

Advice or Considerations for Sportsmanship Scoring

We consider good sportsmanship to be the NORMAL behavior at all times. As such, normal AYSO good sportsmanship, while outstanding in many cases, should be considered average, or the expected norm. Talk to your AR's and club linesman prior to the game, and ask them to pay attention to these criteria. All three categories should start at a 5 score, and then be adjusted up or down based on any of the following considerations.

- a. Players on the field
 - i. Players played hard regardless of score.
 - ii. Respectful of referees, coaches, teammates, and opposition
 - iii. No excessive dramatization on injuries or fouls.
 - iv. Quickly accepts referee calls without dissent
 - v. No excessive celebration - especially if aimed at the opposing team.
 - vi. No stalling.
- b. Coach and sideline
 - i. Ready to start on time and organized.
 - ii. Respectful of referee, players, and opposition
 - iii. Follows proper substitution protocols
 - iv. Maintains gender requirements, and 50% play rule
 - v. Encourages team. Positive Coaching
 - vi. Congratulates opposition on good plays
 - vii. Post game formalities - handshake, thank referees
- c. Spectators
 - i. Cheering for players.
 - ii. Supportive of referees and opposition.
 - iii. Congratulate opposition on exceptional plays.
 - iv. Encouraging players.
 - v. Not coaching from sidelines - Do not tell players WHAT to do with the ball. Instead celebrate their decisions and reactions on the field after the fact!
 - vi. Maintain proper distance from field.
 - vii. Stay on Spectator Sideline. Do not watch games from behind goal area, or coach sideline area

Winning or losing should not be considered in sportsmanship points, however, a winning team that does not make adjustments to keep a game close should be penalized, and a losing team that does not continue to compete hard should also be penalized. Body language should be considered, rather it be excessive celebration from a play, or an extreme negative reaction to a game getting out of reach. We want kids to celebrate and be emotional on the field. Make sure it is not done in a derogative fashion that either brings their own team down, or rubs it in to the opponent.