



October 9, 2026

Subject: Basketball Season: A Reminder About Game Expectations

Sacred Heart Knights Community,

Basketball season is here, and we are so excited to kick things off tomorrow with our Red/White games! There is nothing better than seeing our Sacred Heart community come together to support our Knights. We want our students, parents, and fans to be loud, proud, and enthusiastic, but we also want to make sure that we represent Sacred Heart with the same respect, sportsmanship, and integrity that we expect from our students every day.

As a reminder, we recently added an Athletic Event Behavior Policy to the Student Handbook outlining expectations for both students and parents/guardians. With the season getting underway, I wanted to take a moment to remind and highlight some of those expectations.

For Our Students and Fans

Cheer **FOR** our team—not **AGAINST** the other team.

We want our students to bring energy and excitement to our games! Students should:

- Cheer loudly and enthusiastically for the Knights.
- Use positive cheers that encourage our players.
- Be respectful toward opposing players, coaches, officials, and fans.
- Remain positive whether we are winning or losing.
- Follow the direction of coaches, faculty, staff, and game supervisors.
- Remember that the players on the court are students, too.

Students should not:

- Run around the gym or in hallways- be in the student section or sitting with family/friends.
- Use profanity, inappropriate language, or gestures.
- Use derogatory or insulting cheers directed toward the opposing team or individual players.
- Taunt, mock, boo, or intentionally distract players on the court.
- Call out opposing players by name in a negative or disrespectful way.
- Make comments about a player's appearance, ability, mistakes, or personal circumstances.
- Yell at or argue with referees, coaches, or opposing fans.
- Participate in chants or behaviors intended to embarrass, intimidate, or humiliate another player or team.

There is a big difference between competitive school spirit and disrespectful behavior. Saying *"Let's go Knights!"* or celebrating a great defensive play is exactly what we want to see. Yelling at an opposing player because they missed a shot, making fun of a player, or using a derogatory chant is not.



For Our Parents and Adult Spectators

We also ask our parents and adult spectators to model the behavior we expect from our students. Please cheer enthusiastically, but refrain from negative comments toward players, coaches, officials, or opposing fans. Disagreements with a referee's call should never become a confrontation or a source of disruption.

The Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) has communicated clearly to game officials and member schools that inappropriate spectator behavior will not be tolerated. Sacred Heart will be following these expectations closely. Parent and adult spectator conduct will be strictly enforced this season. Anyone who engages in inappropriate, disrespectful, or disruptive behavior (including profanity, taunting, personal attacks toward players or officials, or confrontational behavior) will be asked to leave the game.

We certainly understand the excitement and emotion that come with supporting our children. We want our fans to be enthusiastic, loud, and proud of the Knights! At the same time, ***our students are watching us***, and we have a responsibility to model the sportsmanship, respect, and integrity we expect from them.

Our goal is simple: We want our gym to be a place where our teams feel supported, our opponents feel respected, and our students see adults modeling good sportsmanship.

Thank you for helping us make Sacred Heart basketball games an exciting, positive, and respectful experience for everyone. Let's have fun, cheer loudly, support our Knights, and remember that how we represent Sacred Heart matters.

We are looking forward to a great basketball season!

Go Knights! ❤️❤️