

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PHILADELPHIA

No. 123.3

Section: 100 Programs

Title: Sportsmanship

Adopted: March 28, 2019

Revised: January 26, 2023

123.3 SPORTSMANSHIP

**Purpose**

The Board of Education (“Board”) recognizes the importance of providing positive experiences for students participating in athletic programs in the School District of Philadelphia (“District”). The purpose of this Policy is to provide guidance for student athletes, parents/guardians, and athletic personnel about sportsmanship, leadership, and character development by students while participating in an athletic activity.[1][2]

**Authority**

As permitted by the Pennsylvania School Code, the Board may adopt and enforce such policies necessary and proper to prohibit unsportsmanlike conduct in connection with any athletic activity, regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school property or outside of school hours.[1]

**Delegation of Responsibility**

The Board directs the Superintendent or their designee, through the Office of Athletics, to adopt rules for student-athletes, coaches, and athletic personnel that promote core values of teamwork, sportsmanship, leadership, and character.[2]

**Mandatory Regulatory Procedures**

**Unsportsmanlike Conduct**

The Board prohibits unsportsmanlike conduct in connection with any athletic activity, regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school property or outside of school hours.[3][4]

The Office of Athletics shall annually inform student athletes, parents/guardians, and athletic personnel of the rules created in connection with this policy and require appropriate acknowledgements.

## Bullying, Hazing & Inappropriate Behaviors

Bullying, hazing, and harassment are antithetical to competitive sports. All students and employees must adhere to Policy 247 - Hazing, Policy 249 - Bullying and Cyberbullying, and the Student Code of Conduct.[5][6][7]

### **Legal References:**

1. [24 P.S. § 510](#)
2. Philadelphia Public League (PPL) By-Laws
3. Policy 218 - Student Conduct and Discipline
4. Policy 320 - Freedom of Speech and Political Activities
5. Policy 247 - Hazing
6. Policy 249 - Bullying/Cyberbullying

### **Related Information:**

[Administrative Procedures for Interscholastic Athletics](#)