

Dear Fan:

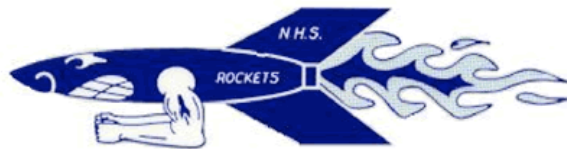
Welcome to a Needham Rockets athletic event. We are thrilled you are here to support the student-athletes and coaches. We want you to have a good experience at the event. To help make this happen, please consider the "Sportsmanship Creed" that we live by:

*"The ideals of good sportsmanship, ethical behavior and integrity should permeate all interscholastic athletics in our community. In perception and practice, good sportsmanship shall be defined as those qualities of behavior which are characterized by generosity and genuine concern for others. Our athletic fields should be the laboratory to produce good citizens reflecting "fair play" in every area of life."*

#### Expectations of Parents, Guests and Other Fans

The school will hold attendees at athletic events to the following expectations:

- ⇒ Game attendance is a privilege, not a license to verbally assault others or to be obnoxious.
- ⇒ Respect the entire playing of the National Anthem.
- ⇒ Respect decisions made by contest officials.
- ⇒ Be an exemplary role model by positively supporting teams in every manner possible, including content of cheers and signs.
- ⇒ Become aware of the purpose of the league and rules to keep winning in its proper place.
- ⇒ Respect fans, coaches and participants.
- ⇒ Be a fan....not a fanatic!
- ⇒ Recognize outstanding performances on either side of the playing field.



The following are *examples* of acceptable and unacceptable behaviors (as deemed by the MIAA and adopted by Needham High School); it is not a complete list:

Acceptable Behavior	Unacceptable Behavior
Applaud during introduction of players, coaches and officials.	Yelling or negative chanting or gestures toward opponent.
Accept all decisions by officials.	Booing or heckling an official's decision.
Handshakes between participants and coaches at end of contest, regardless of outcome.	Criticizing officials in any way; displays of temper with an official's call.
Treat competition as a game, not a war.	Taunting or, trash talk.
Search out opposing participants to recognize them for outstanding performance or coaching.	Refusing to shake hands or to give recognition for good performances.
Applaud at end of contest for performances of all participants.	Blaming loss of game on officials, coaches or participants.
Demonstrate concern for injured player, regardless of team.	Laughing or name calling to distract an opponent.
Encourage supporting people to display only sportsmanlike conduct.	Using profanity or displays of anger that draw attention away from the game.

### Consequences

If your conduct does not meet the standards of acceptable behavior—as stated in the Student Handbook or in this document—you may be removed from the event by the lead supervisor, administration, or event police. Repeated violations will preclude you from attending future Needham sporting events.

As always, we welcome your observations and feedback as a way to improve the experience of all fans at Needham athletic events. Go Rockets!