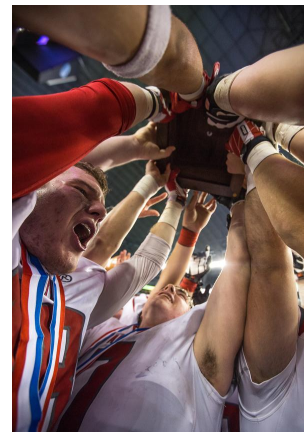




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Sports Etiquette

Stacy Short, Matt Garnett

Sports Etiquette is Important

- It creates credibility for your publication
- You can be removed from the field, court, track, etc. if you don't show sports etiquette
- It will help you gain respect and allow you more access in the future

General Rules of Etiquette

1. You are there to cover the news, not make it.
2. Comply, within reason, of any request made by the coaches, athletic staff, or officials.
3. Always know where you are allowed to be and where you aren't allowed to be.
4. Don't write distasteful stories or post distasteful photos.

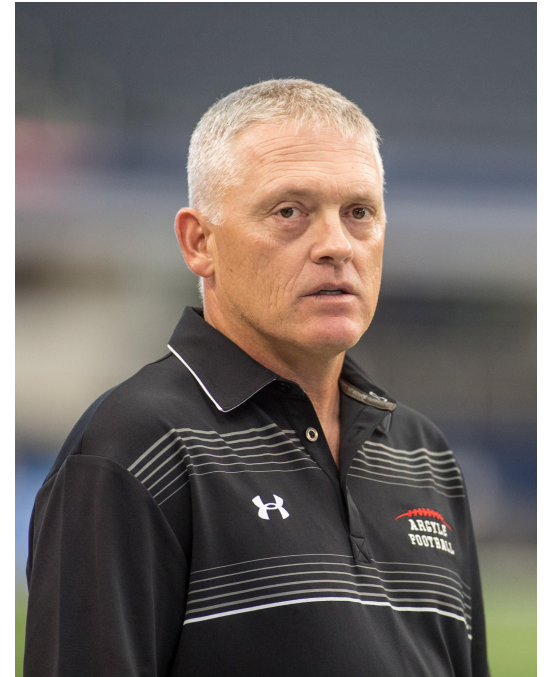
General Rules of Etiquette

5. Report the news,
don't be a PR person
6. **Do not cheer in
press areas**
7. Don't use on-camera
flash



Football Etiquette

1. Always stand about 3-5 yards away from the sideline
2. Avoid the coaches' box



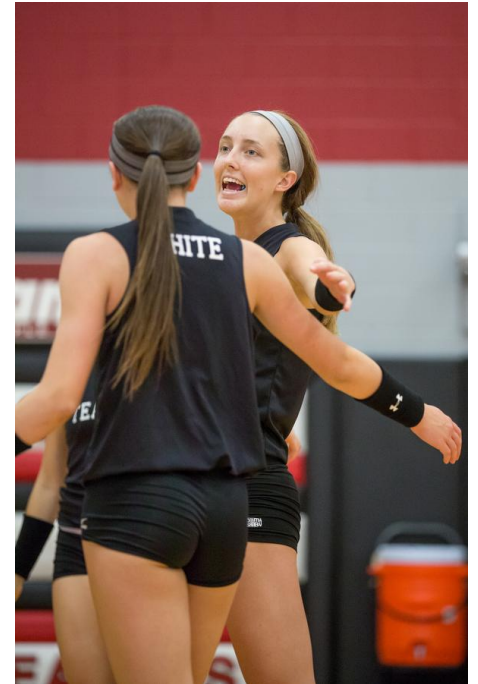
Basketball Etiquette

1. You can shoot from anywhere except in the lane (UIL rule)
2. You're free to shoot from the stands
3. Avoid interacting with players on the bench



Volleyball Etiquette

1. Don't sit / stand too closely to the court and be ready to bail out if the play comes your way

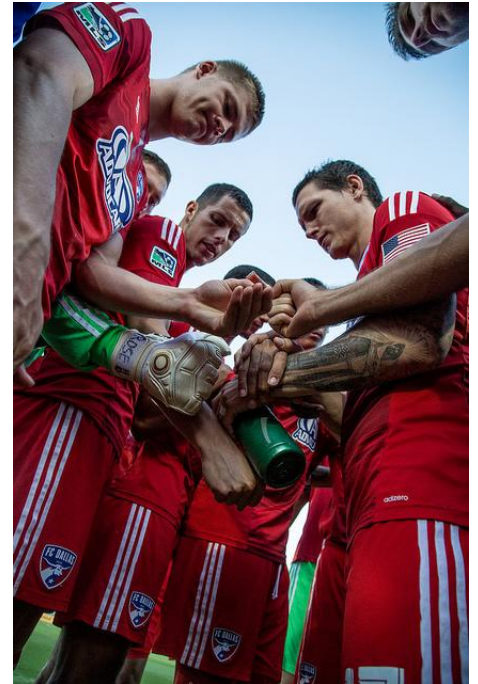


Baseball / Softball Etiquette

1. Your team's dugout is usually the best place to shoot if they will allow you there
2. 5 or 6 yards back from the foul line extended from first and third base is also fair game (if the officials let you stand there)
3. Last resort is behind the fence

