



**2024-2025 Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association
Dale Farmer Champions in Sportsmanship
Award Information and Application**

Please include this sheet with your portfolio.

SCHOOL YEAR: 2024-2025

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

SCHOOL NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

PRINCIPAL: _____

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR: _____

Name of Person submitting this award: _____

Email of Person submitting this award: _____

ABOUT THE AWARD & INFORMATION FOR AWARD APPLICANTS:

The Dale Farmer State Champions in Sportsmanship Award is presented annually to schools that have demonstrated a strong school community commitment to the educational nature of interscholastic athletics. DIAA member schools compete against a set of ten standards that measure the school community's commitment to the educational nature of interscholastic athletics. The process is demanding and involves the total school community. Thirty-six (36) member schools have won the award at least once in its 24-year history. For award consideration, schools must submit a portfolio to DIAA. The DIAA [Sportsmanship Committee](#) reviews the school submissions against a set of standards. The process is demanding and involves the total school community.

The practice of good sportsmanship is one of the primary goals of interscholastic athletics. Athletic competition is an extension of the classroom, providing special learning opportunities. Sportsmanship is a measure of each school community's commitment to the educational nature of interscholastic athletics. DIAA member schools are expected to conduct all of their athletic affairs in a spirit of good sportsmanship.

The DIAA Sportsmanship Award is a competition against a set of standards, not a competitive award. By satisfying the requirements of the program, every middle school and high school in Delaware can qualify for this prestigious award. The DIAA Sportsmanship Committee hopes that every school enthusiastically endorses the program and makes a concerted effort to qualify for the award.

Selection will be made by a portfolio evaluation committee comprised of members of the DIAA Sportsmanship Committee. All DIAA member schools are eligible to receive the award annually. The deadline for submitting an application will be July 1. All applicants will be informed in August of their award status and the award winner will be announced by Labor Day.

Please provide support and evidence such as policies, letters, minutes, agendas, etc. to support each criteria listed. Videos and photographs are permitted as long as they directly support the criteria and should be included in each application section. Items supporting sportsmanship programs (such as awards or t-shirts) should NOT accompany the application, rather applicants can include photos of the items in the application. When possible, cite examples, but do not use the names of individuals or other schools except when requested. All documents must be filed and submitted to DIAA at the same time as the application and no later than July 1. Applicants are encouraged to submit files and supporting documentation via email or alternative document cloud sharing mediums. Schools are discouraged to submit their applications via large, paper binders to ease in the review process for the DIAA Sportsmanship Committee.

2024-2025 Dale Farmer Champions in Sportsmanship Award Application Criteria

1. Board of Education Sportsmanship Policy (5 points; 0 points if no policy exists)

Provide evidence to support the following:

- The school has a written policy on sportsmanship, ethics, and integrity in interscholastic athletics.
- The policy is approved by the board and supported by school administrators.
- The policy emphasizes that interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program and that responsible behavior is expected during practices and contests to the same degree as it is in the classroom.
- The policy promotes sportsmanship, ethics and integrity among school administrators, athletes, coaches, parents, fans and support groups.
- The policy is disseminated in the community.
- The policy is reviewed annually.

NOTE: Attach supplemental materials as a PDF or insert the link to school handbook:

2. Sportsmanship Advisory Committee (10 points; 0 points if no committee exists)

Provide evidence to support the following:

- The committee coordinates the planning and implementation of the sportsmanship program.
- The committee is made of a diverse group of individuals.
- The committee meets regularly.
- The committee has a process in place to communicate to key stakeholders.
- The committee supports the sportsmanship, ethics and integrity program at the school.

3. Athletic Handbooks and Procedures (10 points)

Provide evidence to support the following:

- The school has a Coach's Handbook and/or Student-Athlete's Handbook.
- Guidelines on sportsmanship, ethics and integrity are included in the handbooks.
- The handbooks are distributed to and reviewed with appropriate individuals.
- A formal process is in place to evaluate coaches annually in terms of their effectiveness in supporting and demonstrating sportsmanship, ethics and integrity.
- Coaches are encouraged to improve their commitment to sportsmanship, integrity and ethics.

NOTE: Attach supplemental materials as a PDF or insert the link to school handbook:

4. Sportsmanship Presentations (20 points)

Provide evidence to support the following:

- Presentations are held during the school year and during each season for coaches, athletes, parents, fans and boosters/support groups.
- Presentations cover a variety of topics and emphasize the school's philosophy on sportsmanship, ethics and integrity.
- A variety of individuals/stakeholders are involved in the planning of the presentations.

- Presentations are evaluated for effectiveness.
- Who is involved in planning and making the presentations? What specific topics are discussed at meetings?
- Are meetings evaluated for effectiveness?
- Applicants will be evaluated on presentations given during each sport season and all sportsmanship presentations should be listed with a summary of the meeting content.

NOTE: Attach supplemental materials as a PDF or insert the link to school handbook:

5. Sportsmanship Promotion (25 points)

Provide evidence to support the following:

- The school supports an organized and active campaign (offered throughout the school year during all three seasons) that promotes sportsmanship, ethics and integrity OR
- The campaign includes a variety of activities that promote sportsmanship, ethics and integrity.
- Applicants should provide documentation of campaign initiatives* This should include photos, descriptions of initiatives and the ways in which the campaigns were promoted to your community.
- The school has a plan for acknowledging/rewarding positive examples of sportsmanship, ethics and integrity by athletes, coaches and spectators.
- Positive examples of sportsmanship are recognized by school administrators.
- Positive examples of sportsmanship are publicized to the school community.

6. Site Management Plans that foster Sportsmanlike Environment (20 points)

Provide evidence to support the following:

- The school has guidelines in place for spectators that promote the school's philosophy on sportsmanship and appropriate behavior.
- The school has guidelines in place for student sections that promote the school's philosophy on sportsmanship and appropriate behavior.
- The school has a procedure in place to receive, investigate, and resolve complaints dealing with sportsmanship, ethics and integrity involving fans, students and parents.
- The school has designated a committee or individual who is responsible for handling complaints dealing with sportsmanship, ethics and integrity.
- Incidents are handled according to the procedure and appropriate actions are taken by the school. Provide all sportsmanship complaints received and how the school handled and responded.

*Additional complaints and school responses information can be included by attaching document to application

7. Sportsmanship Incidents and Ejections (25 points)

The Committee will review evidence to support the following:

- The school reviews all sportsmanship related incidents involving the student-athlete and coach and addresses each incident as indicated by the school's program.
- The school identifies any negative sportsmanship-related incidents involving athletes, coaches and/or spectators; e.g. game ejections.

- The school identifies any positive sportsmanship-related incidents involving athletes, coaches, and/or spectators; e.g. officials' association award, letters from opposing coaches, etc.
- The school has a plan for dealing with special situations such as intense rivalries, overflow crowds and unruly spectators.
- A variety of individuals are involved in creating and executing the plan.
- Incidents are handled according to the plan. Cite any special situations and how the school responded to them.

8. Recent Sportsmanship Initiatives & Reflection (15 points)

- Identify the significant changes, improvements, or modifications in the sportsmanship, ethics and integrity program during the past school year.
- Reflect on your school's sportsmanship this year compared to past years.
- Indicate why your school should be recognized with this award?

**2024-2025 Delaware Interscholastic Athletic Association
Sportsmanship Award Application Certification:**

CERTIFICATION: I certify that the documents submitted represent the sportsmanship, ethics and integrity program at the school named above and have been reviewed by the school administration. I am authorized to sign this application.

Name: _____ Position: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**The application and all supporting documents must be filed in the DIAA office no later than
July 1, 2025.**