



SPECTATOR EXPECTATIONS

Sports should be one of the most positive and memorable times in a person's life. Parents and coaches need to work together to teach not only skills for their sport, but also sportsmanship and respect for others. This list of expectations is designed to assist parents/guardians in teaching and modeling behaviors that are important in sports and in life. It is written with the understanding that parents/guardians are the most influential role models in their athlete's lives. It is essential to all of the player's continued enjoyment of water polo that these expectations are followed.

Expected Behavior by Parents/Spectators:

- Display good sportsmanship by being respectful to all players, coaches, referees, table officials, and other spectators.
- Respect the integrity and judgment of the referees without taunting or approaching them angrily during games, between games, or at the end of a game.
- Cheer positively for your team rather than against their opponents. **Do not clap or cheer when someone from the opposing team makes a mistake.**
- Do not yell, swear, or say derogatory or unsportsmanlike comments to any players, coaches, referees, table officials, or other spectators. **Do not "boo" the referees or players/coaches from the other team.**
- Keep your emotions under control. Be objective and stay calm.
- Remain in the spectator area and stay out of either team's bench area.
- Use items to cheer with that are of non-violent nature and that do not interfere with the game as determined by the referees.
- Abide by federal, state, and local laws while attending any game.
- Attend water polo events alcohol and drug free.
- Communicate these standards with others that come to events with you or in association with you.
- Seek to peacefully resolve conflicts or complaints by discussing the matter with your team's coach. It is up to the coach's discretion how the matter will be handled from there.

If inappropriate behavior is detected by a referee, they are instructed to stop the game and either let the person know they need to leave the building or identify the violator(s) to the League Director who will instruct them to leave. Any referee or the League Director, or his substitute, has the authority to remove a spectator from the building. Play will resume only when the violator(s) are removed. Additionally, repeated offenses or especially severe violations may result in loss of spectator privileges.