

**SUBJECT: Language regarding spectator conduct**

Positive spectator behavior is as important a part of any contest as the play that is taking place on the field or court. Officials are an essential part of any interscholastic sports program. Without officials, NYSPHAA, Section 5, and member schools would not be able to offer interscholastic sports. Spectators are expected to “Be Loud, Be Proud, and Be Positive”. Negative comments and inappropriate behaviors by spectators will be addressed by school supervisors and if the offense is at a level that requires a spectator to be removed, the following will take place:

1. That spectator will not be allowed to attend the next scheduled contest whether it is home or away.
2. That spectator will be required to complete the NFHS online sportsmanship course and provide a certificate of completion to the athletic director. The spectator will not be permitted to attend contests until that certificate is provided. This course is free of charge. It can be found at <https://nfhslearn.com/courses/sportsmanship-2>
3. That spectator will be required to schedule and attend a meeting with the athletic director and high school principal or other designated administrator in order to discuss the offense or offenses that led to their removal and learn about steps that can be taken to ensure that they will not be removed from further contests.

**Upon return, if that spectator is removed from a second contest they will not be permitted to attend contests for any sport, both home and away, for a one-year period.**

Adopted: 3/15/2023