the state of Texas as Class A Misdemeanors and Felonies. The student athlete shall lose the privilege of participation in SISD athletics if the student is:

- Charged with an offense
- Under indictment for the offense, or
- While awaiting final determination of guilt or innocence;

**NOTE:** Discipline will occur whether the offense was committed on or off campus. This is in accordance with the THSCA code of ethics and aligned with SISD beliefs.

## Internet/Social Media Activity

**Social media** – Any activity on social media that is deemed inappropriate by SISD and/or SJHS/SHS. This includes, but is not limited to: comments and/or images posted on the internet that are profane, immoral, distasteful, portray illegal activity, dishonorable, and/or are deemed detrimental to the reputation of SISD, SJHS, SHS or the athletic department.

1<sup>st</sup> time: 25 miles discipline + others measures as appropriate

2<sup>nd</sup> time: 50 miles discipline + others measures as appropriate

3<sup>rd</sup> time: 75 miles discipline others measures as appropriate

4<sup>th</sup> time: Suspension pending reinstatement approved by Athletic Director + other measures as appropriate

## DAEP

An athlete that is placed in DAEP will be ineligible for athletic competition and practice while they are serving a DAEP placement. Upon return from DAEP a student will be ineligible for competition for the same amount of school as the placement. For example a student that is given a 20 day DAEP placement would not be allowed to compete in a competition until he or she had been back on campus for 20 school days or until reinstated by the athletic director.

**All assigned discipline must be completed before an athlete can participate in an athletic contest.**

## Minor Disciplinary Offenses

We hold all of our athletes to high standards in the classroom. Athletes are expected to behave in the classroom in a manner that reflects positively on the athletic department. Athletes who behave in a manner which reflects poorly on the athletic department in the classroom will be subject to disciplinary action.

## Lunch Detention

For each day of lunch detention assigned the athlete will have to do 1 Gasser or 2 “horses”; gassers and horses will have time limits assigned by the athletic director.

## After School Detention (ASD)

The placement in ASD was avoidable, therefore, this will be treated as an unexcused missed practice time. The discipline for missed practices and missed practice time will be based on coach’s discretion

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

### **In School Suspension (ISS)**

Students that are placed in ISS will serve a running punishment and possibly a playing time punishment. ISS days will be cumulative and does not start over each time that a student athlete is placed in ISS.

- Each day of ISS = 2 gassers and 5 horses + coaches decision for missed practices

**NOTE:** After **2 days** of ISS, athletes may be suspended from participation; suspensions will range from missing time in one contest up to a season long suspension depending on severity of circumstances and number of days previously served.

If a student has not completed an ISS assignment on game day then the athlete **will not** be allowed to participate in that athletic contest. Athletes that are serving ISS assignments are expected to be at all practices and all contest.

### **Disciplinary Appeals Process**

The request for an appeal must be done within 5 days.

Step 1 - Head Coach

Step 2 - Athletic Director/Junior High Coordinator

Step 3 - Athletic Director [if appealed from JH]

Step 4 – Campus Principal

Possible outcomes of appeal process:

- Accept appeal and reduce action
- Denial of appeal
- Alter to action
- Other appropriate action (example: Community Service)

**NOTE:** If a parent has followed the athletic discipline appeal process, and is not satisfied, the next step will be referral to FNG (Local). Please see campus principal for a copy of FNG (Local), if needed.

### **Hazing**

Good sportsmanship is not only limited to the playing field. It is also showing compassion and respect toward your own teammates and other students. Hazing is a serious matter and will not be tolerated.

The University Interscholastic League and Smithville ISD will take a strong stance in the prevention and punishment of such practices

If you see any act that you believe is a form of hazing, it is your responsibility to tell someone and help to stop the act. Allowing hazing to occur is the same as conducting the act itself.

