



PROGRAM SUPPORT NOTES

In the Spirit of the Game

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For Teachers

Introduction

In this program the concept of good sportsmanship is investigated, with examples discussed by athletes and referees including Daniel Dillon from the Melbourne Tigers basketball club, and Mate Dugandzic from the Melbourne Hearts Soccer Club.

Playing by the rules and codes of conduct are highlighted as key contributors to fair play and good sportsmanship. The concept of being a good team player is presented. The role of the player, coach, official and spectator is discussed and the importance of being a good winner and a good loser is emphasised. The processes involved in conflict resolution are also clearly outlined.

Timeline

00:00:00	What is good sportsmanship?
00:04:52	Codes of conduct
00:09:13	Being a team player
00:12:43	Winners and losers
00:16:08	Conflict resolution
00:20:13	Credits
00:21:15	End program

Related Titles

Lifelong Physical Activity
Expedition and Navigation Skills
Fair Play in Sport – The Role of Umpires and Referees
Evaluating a Training Program
Improving Performance – Elite Athlete Case Studies

Recommended Resources

www.afl.com.au/policies
www.tennis.com.au
www.tennis.com.au/vic
www.ssv.vic.edu.au
www.tigers.com.au
www.footballaustralia.com.au/insideffa/statutes

Student Worksheet

Initiate Prior Learning

1. Think about rules in today's society, then answer the following questions:

a) Why do we need rules?

b) Who makes the rules?

c) Who enforces the rules?

2. Why are rules important in sport?

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3. In sport, some rules are designed to protect the safety of the participants. Name 3 sports and a rule from each sport designed to protect players from injury.

4. Some rules in sport and in life are unwritten, they are more like protocols designed to make the occasion or experience more enjoyable. Provide some examples of unwritten rules which you have become aware of.

Active Viewing Guide

1. Note down the characteristics of good sportsmanship as described by the following interviewees:

a) Wilson Brown (Soccer Referee)

b) Daniel Dillon (Melbourne Tigers Basketball player)

2. Note down characteristics of:

a) A 'bad' sport

b) What are other examples of a "good sport"

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3. Provide four examples of Sporting Etiquette.

4. Draw from your own experience and provide four more examples of good sporting etiquette. Describe the behaviour and name the sport.

5. Describe an example of excellent sportsmanship you have personally been involved in, witnessed or read about.

6. Describe in your own words why etiquette is so important in sport and in daily life.

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9. Refer to the table you have completed in question 8 and respond to each of the following:

a) Describe the common theme or requirement across the codes of conduct for all groups.

b) Is there anything missing from the codes described which in your opinion is important?

10. What are the key ingredients of a good team player as described by the following interviewees?

a) Daniel Dillon (Melbourne Tigers Basketball)

b) Mate Dugandzic (Melbourne Heart Soccer Player)

c) Wilson Brown (Match Official)

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11. Describe in your own words what it is like to be a good team player and how it feels when every team member is treated as an equal. Your experience may have come from a range of areas – not just being in a sporting team.

12. “Gracious in Victory, realistic in defeat!” This statement is reflective of the information and advice provided in this program.

a) In your own words describe what you think “Gracious in Victory, realistic in defeat” means.

b) Give an example of when you have been involved in or witnessed the above statement. Describe what happened.

13. Note down some of the reasons given for disputes or conflict arising during a competitive game.

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14. Why is it important to focus on the problem or inappropriate behaviour rather than the person when dealing with a conflict or complaint?

15. Put yourself in the situation of the player who has been aggrieved and the referee or mediator. List the golden rules for both, when there is an on field grievance.

Golden Rules

Players	Officials

Extension Activities

1. Codes of Conduct

Visit any one of the five websites provided for this program and find the code of conduct they have prepared for their constituents.

- a) Choose the Code of Conduct for either players, coaches or spectators and summarise the key points.

- b) How does the Code of Conduct vary from those outlined in the program?

2. Set up a debate with arguments or speakers 'for' and 'against' the following statement:

"Codes of Conduct are not necessary in sport as the rules adequately cover all facets of the game."

3. Investigate the "etiquette" involved in one of the following sports. Describe the unwritten rules and in each case explain the benefit the "unwritten rule" adds to the game:

- a) Golf

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b) Tennis

c) Lawn Bowls

4. a) Explain the difference between the following

I. Rules of a game

II. Etiquette of a game

III. Code of Conduct of a game

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b) In each case nominate who is responsible for ensuring the guidelines, rules, code is adhered to?

c) Does your response to the question above help clarify the difference between the three areas listed in 4a?

