

District Policy #8 – Sportsmanship

District 9 emphasizes the importance of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP from all teams, including League Officials, Coaches, Managers, players and spectators. The one thing everyone needs to realize is that GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is the responsibility of everyone. Hopefully all District 9 Leagues will teach GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP to all and this will help everyone understand and display GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP at all Little League games and functions throughout the year. The basics for GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP are listed below:

1. Gain An Understanding And Appreciation For The Rules Of The Contest – Know the rules. If you are uninformed, refrain from expressing opinions on officials or coaches. The spirit of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP depends on conformance to a rule's intent as well as to the letter of a given rule.
2. Exercise Representative Behavior At All Times – The true value of Little League competition relies upon everyone exhibiting behaviour which is representative of a sound value base. Your behaviour influences others whether you are aware of it or not.
3. Recognize And Appreciate Skilled Performances Regardless Of Affiliation – Applause for an opponent's good performance displays generosity and is a courtesy that should be regularly practiced. This not only represents GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP but also reflects a true awareness of the game by recognizing and acknowledging quality.
4. Exhibit Respect For The Officials – The officials of any contest are impartial arbitrators who are trained and who perform to the best of their abilities. Mistakes by all those involved in the contests are a part of the game. The rule of GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP is to accept and abide by the decisions made by the officials. This is critical for all involved to learn for later applications in life.
5. Display Openly A Respect For The Opponent At All Times – Opponents should be treated cordially and accorded tolerance at all times. Be a positive representative for your League, Team and family. This fundamental is the Golden Rule in action.
6. Display Pride In Your Actions At Every Opportunity – Never allow your ego to interfere with good judgement and your responsibility as a League representative. Regardless of whether you are an adult, player, coach or official. This value is paramount since it suggests that you care about yourself and how others perceive you.

Bob Toigo

Bob Toigo, DA
Wash. Dist.