

GOOD SPORTS: CREATING A RESPECTFUL ATMOSPHERE FOR COMPETITION

2008 NIRSA Intramural Symposium Session Attendee Survey Unique Responses

as of July 7, 2008

Session Feedback and Discussion Notes and Unique Survey Write-In Responses / Comments, School and Student Population Noted

Other Session Findings

Who is responsible for assigning the sportsmanship rating?

For most schools, game officials hold primary responsibility. Student site supervisors provide input at some schools. Other student staff members (scorekeepers, sign-in attendants, facility supervisors) have limited input at fewer schools. Professional staff reserved the right to amend ratings at some schools.

How can participants and staff be informed of the policy and how to administer it?

Education of participants can be accomplished through a variety of means: preseason captains meetings (most popular), pregame captains meetings, and facility signage. Education of staff is equally important through preseason training sessions utilizing detailed definitions of the rating system and terms along with scenarios and reviews of previous ratings.

What methods can be useful in setting a required sportsmanship score or average?

A review of peer institutions' sportsmanship policies and rating systems can provide averages for a specific rating system. However, due to variations how individual program staffs rate sportsmanship, an analysis of ratings within an institution's own program is essential. By reviewing ratings from particular sports or particular problem teams, an appropriate requirement can be established.

Unique Survey Responses

Captain must meet with GA or Coordinator after his/her team receives an Unacceptable rating in order to be reinstated in the league.

(Oakland Univ, 17,000 students)

Appeals process runs through Coordinator of Rec Programs. (South Dakota State, 11,500 students)

\$20 fine for ejected participants, captain of team responsible, but be paid prior to next game. (Sam Houston State, 17,000 students)

Sportsmanship ratings are a factor in annual team championship standings (annual cup). (Lafayette, 2,200 students & UT-Dallas, 14,500 students)

History of unsportsmanlike fouls in particular sports is kept in order to track problem participants. (Oklahoma State, 23,000 students)

Launching a sportsmanship campaign in the fall of 2008 including pre-game meetings and facility signage. (NC State, 35,000 students)

Utilizing Campus Resources for Major Unsportsmanlike Incidents

What other campus resources have been utilized when major sportsmanship problems have occurred?

Student Judicial Affairs (East Tennessee State, Iowa State, Ohio Univ, Texas Tech, Virginia Tech)

Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities (East Carolina, Florida State, Minnesota)

Dean of Students Office (UT Dallas, Florida State)

Office of Greek Life (UT Dallas, Florida State)

Campus Police (UT Dallas)