

### Northeast High School Vikings - Sportsmanship Form – 2008-09

To: Northeast Viking Parents /Guardians/Athletes/Fans  
Re: Sportsmanship Push by the FHSAA endorsed by Northeast High

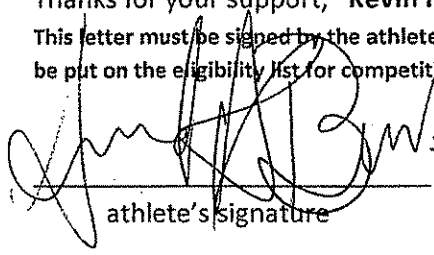
As we prepare to start the 2008-09 athletic seasons, we want to take this time to remind you of some important facts. The 40 year old saying that "Winning isn't everything, it is the only thing" is being looked at closely by the FHSAA and modern day athletic administrators. We have seen an increase in violence and misbehavior on the athletic fields, in the schools and in the streets of every community in America. Ejections of participants at athletic events (over 1700 in Florida last year) are up and on field conduct has risen to horrendous levels of activity with serious fights at five Florida high school football games making the news in 2007-08. Injuries as a result of these unsportsmanlike acts are a growing concern. College and professional athletes are misbehaving at an alarming rate.

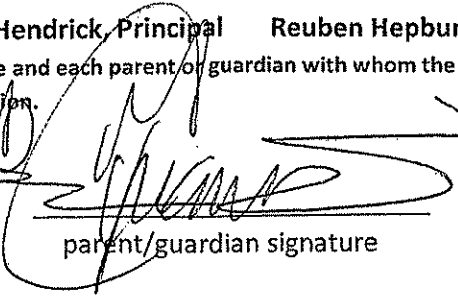
We want the safety of the athlete to be the primary focus on athletics at Northeast High School. We want each athlete and each athletic team to do its very best and achieve the championships they work hard for—but we also want us to do it within the limits of the rules. Vikings always have been and always will be hard workers and competitive in the classroom and on the fields—nothing there will change. We want to continue to do it the right way.


Parents and athletes need to know that there are severe penalties if they misbehave at any school event, athletics events included. The student can be suspended from school, suspended from games and pay fines to the FHSAA before being allowed to come back and play if they are ejected. Cursing at opponents and officials is severe as is any kind of fighting or unsportsmanlike behavior. The student's eligibility for the remainder of the school year can be jeopardized if their misbehavior is such. Parents as well can be banned by the school administration from athletic events or even arrested by the police for unsportsmanlike behavior, as it is a felony in the State of Florida to attack a game or school official. Reminder to fans and athletes – NEVER leave the sideline to come onto the field if a disturbance breaks out—those penalties and fines of \$100 up to \$500 per student are automatic.

The Athletic Administration at Northeast High School wants us all to work hard, support our teams and children and accept the results of all contests in a sportsmanlike manner by congratulating our opponent when the contest is over and looking forward to future competition to make ourselves and our team perform at a higher level. All we can ever do is the best we can do, that will make us proud. Please take the opportunity to see an administrator or athletic director with any issues or concerns about the athletic program, the teams, coaches or any issues that may come up at any time this year. Please call 570-3138 to make an appointment to visit the Athletic Director or Administration, unless it is an emergency situation that must be dealt with at the event. Let's all work together to keep Northeast High School the place to be for the best in athletic competition done the **RIGHT WAY!**

Thanks for your support, **Kevin Hendrick, Principal**    **Reuben Hepburn, A.P.A.**    **Dave Redding, A.D.**  
This letter must be signed by the athlete and each parent or guardian with whom the athlete resides BEFORE the athlete will be put on the eligibility list for competition.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
athlete's signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian signature

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian signature