

Do What's Right!

Sportsmanship Program



www.ihsa.org • Phone: 309-663-6377 • Fax: 309-663-7479

TO: IHSA Member School Principals and Athletic Directors

FROM: Beth A. Sauser, IHSA Assistant Executive Director
IHSA Sportsmanship Advisory Committee

RE: "Do What's Right!" Sportsmanship Program

DATE: December, 2009

Dear Principal and Athletic Director:

The IHSA is pleased to announce that the 2009-10 school year marks the 3rd year of the Do What's Right! Program.

This comprehensive program creates opportunities for teams, schools and communities to earn positive recognition throughout the regular season and post season. The DWR! Program outlines the expectations for all IHSA member schools, their teams, coaches, players, and communities to adopt. Creating a consistent message of behavior for participants and fans leaves little room for question as to how to create an enjoyable atmosphere at all contests throughout the state

When a conference or independent school registers for the Do What's Right! program, they agree to communicate and actively educate their students, fans and communities of the following **Do What's Right! Expectations:**

- Represents their school and community well with positive interaction with opposing fans and players.
- Uses positive yells, chants, songs or gestures.
- Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- Respect and acknowledge the integrity/judgment of officials.
- Exhibit positive behavior with opponents and fans before, during and after the contest.

There are three levels of participation and recognition a conference can choose from:

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Level 1

The conference registers annually by October 20 by submitting the downloadable forms to the IHSAA to be eligible for the State Finals Sportsmanship Award. Registered independent schools are only eligible to earn a State Finals Sportsmanship Award. The Registration form is available online through the Do What's Right! webpage.

Conference administrators or coaches do not rank teams or fans during the season and do not recognize a school for earning the most points through out the school year.

All registered conference schools and independent schools are eligible to receive a DWR! State Final Banner in team bracketed sports. The rubric used by the state final sportsmanship committee is on the Website for your review.

Level 2

The conference registers annually by October 20 by submitting the downloadable forms to the IHSAA to be eligible for the Regular Season Sportsmanship Award and the State Finals Sportsmanship Award. The Registration form is available online through the Do What's Right! webpage.

Conference administrators and/or coaches rank teams and their fans seasonally based on the DWR! Expectations.

The IHSAA will provide the Regular Season Sportsmanship Award certificates to the winning school of each sport. It is the responsibility of each conference to develop a selection process using the Do What's Right! Expectations in order to recognize the recipients of the seasonal award. Using the Regular Season Tally Report the conference contact will send in the name(s) of the winning school(s) to the IHSAA by December 1 for Fall sports, March 1 for Winter Sports and June 1 for Spring sports in order for schools to receive their certificate and recognition on the IHSAA website.

Level 3

The conference registers annually by October 20 by submitting the downloadable forms to the IHSAA to be eligible for the Regular Season Sportsmanship Award, the State Finals Sportsmanship Award and the Annual Conference Sportsmanship Award. The Registration form is available online through the Do What's Right! webpage.

Conference administrators and/or coaches rank teams and their fans seasonally based on the DWR! Expectations.

The conference also recognizes one of their schools for the annual sportsmanship award by earning the most points through the three sports seasons. The school, that accumulates the most regular season points throughout the three seasons, will earn the Annual Conference Sportsmanship Award winner for the year. The conference contact will send in the name of the winning school by June 1 to the IHSAA for recognition on the website. Conferences have an opportunity to order a banner for the school through the IHSAA website.

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All registered state qualifying schools in the following tournaments: Baseball, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball, Water Polo, Dual Team Wrestling and Drama Group Interpretation will have an opportunity to earn a “Do What’s Right!” State Final Sportsmanship Awards banner

Conferences also have the opportunity to recognize students participating in individual sports (cross country, tennis, track and field etc.) by developing a selection process. The points earned by individual schools will also count towards their schools accumulated point total for the year.

The full “Do What’s Right!” Sportsmanship Program description, registration forms, sample certificates and banners, are all available for your review on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org.

For further information or if your conference would like to schedule a presentation of the “Do What’s Right!” Sportsmanship Program please contact Beth Sauser at the IHSA office at 309-663-6377 or at bsauser@ihsa.org.