



Ohio Athletic Conference
OPERATION GOODSPORT
10 Canons of Sportsmanship

- 1. Always play by the rules. One honest victory is better than a thousand wins in deceit.**
- 2. Win with humility. Lose with dignity.**
- 3. Give credit to your opponent. Don't blame losses on your own mistakes. Tip your hat to your opponent for causing and taking advantage of those mistakes.**
- 4. Never blame the officials. They are human and they are going to make mistakes, just like coaches and players. It's part of the game. Accept it.**
- 5. Cheer your teammates on when they are struggling. Never express disappointment. The next time they might be picking you up when you are struggling.**
- 6. Sports are emotional. Channel positive emotions toward your teammates. Never channel negative emotions toward your opponents.**
- 7. Don't emulate everything you see on television. Athletes who call attention to themselves are disrespectful to their opponents and also their own teammates.**
- 8. Remember that being a great team player means taking more than your share of the blame and less than your share of the credit.**
- 9. Two wrongs never make a right. If someone does something unsportsmanlike to you, don't lower yourself to his or her poor standards. Take the high road.**
- 10. Remember that you represent more than just yourself. You represent your school, your coaches and your family. Make them all proud of the way you carry yourself.**