

Mississinewa Community Schools Athletics

Championship Culture: Parents, Fans, and Spectator Expectations

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The following event attendance expectations have been enforced organically. However, in an effort to provide clarity and accountability for all home and away athletic events, here is a list of expectations to promote safety and professionalism.

The Mississinewa Community School Corporation has tremendous fan support. Our atmosphere is engaging and professional toward our teams and our opponents. Although we already have an atmosphere of excellence, it is important to continue to build on our strengths. As an athletic department, we strive to hold our coaches and student-athletes accountable to controlling what they can control and being professional in their preparation, performance, and response to competition. We believe that Championship Cultures focus on what they can control, prepare with excellence, and respond with competitive professionalism. Here are the expectations when supporting The Tribe at Home and Away events.

- 1. **Child must be Accompanied by an Adult**: All elementary, middle-school, and younger children must be accompanied by an adult who stays for the entire contest. An older sibling who is in school is not considered an adult.
- 2. No balls/playground equipment: No balls or playground equipment are allowed.
- 3. **Supervision Required:** Children are to stay with the adults that they enter the event with. They should not be running around and should sit in Mississinewa designated seating areas.
- 4. **No Freeplay:** Children are not permitted to play on adjacent fields, concessions areas, or in any area inside or outside the competition facility (lobby, hallways, walkways, fields, gyms, or bathrooms).
- 5. **Appropriate Spectator Locations:** Stay off the field or court unless given permission by the Event Supervisor.

During the event, students should sit or stand in designated seating areas. <u>Front row students should sit or stand on the Bleacher</u>. No standing on the GYM FLOOR. Staying off the floor allows for sufficient competition gym/field space for the event's student-athletes.

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- 6. **Break in the Action:** Please wait until <u>play has stopped before moving To or From your seat</u>.
- 7. **Encouraging Comments:** There isn't a student-athlete or official who arrived wanting to have a moment of failure. Everyone wants to execute to the best of their abilities, but the human element of sport makes this an impossibility for the officials, coaches, and student-athletes. Play over the moments of perceived missed calls and missed opportunities. "So what, next play"
- 8. **Be Supportive of Officials**: A single team makes more mistakes in a game than an official does. Championship teams have the ability to play over a 'call' in a game. If a team needs all external circumstances to be perfect to win, then that team isn't going to win very many games. The work of an official adds an additional human element to the game, providing an opportunity to respond from Championship Culture Character. As fans of developing student-athletes, our modeling behavior has a strong impact on their development. (No Talking to Officials).
- 9. **Consider Picking up Your Trash:** While we have a tremendous custodial staff, the staff is small in numbers. We host 120+ Events. One way to make their job more efficient is for us to respect our shared spaces. The high school environment does not have the same volume of help as a major professional sports venue. Anything we can do as a community to express respect and appreciation for our shared areas is appreciated.
- 10. **On Us**: Championship culture focuses on their own team and what they control. Bench-Jockeying, personal insults, and student section banter takes the focus away from the competing teams and shifts the focus to others. The limited opportunities we have to express ourselves during an event should build-up, encourage, and acknowledge the character and efforts of our teams. Be the loudest fans in the state, for our team.

Thank you for your support as we serve our student-athletes. We look forward to supporting all of our dedicated student-athletes as they Defend The Tribe.

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