5. As the coach of a team, you are charged with setting the tone and on field management of your team. How would you change the nature of your instructions to the team and management of the team for:

a) A junior team at club level

b) A senior amateur team

c) A senior team at elite level

Suggested Student Responses

Active Viewing Guide

1. Note down the characteristics of good sportsmanship as described by the following interviewees:
 - a) Wilson Brown (Soccer Referee)
Understand basic rules
Coaches and spectators also responsible
 - b) Daniel Dillon (Melbourne Tigers Basketball player)
Play to enjoy the game
Play by the rules to prevent injury
2. Note down characteristics of:
 - a) A ‘bad’ sport
Argues with the umpire
Deliberately distracts an opponent
Tampers with equipment
Goes against the rules of the game
 - b) Further examples of a “good sport”
Always accepts the umpires decision
Gives opponents benefit of the doubt
3. Provide four examples of Sporting Etiquette.
Bow to opponent – Martial Arts
Pass on the outside – Athletics
Keep elbows in – Athletics
Throwing the ball forcefully back to the umpire in Soccer or Football
4. Draw from your own experience and provide four more examples of good sporting etiquette. Describe the behaviour and name the sport.
Responses will vary but may include for example:
Shake hands before and after the match – Tennis
Don’t stand in the line of your opponents putt on the green – Golf
5. Describe an example of excellent sportsmanship you have personally been involved in, witnessed or read about.
Responses will vary
6. Describe in your own words why etiquette is so important in sport and in daily life.
Etiquette brings order and politeness. It is a way of acknowledging and honouring your opponent and the umpire. Etiquette is symbolic of all that is good in competition. Etiquette is the same as “good manners”; there is no law that says you have to say please and thank you, however interpersonal relationships are much better if manners or etiquette are applied.
7. What is the difference between etiquette and rules?
Etiquette consists of unwritten rules or laws, which in reality cannot be enforced by an umpire or referee.

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8. Fill in the table below by providing key rules or guidelines outlined in the program under “Codes of Conduct for Players, Officials, Coaches, and Spectators”.

Codes of Conduct – Typical Guidelines

Players	Officials	Coaches	Spectators
play by the rules	provide equal opportunity for all players	be reasonable in demands on players	applaud and respect the efforts of all players
put fair play ahead of winning	modify rules to match the age and skill level of players	make enjoyment and skill development the priority for players	never ridicule players
don't argue with the umpire	compliment both teams on their efforts	sport provides life lessons, make sure players know and understand this	reject violence in any form
captain should make the inquiry	promote fair play		
control your temper	condemn unsportsmanlike behaviour		
do not abuse the umpire or opponent	be consistent in applying the rule		
do not throw or abuse equipment	model good sportsmanship		
be a good sport			
acknowledge opposition good play			
try your hardest			
contribute to the team goals			
treat all players fairly			

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9. Refer to the table you have completed in question 8 and respond to each of the following:
- a) Describe the common theme or requirement across the codes of conduct for all groups.
Common Theme: Play fairly, create fair rules, play and spectate for fun and enjoyment. Honour the players and your supporters.
 - b) Is there anything missing from the codes described which in your opinion is important?
Responses will vary
10. What are the key ingredients of a good team player as described by the following interviewees?
- a) Daniel Dillon (Melbourne Tigers Basketball)
Make other feel included
Being a good role model
 - b) Mate Dugandzic (Melbourne Heart Soccer Player)
Encourage other players
 - c) Wilson Brown (Match Official)
Respect one another
11. Describe in your own words what it is like to be a good team player and how it feels when every team member is treated as an equal. Your experience may have come from a range of areas – not just being in a sporting team.
Answers will vary but may include:
Support your teammates
Be a leader
Help others to enjoy the game
Show mutual respect
Have a laugh, have a good time
Respect opponents
Doesn't discriminate based on race or ethnicity
12. "Gracious in Victory, realistic in defeat!" This statement is reflective of the information and advice provided in this program.
- a) In your own words describe what you think "Gracious in Victory, realistic in defeat" means.
Answers will vary.
 - b) Give an example of when you have been involved in or witnessed the above statement. Describe what happened.
Answers will vary.
13. Note down some of the reasons given for disputes or conflict arising during a competitive game.
Conflict may arise from:
Unfair play
Bad decision by umpire
Racial vilification
Violence
14. Why is it important to focus on the problem or inappropriate behaviour rather than the person when dealing with a conflict or complaint?
By focusing on the problem or behaviour you avoid personalising the issue and avoid judgmental statements which can cause further conflict.

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15. Put yourself in the situation of the player who has been aggrieved and the referee or mediator. List the golden rules for both, when involved in an on field grievance.

Golden Rules

Players	Officials
stay calm	focus on the problem
explain your point of view	listen to both sides of the story
don't blame others for your actions	look for compromises
be prepared to compromise	look for solutions
accept the final decision	don't take sides
don't argue back	follow the rules of the game
seek assistance or advice from your coach	apply the codes of conduct