Hazing can be, but is not limited to the following:

- Physical or verbal abuse
- Threats or implied threats

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

- Personal servitude
- Being forced to wear embarrassing or humiliating attire in public

Hazing will be treated as a minor or major legal offense depending on severity and circumstances.

Please see above for possible disciplinary actions.

### **UIL Standards**

- All athletes from the 7<sup>th</sup> grade through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade must pass each six weeks in order to stay eligible under the UIL “No Pass No Play” rule.
- For an athlete to be passing, athletes must obtain a grade of 70 or higher in all classes to be eligible to compete in any UIL activity.
- The athlete must also meet standards of residence, credits toward graduation, age limits, and class schedule to be eligible for varsity competition.
- All courses must be passing unless otherwise stated by UIL, TEA, and District Academic policies.
- Athletes who become ineligible will not be able to participate in athletic competition until the ineligibility period is complete and all classes meet the passing requirements. This time frame will be determined based on the eligibility calendar.
- Ineligible athletes are still allowed to practice and are expected to attend all practices during time of ineligibility.
- Have a completed Physical Examination form with the proper signatures on file in the athletic department. All student athletes will have a yearly physical on file in order to practice or compete.

### **SISD Standards**

In order to participate in SISD athletic program the students must meet the following guidelines:

1. Be a student in good standing enrolled in the SISD school district.
2. Pass all classes based on UIL, TEA, and District Academic standards.

### **Grade Checks**

- Grade checks will be done for all athletes every 2 weeks. Athletes are responsible for getting grade sheets to coaches at this time.
- If a student has a grade below 75 at the time of grade checks they will attend mandatory tutorials. Tutorials will take place in the morning before school or after school; coach will assign.
- If a teacher is not at school, a coach’s classroom will be open to go to from 7:30-7:50.
- Students will be counted absent if they have not checked into tutorials in a timely manner.
- Missing tutorials will be treated like the student has skipped a practice.
- If, at any time, the athlete shows documentation of all class grades rising up to a 75, the athlete will be released from mandatory tutorials.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

- Grade monitoring will run all year regardless if the student is in season or out of season.

### **Tutorials**

- Tutorials should be attended based on grade check forms or if the coach/athlete feels they need additional help to keep up good grades in classrooms.
- Tutorials should not be attended in a time that will keep them from practicing, if there is an alternate time to attend.
- Coaches can determine if tutorials are necessary and athletes can use practice time for tutorials as long as the coach approves.
- Notes should be presented to coaches if practice has to be missed for tutorials.

**NOTE:** If a student athlete fails three consecutive six weeks, that student athlete will meet with the athletic director. At this meeting the student may be put on a contract or removed from athletics for a semester. If the student athlete is removed, he or she may regain eligibility by passing all classes and may return to athletics by approval from the Athletic Director.

### **Equipment and Uniforms**

- Team uniforms, warm-ups, and equipment are the property of Smithville I.S.D. and must be treated with care. Athletes are responsible for keeping their school-issued equipment clean and secure.
- Athletes are **not allowed** to wear school issued clothing to their next class or home without athletic director's permission.
- **Do not use any equipment or protective gear that is no longer safe or functional. Request and get a replacement.**
- All athletes must return their uniforms and equipment to their coach immediately following their season. Theft, loss, or damage of any equipment or fundraiser items is the athlete's financial obligation.
- No athlete will be allowed to check out any equipment or uniform for another sport until payment for missing or destroyed equipment and uniform is made.

### **Personal Appearance**

All athletes representing Smithville ISD should establish and maintain a high standard of appearance at all times. Athletes must follow the personal appearance guidelines outlined in the SISD Athletic Handbook and SISD Student Handbook.

- Earrings
  - The University Interscholastic League does not permit jewelry in any competitions.
  - Earrings are not allowed on males when in athletic facilities, trips to out-of-town games, or athletic banquets.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

- Hair & Facial Hair
  - Hairstyles on all male athletes must be kept above the ears and off the collar in length. All male and female hairstyles must be kept neatly groomed and well maintained at all times he or she is competing as an athlete. Neatly groomed and well maintained will be defined by the athletic director and SHS student handbook.
- Tattoos
  - Athletes are discouraged from getting tattoos. Athletes with tattoos must cover what can be seen by spectators during competition.

