RINGWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT ATHLETICS PROGRAM

The following code of conduct for spectators should serve as a model for sports fans at all school-sponsored athletic events:

BELIEVING THAT sportsmanship is a by-product of a spirit of tolerance and good will and the centering of attention on the good qualities involved, and

BELIEVING THAT my conduct is an important part of the school's athletic program,

I PLEDGE to act in accordance with these principles.

As an athletic spectator, I will:

- 1. Exemplify the highest moral character, behavior, and leadership so as to be a worthy example.
- 2. Maintain and exhibit poise, self-discipline during and after the contest.
- 3. Conduct myself in such a manner that attention is drawn not to me, but to the participants playing the game.
- 4. Regulate my actions at all times so that I will be a credit to the team I support, knowing the school gets the praise or blame for my conduct since I represent the school the same as does the athlete.
- 5. Support all reasonable moves to improve good sportsmanship.
- 6. Treat a visiting team and spectators as guests, being courteous and fair.
- 7. Avoid actions that will offend the individual athlete.
- 8. Accept the judgment of the coach.
- 9. Honor the rights of visitors in a manner in which I would expect to be treated.
- 10. Respect the property of the school.
- 11. Display good sportsmanship by being modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- 12. Pay respect to both teams as they enter for competition.
- 13. Appreciate the good plays by both teams.
- 14. Show sympathy for an injured player.
- 15. Regard the officials as guests and treat them as such.
- 16. Direct my energies to encouraging my team rather than booing the officials.

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SPECTATOR CODE OF CONDUCT, ATHLETICS PROGRAM (Cont.)

- 17. Believe that the officials are fair and accept their decisions as final.
- 18. Learn the rules of the game in order to be a more intelligent fan.
- 19. Consider it a privilege and duty to encourage everyone to live up to the spirit of the rules of fair play and sportsmanship.
- 20. Realize that privileges are invariably associated with great responsibilities and that spectators have great responsibilities.
- 21. Realize that obscene cheers, littering, throwing of objects, and verbal indignities directed toward athletes, spectators, or officials have no place in school athletics.

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