

## Hudson Basketball Association Sportsmanship Expectations

Young men and women who participate in the Hudson Basketball Association programs and activities learn more than just basketball skills. In practice and games they are exposed to situations that allow them to develop qualities such as leadership, discipline, physical fitness, mental toughness, and good sportsmanship that will last a lifetime.

Good sportsmanship makes games and practices enjoyable for all who participate, be they the coaches, players, parents, or referees. Discipline is learned by working as part of a team and respecting the unique contributions of each member. Good sportsmanship is defined as an attitude that acknowledges the rigors of competition and letting these activities be decided by the skills and mental qualities listed above. In addition, it encompasses a willingness to acknowledge these qualities in both opponents and teammates. It also acknowledges that there are “winners” and “losers” in every game, and that how you conduct yourself as a “loser” is just as important as how you conduct yourself as a “winner.”

In light of this policy, we promote the following behavior:

- Respectful comments and behavior toward opponents, referees, and fans.
- Full coach and player involvement in post-game handshakes, with only congratulatory comments spoken.
- We discourages the following behavior:
  - Play intended to physically harm an opponent
  - Disparaging fan or player comments toward referees
  - Bench comments or on-court behavior intended to disrupt the opposing team
  - Non-constructive or disparaging comments made towards opponents or teammates

Players are expected to read and sign the Players Code of Conduct form at the beginning of each season to indicate their understanding and acceptance of this sportsmanship policy and the code of conduct. Violations of this policy or code of conduct will be addressed according to the association’s disciplinary procedures.

Likewise, coaches and league officials and representatives are expected to fully support and abide by this sportsmanship policy and code of conduct. Violations will be addressed according to our disciplinary procedure.

In addition, players, coaches, and other representatives of the Hudson Basketball Association are expected to abide by the sportsmanship and conduct rules established by any league or tournament in which they participate.

Parents are also expected to review, understand, and abide by the Parents Code of Conduct.