

“Raise the Bar” - Sportsmanship Matters!

The Utah High School Activities Association is the leadership organization for education-based interscholastic athletic and fine arts activities. The philosophy of education-based activities is to focus on learning; UHSAA activities are an extension of the school day. Through participation, athletes are taught valuable life skills and universal values, including – RESPECT, TEAMWORK, RESPONSIBILITY, HONESTY, INTEGRITY and LEADERSHIP, which will assist them in becoming successful individuals and productive citizens. Participation is a privilege that comes with the responsibility to exhibit appropriate sporting behavior and be a positive role model.

PARTICIPANTS SPORTSMANSHIP PLEDGE

I accept the responsibilities that come with the privilege of participating and pledge to exhibit appropriate sporting behavior and be a positive role model for my team, school and community.



I pledge to:

1. Play with honesty and integrity by adhering to the rules of the sport and UHSAA rules and regulations.
2. Demonstrate respect for all participants (i.e. teammates, opponents, officials, coaches, officials, spectators and fans).
3. Display self-control and appropriate behavior when participating

Sign below:

Participant: _____ Guardian: _____

COACH COMMITMENT (Signature on the front of this page demonstrates agreement):

1. I pledge to support the UHSAA “Raise the Bar” Sportsmanship Initiative by teaching and enforcing the standards of good sportsmanship and appropriate sporting behavior and being a positive role model.
2. I will discuss the eligibility requirements on this form with prospective participants.
3. Players and parents will receive an “Activity Disclosure Statement” as outlined below.

The Activity disclosure statement from Utah State Code (SBE 53-A-3-420) reads:

1. A local school board shall require the development of activity disclosure statements for each school-sponsored group, club, or program which involves students and faculty in grades 9 through 12 in contests, performances, events, or other activities that require them to miss normal class time or takes place outside regular school time.
2. The activity disclosure statements shall be disseminated to the students desiring involvement in the specific activity or to the students’ parents or legal guardians or to both students and their parents.
3. An activity disclosure statement shall contain the following information:
 - a. The specific name of the club, team, group, or activity;
 - b. The maximum number of students involved;
 - c. Whether or not tryouts are used to select students, specifying date and time requirements for tryouts, if applicable.
 - d. Beginning and ending dates of the activity;
 - e. A tentative schedule of the events, performances, games, or other activities with dates, times, and places specified if available;
 - f. If applicable, designation of any non-season events or activities, including an indication of the status, required, expected, suggested, or optional, with the dates, times, and places specified;
 - g. Personal costs associated with the activity;
 - h. the name of the school employee responsible for the activity; and
 - i. any additional information considered important for the students and parents to know.

Concussion in Sports

In a national study completed by the NFHS, concussions were the second most common injury among the country's high school athletes after ankle sprains and strains. In addition, about 40% of those with concussions return to play before being cleared by qualified medical personnel. The UHSAA has organized a Sports Medicine Advisory Committee to discuss concussion management and other medical items. That committee has already met and will be sharing proposals with the Executive Committee in the August meeting concerning concussion in sports. All NFHS sport rule books for this year, as well as the *UHSAA Handbook*, will contain suggested guidelines for concussion management and administration. A free course developed by the NFHS is available on-line (www.nfhslearn.com) and is an excellent resource on concussion management. The 20-minute course provides education and instruction for administrators, coaches, game officials, parents and students about concussions and the actions to take when a concussion is present. All the latest information regarding concussion in sports can be found at the NFHS website (www.nfhs.org) or the CDC Website (<http://www.cdc.gov/concussion>).