

RISD Parents, Fans, and Community,

Richardson ISD Athletics is excited about the 2025-2026 school year! We are asking for everyone's support in modeling good sportsmanship and positive behavior at all athletic events. RISD is a proud supporter of a new sportsmanship initiative called *The Texas Way*. Please click on this link to watch a short video about what it means to be a *Texas Way* school district.

Watch The Texas Way Hype Video

Our district strives to provide athletic experiences that are enjoyable and rewarding to athletes, parents, employees, and fans who participate in or attend athletic events. Good sportsmanship by all is paramount to the achievement of that goal.

RISD Fan Expectations

- Visitors to athletic events must demonstrate appropriate behavior at all times.
- Inappropriate conduct diminishes the experience for everyone and will not be tolerated.
- Spectators are encouraged to cheer on and express support for athletes and teams.
- Fans should not yell or scream at athletes, coaches or officials, or attempt to "coach" players from the stands or sidelines. Such behaviors distract athletes and coaches and disrupt play.
- Spectators who fail to demonstrate appropriate sportsmanship and conduct will be warned.
- Repeated failure to adhere to these expectations may result in ejection from an event or even removal of the privilege to attend future RISD sporting events.
- Parents or fans are not permitted on the sideline, track, gym floor, bench/dugout area, etc. during an athletic event.
- Fans should not approach a scorer's table or engage with referees or officials, before, during, or after events.

Beginning with the 2025–2026 school year, **Texas law (Senate Bill 2929)** grants game officials the authority to remove any spectator from an athletic event without warning if their behavior is deemed inappropriate or disruptive. This law reinforces our commitment to creating a safe and positive environment for all involved.

As representatives of our schools, we should all lead by example, promote the ideals of good sportsmanship and model positive adult behavior for our students. This idea is a primary focus of the RISD <u>Code of Civility</u> and serves as an anchor for behavioral expectations for all RISD stakeholders in our schools and at school events and activities.

As a *Texas Way* school district, we can all improve the level of sportsmanship at UIL sporting events, decrease the number of ejections, and strengthen the relationships between coaches, athletes, officials, and fans.

We appreciate your support and look forward to a great year. Thank you in advance for your cooperation!

Respectfully,

Lonnie Jordan

Lonnie Gordan

Executive Director of Athletics RISD