



Spectator Policy

Purpose

Newark Charter School (NCS) is committed to providing a positive, safe, and respectful environment for all school events, competitions, and performances. Spectators play an important role in supporting our students and programs. This policy establishes expectations for behavior and security to ensure that all participants—students, coaches, officials, performers, and guests—can enjoy events free from disruption or unsafe conduct.

Where This Policy Applies

This policy applies to all spectators attending events held on property or in facilities owned, rented, or operated by Newark Charter School, including but not limited to:

- Robert W. Gore Stadium
- The Performing Arts Center
- Gymnasiums
- Athletic fields and outdoor venues
- Any facility, including parking lots, rented or used by NCS to host events, competitions, or performances
- Events, competitions, or performances in which Newark Charter School is participating as the visiting or away school

All individuals entering an event venue agree to comply with this policy and any directions given by school administrators, staff, event personnel, or law enforcement.

The Newark Charter School Student Code of Conduct remains fully in effect at all school events. This spectator policy is intended to serve as a supplement to the Student Code of Conduct and does not supersede or replace it. Students attending events are expected to follow all standards outlined in the Student Code of Conduct in addition to the expectations described in this policy.

Security Measures

To promote a safe environment for all guests, NCS may implement the following security procedures:

1. “See Something, Say Something” Philosophy

NCS encourages all spectators to remain aware of their surroundings and report any suspicious activity, unsafe behavior, or concerning situations to event staff, school administrators, or law enforcement. Prompt reporting helps ensure that potential concerns are addressed quickly. Any report received will be taken seriously and may require investigation by school administration and/or law enforcement.

2. Identification and Ticketing

Student IDs and/or event tickets may be required for entry at certain events. Spectators should be prepared to present identification if requested by school staff or security personnel.

3. Intoxication or Impairment

Any individual who, in the judgment of a Newark Charter School administrator or their designee, appears to be intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or drugs, or displays signs of impairment, will **not be admitted to the event**. If such a condition becomes apparent after entry, the individual may be **immediately removed from the venue**. NCS reserves the right to deny entry or remove individuals when their condition could compromise the safety, security, or positive environment of the event.

4. Late Entry Restrictions

Entry may not be permitted once an event has progressed beyond the halfway point of the competition, performance, or contest.

5. No Re-Admittance

Once a spectator leaves the venue, re-entry may not be permitted.

6. Bag Policy

Spectators are encouraged to limit the number of items they bring into event venues.

Permitted bags are:

- Clear plastic, vinyl, or PVC bags not exceeding 12” x 6” x 12”
- One-gallon clear plastic freezer bags
- Small clutch bags approximately the size of a hand, not exceeding 5” x 8”
- All medically necessary bags (including diaper bags).

All bags may be subject to inspection by NCS Administration or designee.

7. Animals on School Property

Animals are not permitted at Newark Charter School events or on Newark Charter School property unless they are a trained service animal assisting an individual with a disability, as defined under applicable law.

Service animals must remain under the control of their handler at all times and must be properly leashed, harnessed, or tethered unless the device interferes with the animal’s work or the individual’s disability

prevents its use. ~~Appropriate documentation identifying the animal as a service animal may be requested where permitted by law.~~

8. Face Coverings

Spectators may not wear full-face ski masks, gaiters, or similar coverings that conceal identity.

9. Banners, Signs, and Noise Makers

Banners, signs, artificial noisemakers, or other disruptive items are not permitted unless specifically authorized by NCS administration.

10. Weapon Detection Systems

At some events, a weapon detection system may be used at the entrance. If in operation, all spectators must pass through the system prior to entry. If the system alerts, a secondary screening will be required before admission.

Rules and Expectations

All spectators are expected to contribute to a respectful and supportive environment.

1. Respectful Conduct

Spectators must treat athletes, performers, coaches, referees, officials, staff, and fellow spectators with respect. Taunting, derogatory remarks, profanity, intimidation, or aggressive behavior (as defined by NCS Administration or designee) will not be tolerated.

2. Positive Support

Cheering for your team is encouraged. However, spectators must avoid cheering against opponents, including booing, taunting, or creating disruptive noises intended to distract participants.

3. No Coaching or Officiating from the Stands

Spectators are not permitted to coach players or challenge officials from the stands.

4. Throwing Objects Prohibited

Throwing objects onto the field, court, stage, or into spectator areas is strictly prohibited. Spectators should not bring sports equipment

5. Supervision of Younger Students

Any elementary or middle school-aged student attending an event must be accompanied by a responsible adult and remain with that adult at all times.

To help maintain a safe environment for all participants and spectators, guests are not permitted to bring sporting equipment into Newark Charter School events. This includes, but is not limited to, footballs, soccer balls, baseballs, lacrosse balls, lacrosse sticks, bats, or similar items.

Event staff or school administrators may request that prohibited items be removed from the facility or returned to a vehicle.

6. Stay in Designated Areas

Spectators must remain in designated seating or spectator areas and may not enter the playing surface, stage, or restricted areas unless authorized.

7. Departure After Events

Following the conclusion of an event, spectators are expected to depart the venue and campus promptly. Loitering near entrances, exits, or parking areas is not permitted.

8. Substance-Free Campus

Newark Charter School maintains a substance-free campus. The possession or use of tobacco products, alcohol, illegal drugs, or other controlled substances is strictly prohibited on NCS property or at NCS-sponsored events.

9. Authority to Maintain Safety and Order

Newark Charter School administrators or their designees retain the authority to make reasonable requests or provide directions that they deem necessary to maintain the safety, security, and good order of an event, even if such requests are not specifically outlined in this policy. Spectators are expected to comply with these directions.

Enforcement

Newark Charter School administration, event staff, or their designees have the authority to enforce this policy.

- Spectators who violate this policy may be removed from the event, or be denied entry.
 - Individuals who refuse to comply with directions from school staff or security personnel will be asked to leave immediately.
 - Refusal to leave when directed will be considered trespassing, and law enforcement may be contacted.
 - NCS reserves the right to restrict or ban individuals from future events for repeated or serious violations of this policy.
 - Through partnerships and coordination with other schools and host institutions, Newark Charter School may also request that such restrictions be honored when NCS participates in events as the visiting team. Accordingly, individuals who are banned from NCS events may also be prohibited from attending contests or events involving NCS at other venues, subject to the policies and enforcement of the host school or facility.
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Commitment to a Positive Event Experience

Newark Charter School values sportsmanship, respect, and community. By attending an NCS event, spectators agree to uphold these standards and help create a welcoming environment that reflects positively on our students, programs, and school community.