

Code of Expectations for Public Address Announcers

The NCHSAA expects the following of all announcers, especially when “working” post-season competition:

- 1.** Announcers shall understand their role: to provide pertinent information in a timely manner; to be professional and not attempt to be bigger than the game or event by doing play-by-play or by providing commentary in an effort to entertain or to draw attention to him or herself. The announcer is considered a member of game administration for the host school.
- 2.** Announcers shall understand that they have a tremendous influence on the crowd; therefore, cheerleading or antics designed to incite the crowd for the purpose of gaining an advantage for their team is inappropriate.
- 3.** Announcers shall promote good sportsmanship and a positive environment by what they say and how they act. Announcers shall read all NCHSAA and any school provided sportsmanship statements.
- 4.** Announcers shall treat the opponents and their fans as guests--not the enemy.
- 5.** Announcers shall respect the individuals who are responsible for the conduct and administration of athletic contests and events, such as coaches, officials and administrators, and shall refrain from critical comments.
- 6.** Announcers shall respect the participants of all teams and display objectivity when introducing the starting participants, announcing substitutions and the outcome of plays or performances of the participants.
- 7.** Announcers shall be competent. This means following approved announcing guidelines, expectations and policies, such as emergency procedures, which would be provided by the administration or the host facility.
- 8.** Announcers shall be prepared, such as being familiar with the correct pronunciations of the participants’ names, knowing the rules of the sport, the officials’ signals and how the game is played.
- 9.** Announcers shall be professional in their behavior and represent the school and community with respect and dignity at all times by what they say, how they act and how they appear.
- 10.** Announcers shall not use alcohol and tobacco products at the venue.

(The National Association of Sports Public Address Announcers served as a website resource for these expectations.)