



THE BANDA SCHOOL

NAIROBI, KENYA

P.O.Box 24722

Nairobi 00502

Tel: (254 020) 891220 / 260 / 890337 / 3547828

School Mobiles: 0726-439909 / 0737-563438

Fax: (254 020) 890004

E-mail: bandaschool@swiftkenya.com

Website: www.bandaschool.com

Our Recommended Sporting Etiquette at The Banda

Dear Parents,

The Banda believes that the primary purpose of all sports and games is enjoyment. In an age when the pressure to win is so strong, and often leads to dissension, it is important that we should seek to instil in the children, parents, coaches and spectators a balanced attitude towards winning and losing, and a real enthusiasm for the game itself.

With this in mind, we have prepared guidelines for the children, parents, coaches and spectators.

The children have been encouraged:

- ✓ To play hard and, where rules apply, to try to understand them and stick to them.
- ✓ To accept decisions by the referee without question, to control their tempers and to be a good sport.
- ✓ To cheer good play, whether it is by their team or the opponents.
- ✓ To develop and improve their skills, and work equally hard for themselves and their team, as their team's performance will benefit from this.
- ✓ Treat all players as they would like to be treated, and co-operate with the coach, team mates and opponents, because without them they would not have a game.

Parents should:

- Encourage their children to play by the rules and explain that their effort and teamwork are as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Be positive with their children and, if necessary, turn defeat into victory by helping their child work towards skill improvement and a positive sporting attitude.
- Never ridicule or shout at their, or any other, child for making a mistake or losing a competition. Children learn best by example.
- Applaud good play by their child's team and by members of the opposing team equally.



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- Avoid publicly questioning the officials' judgement and never their honesty.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
- Recognise the value and importance of coaches. They give their time and resources to provide guidance for your child.
- Try not to re-live your own playing days through their children.
- Emphasise enjoyment, fun and praise, and reinforce effort and improvement.

Coaches should:

- Be encouraged to be reasonable with their demands on the children's time, energy and enthusiasm as they may have other interests too. Children do try hard and they play for fun and enjoyment, of which winning is only a part.
- Make a personal commitment to keep informed on sound coaching principles.
- Encourage all children to participate in all games sessions or sporting activities offered at school.
- Teach the children that the rules of the game are mutual agreements which no one should evade or break.
- Develop respect for the ability of opponents, as well as for the judgement of officials and opposing coaches.

The spectator should:

- 🚦 Appreciate that children at play are not professional entertainers. They play organised sport for their own fun.
- 🚦 Avoid harassing or shouting at the children, coaches or officials.
- 🚦 Applaud good play by their side or the opponents.
- 🚦 Show respect for their team's opponents because without them there would be no game.
- 🚦 Never ridicule or scold a player for making a mistake during a match or competition.
- 🚦 Condemn the use of verbal abuse and respect the officials' decisions.
- 🚦 Encourage all players to play by the rules.
- 🚦 Relax and enjoy the game whether your team wins or not.

**M. D. Dickson
Headmaster
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