



Raise the Bar

Sportsmanship Matters!



Utah High School Activities Association 2023-24 School Sportsmanship Award

For the fourteenth year, the UHSAA calls on all member schools to **“Raise-the-Bar and Earn a-Star”** by completing the School Sportsmanship Award criteria listed below. An online link will be emailed to principals the last week of April and must be submitted by Monday, May 27, 2024.

Qualifying schools will receive the 2024 Star for their UHSAA School Sportsmanship Banner, an award certificate, media recognition and UIAAA Director’s Cup points. Schools will also be honored when they become a **FIVE STAR PROGRAM.**

To qualify for the School Sportsmanship Award and the 2024 GOLD STAR, schools must complete all 14 requirements. To earn the Silver Star, schools must complete numbers 1-10. To earn the Bronze Star schools must complete numbers 1-5. All schools must submit the online application by May 27, 2024.

Schools may earn a Bronze, Silver or Gold Star based on the level of school participation in the following areas:

1. Schools must display their UHSAA School Sportsmanship Banner throughout the school year.
 2. Student-athletes and their parents must sign the Sportsmanship Pledge on the UHSAA Tryout Checklist and coaches must address good sportsmanship in an orientation/meeting with players and parents.
 3. Post the school’s sportsmanship policy and code of ethics in a prominent location so students, parents, players, and fans have a clear understanding of what will be expected and enforced at sporting events (template posted on uhsaa.org).
 4. Use the UHSAA sportsmanship announcements or appropriate sportsmanship piece at home contests whenever an announcer and PA system are available. The sportsmanship announcements are posted on the Sportsmanship page at uhsaa.org.
 5. Schools follow the UHSAA policies for Fan Code of Conduct. Schools support and enforce the sportsmanship policy.
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6. On the School Sportsmanship Award Application, submit your most successful strategy, activity or “Best Practice” for promoting or enforcing sportsmanship and also one area of “Needs Improvement.” A list of “Best Practices” will be posted on the Sportsmanship page at www.uhsaa.org.

7. Ejected coaches must complete the NFHS Course: *Teaching and Modeling Behavior* (nfhslearn.com) as outlined in the UHSAA Handbook. The AD should ask for a certificate of completion. If a coach is ejected a second time in a year, it will become a region disciplinary action and the Region Board of Managers shall fine the coach \$100.
 8. Sportsmanship shall be an agenda item on each of the Region Board of Managers scheduled meetings. Topics should include spectator/student behavior at region games, enforcing “Do Rowdy Right” and supervision at sporting events. The Region Chair or Division Chair(s) may ask the UHSAA to deny the Sportsmanship Award to a region/division school if that school has not followed-through with sportsmanship issues at their school and/or the school was sanctioned at the state level for a sportsmanship-related issue.
 9. Have one or more of your teams participate in a service project to benefit a worthy cause and post to social media.
 10. Schools should participate in a student leadership conference held on a region or multi-region level.
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11. Schools must nominate an outstanding coach from their school to receive the UHSAA Gold Star Coach Award.
 12. Schools have zero coach ejections for the year.
 13. Enter the statewide sportsmanship video contest or create a sportsmanship tutorial video for your student body to view.
 14. Develop and implement a social media policy that promotes positive “posts” about the contest and other schools and avoid “posts” that are negative and demeaning. Include your social media policy in your school sportsmanship video.