### **Athletic Security**

All athletes are issued lockers with locks. Athletes are responsible for making sure their equipment is always put away and locked so that no one can take it or misplace it. As a Coach, an athlete, and a teammate, there are responsibilities that all need to take to make sure that equipment does not turn up missing.

1. Coach – Will make sure all players have a secure place to store items of value.
2. Athlete – Will store items of value in the secured area.

If the coach does not furnish the athlete with a secure place to store valuable items, then we will assume responsibility. A secure place is defined as a locker and a lock. If the player does not store valuable items in the secure place, and kept locked at all times, then the athlete assumes responsibility. SISD is not responsible for lost or stolen valuables taken to away games.

If an athlete is issued a locker with a broken lock, the athlete is responsible for telling a coach so another locker can be issued.

### **Athletic Travel**

- All athletes are provided travel to and from any athletic competition or event.
- Athletes are strongly encouraged to ride the bus to and from out-of-town games.
- If there is an emergency during the event, and an athlete has to ride home with parents, the parents must provide the coach with a written note prior to leaving the event.
- The Head Coach of each sport has the authority to allow or deny players the right to travel separately.
- If, as a parent, you want your student athlete to ride home with another adult other than you, you must have written permission from the campus principal at least 24 hours in advance of the trip and this must be presented to the Head Coach of the sport. This practice is discouraged by SISD.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

## **General Expectations of Student Athletes**

1. **Tobacco, Alcohol, and non-therapeutic drugs:** are not allowed to be used in our program, any use of these products will be subject to disciplinary action. The severity of the offense will result in more action and a possible suspension.
2. **Profanity, Abusive Language, Inappropriate Gesturing:** We do not allow it. Each offense can result in disciplinary action.
3. **Stealing:** Taking things that don't belong to you, especially taking from your teammates will not be tolerated and will be considered a minor or major legal offense depending on circumstances.
4. **Conduct on and off the playing field:** Smithville ISD athletes will demonstrate class at all times. Trash talking is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. Praise your opponents and play beyond your ability. This is called good character and demonstrates personal integrity. Always accept victory with grace and defeat with dignity. We expect you to conduct yourself as a gentleman, or a lady, at all times. This means you are to follow school rules and procedures while attending class at Smithville I.S.D. You are to act properly in class, giving your teachers, administrators, all students and adults courtesy and respect...
5. **Attendance:** Do not cut class and do not be tardy. If you must miss the athletic period, be sure that you talk to one of the coaches. You will be required to make-up conditioning that you miss. If you are tardy to the athletic period, you will run extra after the period
6. **Injury or Illness:** Except in cases of extreme emergency, please notify the Head Coach of the sport that you are playing or the Athletic Director of any injury before you go to a doctor. If you must leave school because of illness, come by and check with a coach, so we know you may not be at practice.
7. **Respect of Coaches:** Coaches should receive "Yes, Sir", "Yes, Ma'am" and "No, Sir", "No, Ma'am" responses from players when talking to them. Players, in return will be treated with respect by their coaches. Whenever a coach is speaking to you, either individually or as a team, you will give him or her undivided attention and will establish eye contact with him or her.
8. **Promptness:** Always be on time. On trips, the bus cannot wait for anyone. If you happen to miss the bus, you will have to get to the contest on your own and it will be the coaches' discretion as to whether you play. You will be dressed and ready in your position by the designated time during the athletic period.
9. **Participation:** An athlete will not be allowed to participate in a contest or practice if he or she has not been at school at least two periods of the school day. Certain attendance rules and situations will allow for participation.
10. **Dress:** Should be very professional in uniform and out. Everyone will wear his or her uniform in the same manner. We will furnish your equipment. Your appearance away from the field house/gym, especially at school, should reflect the same class and pride that you show in our program.
11. **Excused Workout:** Telling the coach that you will not be at practice prior to the start of practice will result in an excused workout. Though the workout is excused, you will still be responsible to make up the conditioning that you missed. Each head coach will explain the running for his or her sport at the start of the season to each team.
12. **Unexcused Workout:** When the athlete does not tell a coach that he/she is leaving school or when he/she does not show up during the athletic period or at practice, the practice will be considered unexcused. It is also unexcused if you are sent to detention for tardies or behavioral reasons. The

