



Module 5: Competing with Honor Part 2 - Handout

Six Pillars of CharacterSM for Competition

Trustworthiness – demand integrity, honesty, promise-keeping, loyalty

Respect - control violent instincts, demonstrate class; be a good sport, don't talk trash or be boastful, respect officials

Responsibility - be accountable, pursue excellence

Fairness - never cheat, use recognized standards, don't show partiality or prejudice

Caring – show empathy and compassion, be unselfishness

Citizenship - play by the rules, acknowledge acts of good sportsmanship

The T.E.A.M. Strategy for Teaching Character (using a competitive reference)

Teach

- ☼ The importance of character in competition
- ☼ What proper and improper conduct looks like
- ☼ The Six Pillars of Character

Enforce

- ☼ Praise positive acts of character
- ☼ Express disappoint in negative acts of character
- ☼ Demand following the rules

- ☼ Expect respectful conduct

Advocate

- ☼ Tell young people clearly, continuously and vigorously the importance of character to the 4-H program
- ☼ Don't be neutral or noncommittal on issues of character

Model

- ☼ Lead by example

Making Good Choices Four Questions to Ask

1. Is there possible danger of physical harm to you or anyone else?
2. Could you or someone else suffer serious emotional pain?
3. Could the decision hurt your reputation?
4. Could the decision impede achieving any important goal?

A "yes" answer to any of these questions is an indication you should reconsider your decision.

(Adapted from "Pursuing Victory with Honor, Josephson Institute of Ethics, 2004)

Six Pillars of CharacterSM

- ☼ Respect authority
- ☼ Protect the environment

Trustworthiness

- ☼ Be honest
- ☼ Don't deceive, cheat or steal
- ☼ Be reliable – do what you say you'll do
- ☼ Have the courage to do the right thing.
- ☼ Build a good reputation
- ☼ Be loyal – stand by your family and friends

Respect

- ☼ Treat others with respect
- ☼ Be tolerant of differences
- ☼ Use good manners, not bad language
- ☼ Be considerate of the feelings of others
- ☼ Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone
- ☼ Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements

Responsibility

- ☼ Do what you are supposed to do.
- ☼ Persevere; keep on trying!
- ☼ Always do your best
- ☼ Use self-control; be self-disciplined
- ☼ Be accountable for your choices.
- ☼ Think before you act – consider the consequence

Fairness

- ☼ Play by the rules
- ☼ Take turns and share
- ☼ Be open-minded; listen to others
- ☼ Don't take advantage of others
- ☼ Don't blame others carelessly

Caring

- ☼ Be kind
- ☼ Be compassionate and show you care
- ☼ Express gratitude
- ☼ Forgive others
- ☼ Help people in need

Citizenship

- ☼ Do your share to make your school and community better
- ☼ Cooperate
- ☼ Stay informed; vote
- ☼ Be a good neighbor
- ☼ Obey laws and rules

*CHARACTER COUNTS! and the Six Pillars of Character are service marks of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics.
www.charactercounts.org*