

HEY!

Mom

&

Dad



IHSAA.org

POOR ADULT BEHAVIOR AT HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC EVENTS HAS REACHED EPIDEMIC PROPORTION.

In a recent survey of all 412 IHSAA member-schools' athletic directors, 96.4% reported that the behavior of the parents and other adult fans continues to be a significant problem at their high schools. And in a national survey of more than 2,000 athletic directors, 62.3% say parent behavior is among their top three concerns.

There's a ripple effect to bad parent behavior, and we're experiencing it. Almost 80% of all high school officials quit after the first two years on the job. As a result, there is a growing shortage of high school officials, and in some sports the shortage is severe.



YOU CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION BY

FOLLOWING THESE SIX SIMPLE RULES:

1

Act Your Age.

You are, in fact, an adult.
Behave accordingly.

2


Don't Live Your Life Vicariously Through Your Children.

Participating in high school sports is their experience, not yours. And your family's reputation is not determined by how your children perform on the field of play.

3

Let Your Children Own Their Decisions, Whether Good or Bad.

Don't be a helicopter or lawnmower parent by mowing down all the obstacles in their path. If you do, you'll be robbing them of the opportunity to be more self-reliant, confident and accountable.



4

Stay in Your Own Lane.

No coaching or officiating from the sidelines or bleachers. Let the coaches do the coaching and the officials do the officiating while you focus on being a responsible, supportive parent.

5

Remember, Participation in High School Sports Is Not an Investment in a College Scholarship.

According to statistics compiled by the NCAA, only about 2% of all high school athletes are awarded a sports scholarship, and the total value of it is only about \$18,000.

6

Make Sure Your Children Know You're Proud of Them.

Don't make the car ride home from the game a miserable experience for your child or for you. The primary emphasis of high school sports is about learning and having fun.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

The IHSAA Board of Directors is encouraging school administrators and licensed high school officials to strictly enforce the following new IHSAA By-Law:

Any fan who is ejected from a contest for an unsportsmanlike act the first time during a sports season shall be suspended from the next contest.

Any fan who is ejected from a contest for an unsportsmanlike act the second time shall be suspended from the next two contests.

Unacceptable parent and fan behavior will not be tolerated at IHSAA sanctioned events.

SPORTS *Mom* SHIP

SPORTS *Dad* SHIP

PRACTICE IT

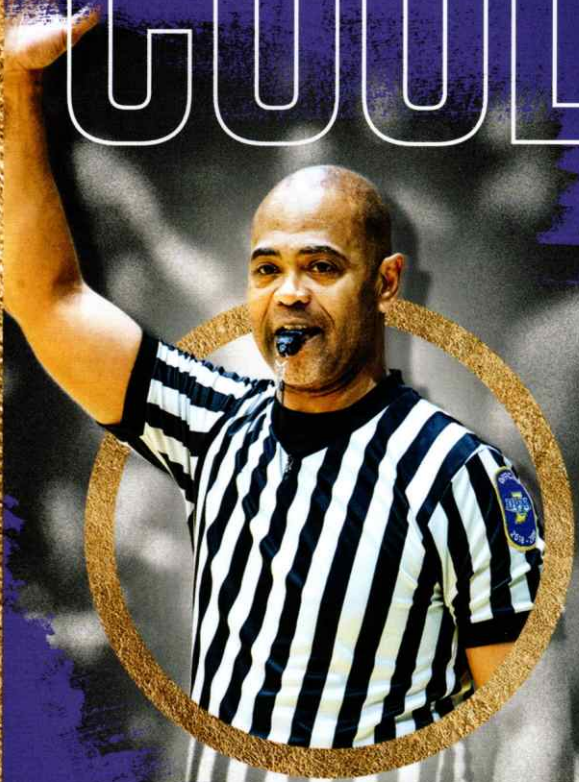


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COOL



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