

ATHLETICS

PHILOSOPHY

The Ysleta Independent School District believes that the district athletic program should be an integral part of the total education process.

The mission of the Ysleta ISD Athletics Office is to insure and enhance the quality of life for youth by providing competitive activities. The pitting of one's skills, knowledge and talent against friendly opponents is a means of learning one's own strengths and weaknesses.

Good contests, properly supervised, give youthful competitors the opportunity to gain self confidence, improve skills and exhibit good sportsmanship, ethical behavior and integrity. Athletic competitors learn to become good losers and graceful winners. Sports programs help the participant to develop physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually.

Athletic offerings within the district are competitive and diversified, thereby allowing students the opportunity to realize their full potential relative to growth and development. All programs are designed not only to teach athletic skills, but also to instill good character and teach sound values.

It is felt that the success of the athletics program sets the tone for the entire school year. It builds a positive self image for the individual athlete, the team, the school, the community and the Ysleta ISD.

It is our final goal that sports activities will produce young men and women who will be able to enter the community and become constructive, contributing members of society; and, Citizens that will leave their mark on this world by making it a better place for future generations.

In the best of competition there are no losers.

ATHLETICS STATEMENT

Participation in high school and middle school athletics is a privilege which carries with it varying degrees of honor, responsibility and sacrifice. Since athletic competition is a privilege and not a right, those who choose to participate will be expected to follow all rules and regulations established by the UIL, the District, the administration, and coaches. Athletes represent their school and student body. Athletes are to conduct themselves in a manner that is becoming of their family, their school, and community.

ATHLETICS MISSION

All student athletes will graduate from high school prepared to be productive members of society. The athletic experience will instill the values of sportsmanship, teamwork, commitment, and responsibility, which will have a positive impact on the student's academic and athletic performance.

ATHLETE DEFINED

The YISD athlete is defined as and includes all young men and women who represent a team that engages in interscholastic competition and further includes cheerleaders, student managers, student trainers and statisticians.

OBJECTIVE

1. To win State Championships!
2. To provide the opportunity for a student athlete to pursue his/her vision of being accountable, committed and totally responsible to a cause.
3. To give direction to the student/athlete in learning how to deal with adversity/responsibility, and the team concept.
4. To show the student/athlete the process of positive development begins with a positive attitude.
5. To develop and enhance the self-esteem of all student/athletes
6. To instill a drive in the student/athlete to relentlessly be the best he/she can be.
7. To develop sportsmanship, fair play and good citizenship.
8. To encourage the continued development and improvement of coaches and athletic trainers.

WHAT EVERY COACH SHOULD KNOW

1. Only a few students go on to become professional or Olympic athletes. A greater number will be able to earn scholarships to colleges or universities because of their athletic achievements-but even that number is small compared to the vast number of students who participate in sports in our school. Therefore, coaches must focus on instilling good values and building character through sports opportunities.
2. Here are some important guidelines to follow if you are to reach your goal of guiding young people to their highest achievements on and off the playing field- and be respected by students and parents at the same time.
3. Every coach must take the absolute and unequivocal stance that “sports are for kids.” All coaching actions should stem from this stance, including the following:
 - ❖ If kids who are interested in athletics cannot be involved as athletes, look for other possibilities. Perhaps these students can be managers or team assistants.
 - ❖ Structure practices so that students can handle them, considering their academic day and their physical endurance.
 - ❖ Always treat players with respect. Recognize the desire, as well as the sacrifices they are making, to be out for the sport.
 - ❖ Never put down a player in any way-during practice, during games or meets, on or off the field.
 - ❖ Never physically assault a student.
 - ❖ Never tell a student that he or she cannot improve. Always offer assistance for improving. Encourage and teach. Think before you speak. Every word you say has an impact.
 - ❖ Students should never be discriminated against because they can't participate in the sport during the summer.
 - ❖ Remember that you are coaching fragile, maturing, growing human beings- some of whom won't reach the peak of their athletic ability for many years. Your job is to try to keep them participating.
 - ❖ Remember, students participate in other activities, too. Have appreciation and empathy for that fact and encourage it. Never encourage a student to participate only in the sport you are coaching.
 - ❖ Make certain there is no child who is unable to participate due to lack of funds.
 - ❖ Allow no athlete to put down another athlete. If you see or hear of this happening, address it. In the process, make sure your “starts know their responsibilities to teammates.
 - ❖ Emphasize improvement-not just winning-as a sign of success.
 - ❖ Don't put a player in a game, and then spend the entire time screaming at him or her. Everyone will be disgusted.

- ❖ Try to talk to every person on the team daily if possible. Just a quick, “Good effort today!” can do wonders.
- ❖ Be careful not to direct excessive coaching interest toward an exceptional athlete or athletes.
- ❖ Make certain every player has the proper equipment, and ensure that all equipment meets safety guidelines.
- ❖ Continually work with players to maintain their academic standards.
- ❖ Remember that a student’s first responsibility is to academic pursuits. Remember, too, that you are part of the teaching faculty of the school, and you should seek the advice of the faculty as to what the academic needs are of your players.

CONDUCT OF COACHES

The Ysleta Independent School District has the following expectations of coaches and athletic officials:

A coach is representing a school, the Ysleta ISD and the city of El Paso. It is necessary that the coach display positive conduct and serve as a role model to the student athlete. A coach will follow those guidelines and procedures outlined in the Ysleta ISD Handbook. Additionally the district subscribes to the Texas High School Coaches Association Code of Ethics, and Athletic Code for Coaches from the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules.

Assigned coaches are on duty during all practice sessions and during athletic trips from the time of departure, until the time of return. Additionally coaches shall provide the following information and explanation for all athletes: scholarship requirements, availability of campus tutorial programs, acceptable conduct standards and good sportsmanship standards.

HOUSE BILL 3420

This bill prohibits school employees from selling or distributing dietary supplements containing performance enhancing compounds to students. It also prohibits school employees from endorsing or suggesting the use of such supplement by students.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS

Employees shall not engage in conduct constituting sexual harassment or sexual abuse of students. Sexual harassment includes any welcomed or unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal (oral or written), physical, or visual conduct of a sexual nature. Romantic relationships between District employees and students constitute unprofessional conduct and are prohibited. All allegations of sexual harassment or sexual abuse of students by employees must be reported.

SPORTSMANSHIP

The coach is teacher of good sportsmanship and leads by setting a positive example. The strength of any program is centered squarely on the shoulders of the coach.

Fair play is the essential element of good sportsmanship.

When an individual accepts the privilege of participation in an athletic activity, he or she agrees to abide

fairly by the rules and ethics of the game and to compete honorably with one's opponent(s).