

## **SPECTATORS AT ATHLETIC EVENTS**

In order to respect and protect our students, student-athletes and coaches, to provide an environment free from distractions, to promote an inclusive environment for all, and to promote the safety of all individuals attending athletic events, the District hereby establishes restrictions regarding areas at athletic events where spectators are prohibited.

For the purposes of this policy, a "Spectator" is defined as any individual who is not participating in the event as a student-athlete, coach, approved volunteer or who is performing an approved function, including, but not limited to, a trainer, photographer or scorekeeper. "School Property" means in or within any building, structure, athletic playing field, playground, parking lot or land contained within the real property boundary line of the District's elementary or secondary schools, or in or on a school bus. "Athletic Event" means a school-sponsored, practice, scrimmage, game, match, event or activity regardless of where such an Athletic Event takes place, including those that take place at another school or in another state, and further including contests or events such as sectionals or any other form of playoffs or post-season play.

Spectators are hereby prohibited from any part of School Property area that is not open to the general public, at the venue that an Athletic Event is taking place. For example, spectators are prohibited inside the fence which surrounds the track and turf field at Black Horse Stadium or any similar area.

If the Athletic Event is taking place at a venue other than Schuylerville or for anyone given access to sporting events by a third party, the rules of the venue or the third party shall apply. However, even if a Spectator is rightfully on the field or court, at no time shall a Spectator be allowed to stand, sit or mingle with the team or coach; they must remain in a separate area away from the team.

The determination of who is a Spectator, what is School Property and what is an Athletic Event is at the discretion of the Superintendent and District Administrators.

Coaches may make a request to the Superintendent that a specific Spectator be allowed on the field or court. Requests for such exceptions must include the reason for the request and the date(s) requested and must be sent to the Superintendent for review. The decision of the Superintendent will be in writing to the coach and is final. There is no guarantee of approval, and the granting of any request does not guarantee approval of a similar request in the future. In addition, approval can be revoked at any time during the Athletic Event by the Superintendent or Administrators.

### Cross References:

3410 - Code of Conduct on School Property

7310 - School Conduct and Discipline