



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

The School Board Process



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Champions of Character **Implementation Process**

Character based educational athletics can only truly succeed when the entire community—School Board, Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Administrator, Coach, Parents and Boosters—support and embrace the values and views taught on the field of athletic competition. Without question, teachable moments in athletics prepare students for life when the whole community supports and reinforces those life lessons. The *Champions of Character* process will empower the athletic administrators and coaches to motivate the entire community to walk the talk by creating a character-driven athletic environment. Although the *Champions of Character* process targets the entire community special emphasis is placed upon distinct audiences, with specific responsibilities given to each: parents, athletes and coaches.

The process begins with a school board resolution supporting the process. Following the approval, athletic administrators can deploy *Champions of Character* resources to build and support a character-driven athletic climate and culture. These tools include key messages and training for parents, athletes and coaches that will cultivate a skill set which will enhance the student-athlete experience.



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Sample School Board Address **“Request for a resolution adopting the** ***Champions of Character* process”**

Your local school board serves as the legislative body of your school system. Most school boards welcome comments and concerns from the general public. When addressing the local school board, the following steps should be followed to ensure that one addresses the board in an orderly manner.

Step 1

Sign-up to be placed upon the school board’s agenda. After discussing the *Champions of Character* process request to be placed upon the school board’s agenda. Most board agendas are prepared in advance. Ask to be placed on the school board’s agenda in accordance with school board policy.

Step 2

Send a report to the district office regarding the *Champions of Character* process prior to the meeting so that it can be included in the board packet. The board packet provides background information on topics the board will address during the board meeting. Board packets will be sent out at least one week before the meeting. Some boards send out electronic board packets so be prepared to provide a hard and digital copy of your report.

A sample board report and resolution are included in this packet. Feel free to customize the report and resolution for your school or school district. Your board report should be specific and your supporting material should contain all relevant information regarding why the district should approve a resolution supporting the *Champions of Character* process and what the cost of passing such a resolution would be to the district.

Step 3

Arrive to the meeting on time. Most school boards have a set meeting time to which they adhere strictly. Arriving late can minimize your purpose. Do not read your board report to request a resolution to support the *Champions of Character* process. Provide the highlights of the report as well as why the resolution should be adopted and how much the process will cost the district. Understand the manner in which a resolution or measure is adopted by the board. Many times a board may require two readings of a measure before acting upon it. So do not be discouraged if a board fails to act upon your measure that evening.



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Sample Board Report

Report to the Board (Date)

1.0 Purpose of the Report

This report briefs the board on the *Champions of Character* process and how the School/School District Athletic Department plans to employ the process to enhance our student-athletes performance on and off the floor of athletic competition.

2.0 Request from the Board

The Board is asked to consider the content of the report in supporting a resolution which recognizes our school district's commitment to the *Champions of Character* process and character driven athletics.

3.0 Background

The *Champions of Character* process is designed to use athletic participation to teach character values to our nation's young amateur athletes.

The *Champions of Character* process began as a response to the growing problem of deteriorating standards of integrity in sports and society. At a time when all of sport has experienced increasingly abhorrent behavior by athletes, coaches, fans and parents, *Champions of Character* raises the standards for positive youth development in athletics and academics.

The *Champions of Character* process is an educational outreach initiative which emphasizes the tenets of character for collegiate, scholastic and youth sports participants. Athletic administrators, coaches, parents, and community partners all have a role in developing athletes of character. The *Champions of Character* process brings participants training, guidelines, resources and behavior models to create positive environments that promote successful athletic programs, personal growth and an enjoyable athletic experience.

The mission of *Champions of Character* process is to use athletic participation to teach and model character values to our nation's youth so that their performance on and off the field of athletic competition is enhanced.

The *Champions of Character* Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) supporting foundation of the NAIA – National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics. The NAIA is a 501 (c) (3) not for profit entity.



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

4.0 Process

Character based educational athletics can only truly succeed when the entire community— School Board, Superintendent, Principal, Athletic Administrator, Coach, Parents and Boosters— support and embrace the values and views taught on the field of athletic competition. Without question, teachable moments in athletics prepare students for life when the whole community supports and reinforces those life lessons. The *Champions of Character* process will empower the athletic administrators and coaches to motivate the entire community to walk the talk by creating a character-driven athletic environment. To that end, the *Champions of Character* process is targeted toward three distinct audiences, with specific responsibilities given to each: parents, athletes and coaches.

The process may begin with a school board resolution supporting the process. Following the approval, training can be provided to equip parents, athletes with the skill set necessary to enhance the character driven sports experience for the student-athlete. This training includes:

- Presentations for coaches, athletes and parents.
- DVD's for coaches, parents and student-athletes.
- Access to Character Driven Coaching, the NAIA's on-line coaches' training.

The following tools and resources are available to cultivate that skill set and grow a character-driven athletic culture:

- High School Resources including: template promotional letters, PA announcements, program inserts, tools for hiring and evaluation and character building activities and scenarios.
- Booklets and Game reminder cards for parents.
- Student-athlete cards.

5.0 Projected Outcomes

The *Champions of Character* process is consistent with the overall mission of our school district and will enhance the educational value of participation in interscholastic athletics. Sports will become what we thought hoped it would be – a method for teaching character.



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Sample Verbal Board Report (Date)

1.0 Introduction and Request

Hello and thank you for allowing me this opportunity to request a resolution of support for the *Champions of Character* process.

2.0 Background

The *Champions of Character* process is designed to use athletic participation to teach character values to our nation's young amateur athletes.

The *Champions of Character* process began in 2000 as a response to the growing problem of deteriorating standards of integrity in sports and society. At a time when sports has experienced increasingly abhorrent behavior by athletes, coaches, fans and parents, *Champions of Character* raises the standards for positive youth development in athletics and academics.

The *Champions of Character* process is an educational outreach initiative which emphasizes the tenets of character for collegiate, scholastic and youth sports participants. Athletic administrators, coaches, parents and community partners all have a role in developing athletes of character. The *Champions of Character* process brings participants training, guidelines, resources and behavior models to create positive environments that promote successful athletic programs, personal growth and an enjoyable athletic experience.

The mission of *Champions of Character* process is to use athletic participation to teach and model character values to our nation's youth so that their performance on and off the field of athletic competition is enhanced.

Your approval of this resolution will demonstrate our commitment to the *Champions of Character* process and character-driven athletics.

3.0 Thank you for your consideration

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.



INTEGRITY RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY SPORTSMANSHIP SERVANT LEADERSHIP

Sample Governing Body Resolution

Feel free to fill in the fields and copy all or part of the resolution below into your own document.

RESOLUTION

Whereas athletic competition holds intrinsic opportunities for our nation's youth..

Whereas sports is a major social force that shapes the quality and character of or culture...

Whereas it is the desire of (School/School District) to graduate students who can demonstrate the character values of integrity, respect, responsibility, sportsmanship and servant-leadership...

Whereas this institution understands athletic participation presents teachable moments in which these character values demonstrate themselves...

Whereby these core values form the basis of the *Champions of Character* process...

Be it therefore resolved

that the school trustees for (School/School District, City, State) hereby authorize the immediate implementation of the *Champions of Character* process and mandates that all coaches engage in the intentional instruction of character. The school trustees also mandate that athletic administrators hire, train, and evaluate in a method that is consistent with character driven athletics.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Date