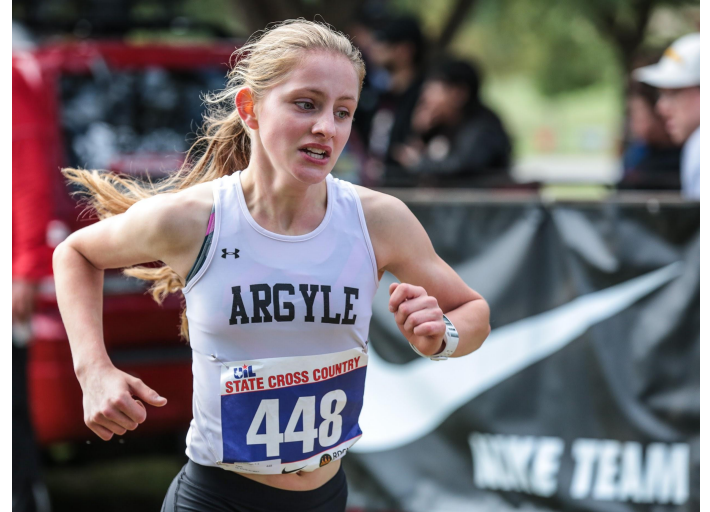
Soccer Etiquette

- Similar to other field sports
- Be aware of kicked balls



Cross Country Etiquette

- Do not get in the way of the runners
- Try to position yourself somewhere where you can quickly move to other portions of the track



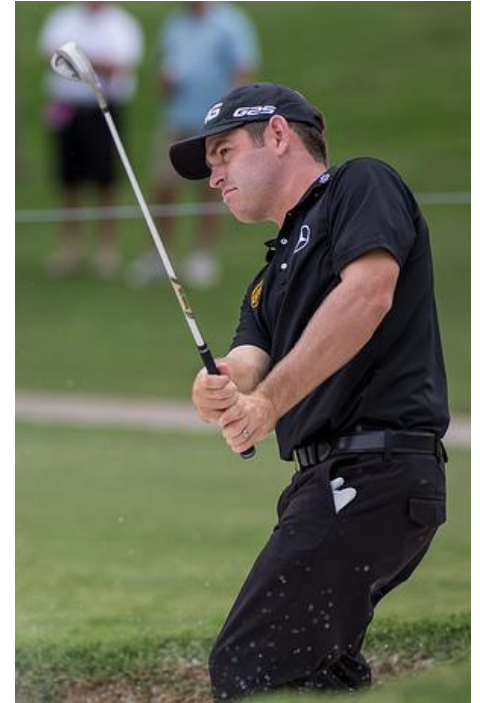
Track Etiquette

- Give runners around 20-30 meters if you are shooting straight on the finish line
- Sometimes media will not be allowed in the center of the track so plan accordingly



Golf Etiquette

- Once a player has addressed the ball, don't take photos until the player makes contact with the ball
- Don't walk on the fairway or on the green, or in the line of shot
- Be quiet and respectful



Making Friends

- Journalism is about networking
- Talk to people on the sidelines and in the press boxes
- Show them you take your work seriously and they will respect that



Covering UIL State Events

- You must request media credentials via the UIL website for all state events except golf and band
- Schools will be issued 3 media credentials for student media to all state events except football, in which case the max is 6

Covering UIL State Events

- The UIL owns the commercial rights to any photographs or videos made by credential holders at state events
- State events are much stricter about enforcing the previous etiquette guidelines. Failure to abide by those guidelines could result in being removed from the venue

Covering the UIL Playoffs

- 5A and 6A stadiums normally require stadium issued media credentials to access the field and press box
- 1A-4A are usually okay with school issued media credentials
- Contact the opposing team's AD to be added to the list for media

Requesting Media Credentials

- Bi-District-Regionals, you will most likely need to email the athletic director of wherever your game will be played
- For regional tournaments, email your region coordinator
- State credentials are always requested on the UIL website

Contact Information

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