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

discipline for missed, unexcused workouts will vary from sport to sport. Each Head Coach will explain the punishment for unexcused workouts at the beginning of the season. Excessive unexcused workouts can lead to removal from the athletic program.

### **Quitting a Sport**

Any player beginning a season in a sport is expected to fulfill their commitment to that team. The season is defined as the 5th official practice until the final game. The whole premise of our program is built on commitment, responsibility, and a “never give up” attitude. Concerns and frustrations can usually be worked out with proper communication between the athlete and coach.

Any athlete wishing to quit a sport must complete the following steps:

1. Meet with their coach and express his/her desire to discontinue participation in that sport.
2. Have his/her parents sign a form stating that they are aware of their child’s decision and agree.

A high school player quitting a sport in season may not begin participation in another sport without the approval of the head coach of the sport they are quitting and the athletic director. Approval to participate in another sport may require some disciplinary action at the athletic director’s discretion. Participation is considered after school practices, use of facilities, and athletic contests. A junior high player quitting a sport during the season will not be eligible to start without the approval of the JH Coordinator or athletic director.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

**Smithville ISD Athletic Department**

**Quit Form**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, grade \_\_\_\_\_, have decided after careful consideration to remove myself from the sport of \_\_\_\_\_. I have been given three (3) days to consider and evaluate my decision. I feel that this is the best decision for my teammates and me.

Reason for quitting:

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Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Athletic Director Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

### **Athletic Passes**

Each athlete will be given an athletic pass to be able to get into the sporting events for free at the High School and Junior High. You must show your pass to get into the game. Saying that “I am in athletics” is not good enough. The athlete can pick up their athletic pass from their coach. If the athlete loses their pass, they must pay a \$10.00 fee to be issued another.

### **Athletic Awards**

#### **Letter Jackets**

Athletes will receive, upon the head coaches’ recommendations, an athletic letter jacket. Students will receive only one jacket with one varsity letter during their high school career.

Listed below are the criteria to letter for each sport. The head coach, however, has the right to issue or withhold a letter jacket for extenuating circumstances, such as injuries, value to a team without meeting playing time quotas, team violations, etc. Coaches must provide documentation of these circumstances to the Athletic Director.

All athletes in all sports must meet the following requirements in order to be eligible for a letter jacket.

1. All athletic awards will conform to guidelines established by the UIL.
2. Athletes must participate in varsity sports to receive a letter for that sport.
3. An athlete may receive only one major award during their four-year career.
4. Must complete the scheduled season in the lettering sport in good standing.

### **Parent Code of Conduct**

- Make sure your child understands that win or lose, you love him or her. Be realistic about your child’s athletic ability.
- Help your child set realistic goals.
- Emphasize “improved” performance, not winning. But, help them to understand athletics is about competition.
- Don’t relive your own athletic past through your child.
- Control your emotions at games and events.
- Be a “cheerleader” for your child and other children on the team.
- Respect your child’s coaches. Communicate with them in a positive way. Encourage others to do the same.
- Be a positive role model.
- Be sensible, responsible and keep your priorities in order. There is a lot more at stake than a win or loss.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

### **Parent/Coach Relationship**

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone. Parents have the right to know, and understand, the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

Communication parents should expect from their child's coach:

