TEACHING STUDENTS THE VALUES OF SPORTSMANSHIP

by:

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Being a good sport is an essential part of the game or in any other sports competition. While winning can be so cool, being a good sport means realizing that it is participating, trying to do your best, and having fun that matters the most.

It is important to be a good sport whether you have won or lost. A winner who is a good sport never shouts. If you have done your best and come in second, would it make you feel very good for the winner to laugh? No way! Remember that trying your best and having fun is what matters most! Focus on some of the big highlights of the experience, like the great shots you took and how much you learn. A good sport always congratulates his opponents on a game, whether he has won or lost.

Also remember that being a good sport is not just about how you act after the game is over, but also about how you act while you are playing. A good sport never teases another player, always plays fairly and follows the rules.

Importance of good Sportsmanship

Community Youth Sports Programs serve children from Pre-school through teens. Games that were ones played with few spectators now draw dozens of parents, grandparents and friends to the sidelines, cheering and chanting. Unfortunately, we find much too often, berating the officials, coaches and even players. Competition can be intense and coaches feel the pressure to produce victories and may find themselves behaving in ways the latter regret.
Today the concept of good sportsmanship has been lost. Sportsmanship is a manifestation of our own ethics in real life. Sportsmanship like ethics reflects both the character and the actions of a coach. The image a coach project on the field is usually product of his own character.

The following are good sportsmanship rules:

Apply the golden rule – do unto others what you want others do unto you.

Have an understanding and an appreciation of the rules. Enjoy yourself and encourage enjoyment of others.

Take responsibility for your actions.

Exhibit respect for the officials, umpires are impartial arbitrators who perform to the best of their ability to make sure the game is played fair and within the rules, mistakes made by all those who involved are part of the game and must be accepted.

Do not tolerate bad behavior from your teammates.

Shake hands with the opponent before and after the game, regardless of the outcome.

Cheer positive manner. Accept all decisions by officials without question.

Applause at the end of the contest for the performance of all participants.

Encourage all surrounding people (fans included) to display a sportsmanlike behavior.

Applause good plays by both teammates and opponents.

Show concern for an injured player, regardless of the team.

Win with class, loss with dignity.
Here are four things each coach can do to really show their players what being “a good sport” is really all about.

Be your players’ role model.

Offer praise and encouraging words for all athletes, including your team’s opponent.

Cheer for all the players, even those on the other team.

Thank the officials.

Youth sports officials state that such positive feedbacks, rare as it often is, goes a long way in motivating them to stick with their officiating work and keep them going through bad times. Teaching sportsmanship is both a responsibility of parents and teachers.

References:
- https://www.passiton.com/sportmanship