- Team schedule
- Coach's philosophy and expectations for Team and player; includes Team rules
- Accurate and prompt locations and times of practices
- Team requirements, fees, special equipment needed, off-season expectations
- Procedures that will be followed if your child becomes injured during participation

Communication coaches expect from parents:

1. Information, concerns or issues regarding their son or daughter expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance

Appropriate issues/concerns to discuss with a coach:

- The mental and physical treatment of your child
- What your child needs to do to improve
- Concerns about your child's discipline, behavior, demeanor and/or attitude

Inappropriate issues/concerns to discuss with a coach:

- How much playing time each athlete is getting
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Any situation that deals with other student/athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and parent. When these conferences are necessary please follow the steps below:

1. Contact the coach at school to set up an appointment.
2. If coach cannot be reached or the issue is not resolved, contact the athletic director

**NOTE:** Please do not confront the coach before, during or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach and meetings of this nature rarely promote resolution and often escalate it.

**LOYALTY   COMMITMENT   TEAMWORK   WORK ETHIC   DISCIPLINE**

**PRIDE**

### **Coaches' Expectations**

1. Allow and encourage all interested students to participate in athletics in some capacity
2. Contribute to a coordinated program for each sport from junior high to the varsity level
3. Develop fundamental skills and strategies in each sport
4. Improve the skills necessary for higher levels of competition
5. Present high expectations for the Team and the individual athletes
6. Develop the desire in all athletes to be a part of a successful program and to contribute to a competitive team
7. Instill good habits, sound morals, and exemplary citizenship in the students
8. Instill the value of fair play, loyalty, cooperation, and a high standard of sportsmanship
9. Provide as much competitive experience as possible for all athletes
10. Emphasize, at all levels of competition, that athletic competition carries responsibilities with it such as: training, loyalty, scholastic eligibility, improvement, courage, perseverance, determination and pride
11. Promote the academic excellence and achievement
12. Promote personal development of all athletes and work to grow them physically, mentally, and socially
13. Instill in all athletes the desire to represent their school and community in a manner that will make parents, teachers, citizens, and fellow students proud of them.
14. Promote Tiger Pride!

### **An Open Letter to the Fans from The University Interscholastic League (UIL)**

Dear Fan,

You walk up to the stadium or field ready to see a clash between your high school team and your most hated rival. You pull out your hard earned cash for that ticket, that golden ticket that allows you to a seat where you plan to “help” your team with constant berating of the opposing team and officials. You feel it is your duty as a fan to do everything you can for your team, and your role is to call it like you see it from 50 feet away in the stands.

What you don't understand is that your verbal abuse does nothing more than tear at the fabric of high school sports. The players on the athletic field, court or diamond are not being paid to play; they are not professional athletes that have to deal with fans like you on a daily basis. It is a privilege, not a right, for these athletes to compete as much as it is a privilege for you to sit in the stands and watch.

But what about your golden ticket that you paid good money for, doesn't that entitle you to something? Yes, you get the opportunity to watch two schools show off their skills and what they have learned in the athletic classroom. Other than that, your ticket gives you little more than a first-come-

**LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE**

**PRIDE**

first-serve spot on a crowded row of bleachers. Contests could not exist without rules, and just as the players have to abide by rules on the field, you too have to follow the rules in the stands.

It's not all your fault; you probably had someone much like yourself at your high school games. Hopefully it's not the case, but you may never have seen proper spectator decorum. The UIL has a few basic tips that can help steer you in the right direction.

1. The field of play is the athletic classroom for student-athletes. Instead of math and science they learn teamwork and group responsibility in addition to dealing with success and overcoming adversity. You wouldn't dare interrupt a teacher giving a test to his or her students, yet you do it to coaches and student athletes routinely in their classroom.
2. Your ticket does not entitle you to disrespect or degrade others in any way. Everyone who is a part of high school athletics gives their best effort and that commitment to educational athletics should be celebrated.
3. Understand that the student-athletes you are watching will make mistakes, and no participant should be ridiculed at any time because of their efforts. Many of them are still learning the games they play and can easily be disheartened by a rogue fan attacking their performance.
4. High school coaches are actually full-time teachers first and coaches second. Anyone who tries to reverse this order is taking the first step to destroying a program. No one wants a program to fail, but the merciless pressure you put on him or her as someone who had nothing to do with the building of the program can bring it down.
5. Officials are present to promote the game and the student-athletes involved. They make judgment calls in good faith based on their knowledge and extensive training. A lot of time and effort has gone into making sure that they know the rules better than you. Respect their decisions.
6. Finally, you are a guest of the school and should act like one. Winning is an admirable goal of competition, but it is nothing if it comes at the expense of morals, ethics, and common sense.

-University Interscholastic League

- Supported by SISD, SJHS, SHS and the athletic department

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

## **Student Athlete Conduct Policy**

**Trustworthiness**- Be worth of trust in all I do.

**Integrity**- Live up to high ideals of ethics and sportsmanship and always pursue victory with honor. Do what is right even when it is unpopular or has a personal cost.

**Honesty**- Live and compete honorably. Never lie, cheat, steal or engage in any other dishonest or unsportsman like conduct.

**Loyalty**- Be loyal to my school and team and put the Team above personal glory.

**Respect**- Treat all people with respect at all times, and require the same of other student-athletes.

**Class**- Live and play with class. Be a good sport. Be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity. Give fallen opponents help, compliment extraordinary performance and show sincere respect in pre- and post-game rituals.

**Disrespectful Conduct**- Do not engage in disrespectful conduct of any sort including profanity, obscene gestures, offensive remarks, trash-talking, taunting, boastful celebrations or actions that demean individuals or the sport.

**Respect Officials**- Treat contest officials with respect. Do not complain about or argue with official calls or decisions made during an athletic event.

**Importance of Education**- Be a student first, and commit to academic excellence.

**Role Modeling**- Consistently exhibit good character and conduct myself as a positive role model.

**Self-Control**- Exercise self-control. Do not fight or show excessive displays of anger or frustration. Have the strength to overcome the temptation to retaliate.

**Healthy Lifestyle**- Safeguard my health. Do not use any illegal or unhealthy substances including alcohol, tobacco and drugs or engage in any unhealthy or illegal techniques to gain, lose or maintain weight.

**Integrity of the Game**- Protect the integrity of the game. Play the game according to the rules.

**Play by the Rules**- Maintain a thorough knowledge of and abide by all applicable game and competition rules.

**Spirit of Rules**- Honor the spirit and the letter of the rules. Avoid temptations to gain competitive advantage through improper techniques that violate the highest traditions of sportsmanship.

**Fairness**- Live up to the highest standards of fair play. Be open-minded, and always be willing to listen and learn.

**Concern for Others**- Demonstrate concern for others. Never intentionally injure any player or engage in reckless behavior that might cause injury to me or others

**Teammates**- Help promote the well-being of teammates by positive counseling and encouragement or by reporting any unhealthy or dangerous conduct to coaches.

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE

**Signature and Acknowledgement of Receipt of Handbook and Athletic Code of Conduct**

**I have read and understand the requirements of this athletic handbook. I understand that I am expected to perform according to this handbook and that there may be sanctions or penalties if I do not.**

Student Athlete Name\_\_\_\_\_

Student Athlete Signature\_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and understand the requirements of this athletic handbook. I understand that my student athlete is expected to perform according to this handbook and that he or she may be sanctioned or penalized if they do not.**

Parent/ Guardian Name\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature\_\_\_\_\_

**Smithville Athletic Handbook and Code of Conduct  
2018-2019**

LOYALTY COMMITMENT TEAMWORK WORK ETHIC DISCIPLINE

PRIDE