

A Friendly Competition  
Version II

By

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Theme:

This is a fun play that uses a pair of characters who are setting a bad example to convey the importance of good sportsmanship over the importance of victory.

Approximate Running Time:

15 minutes

Props:

All kinds of sports equipment.

Some props that indicate that a person is in charge of a large event. Clipboard, whistle, or notebook, etc.

Cast of Characters:

Josh: A young man who is anxious to participate in a sports competition. He is to appear as a nerd.

Beth: Beth is a friend of Josh's friends who is also looking forward to the same sports competition, but for better reasons.

Rachel: A young lady who is a part of the group of kids who will be taking part in the activities.

Scene:

Beth and Josh walk on to the stage from opposite sides. Beth has a few things that are indicative of being in charge of an event. A clipboard, or a whistle, or a notebook or all three. Josh is laden with all kinds of sports equipment that will be used during the upcoming week. Beth begins to speak before the two meet at center stage. Josh attempts to appear as if he is the greatest athlete ever known to mankind and in his efforts appears really pitiful.

Beth: What are you doing wearing all of that stupid stuff?

Josh: This is all of the equipment that I need to prove that I am the best athlete in town.

Beth: [*Laughing.*] Yeah, right. You've got to be kidding me. You think that you're going to win all of the competitions this week?

Josh: Well, yeah.

Beth: If you ask me I'd say that you'll be lucky to win any of the competitions this week? Don't you remember last year?

Josh: Well, last year was different. I've been practicing a lot during the past year and I'm ready to be the champion this year.

Beth: I don't care how much practice you put in. You'll be lucky to win any of the competitions that we're doin' this week.

Josh: I'm not going to be winning just any of them. I plan on winning all of them.

Beth: All of them?

Josh: Well, at least most of them. I'll probably let someone else win a few events so that they come back next year. You know, I wouldn't want to ruin our chances of doing this kinda' thing again by being too overpowering or anything like that.

Beth: 'Overpowering?' You have got to be kidding me.

Josh: Why bother competing if you don't plan on winning - that's what I always say.

Beth: Since when do you always say that?

Josh: Since I've been practicing for this year's event.

Beth: I think that you're going more than a little overboard with this 'winning' thing. I mean, there is more to competition than winning, you know.

Josh: Yeah, like what?

Beth: Well, something that you're most familiar with: losing. [*Laughing at her joke.*]

Josh: [*Offended.*] Very funny. [*Appearing as tough as he can.*] Don't you think that I am a formidable opponent?

Beth: Formidable? [*Laughing.*] Huh! I'd say that you're more like a pitiful opponent.

Josh: Well you can laugh all you want, but I'm here to tell you that you're gonna' be toast this week. Come on, name a sport that you think that you're great at.

Beth: I'm not going to play your silly game. I'm above this adolescent bantering that you're insisting I participate in.

Josh: [*Pretending he's ready to fight. Maybe throwing down hockey gloves or something like that. Circling her while threatening her with his fists.*] Come on, what are ya chicken or somethin'?

Beth: [*Calmly, not affected by his performance in the slightest.*] No, that's not it. I simply refuse to play your silly game.

Josh: Is it because you know that you're gonna' lose?

Beth: I play to have fun - I don't care who wins and who loses.

Josh: Is it because you're afraid of making a fool of yourself in front of everyone?

Beth: No, I think that you're the one that'll be makin' a fool of himself.

Josh: Is it because you were brought up a sissy or something?

Beth: This has nothing to do with my upbringing.

Josh: Is it because you're just [*emphasize 'just'*] a girl?

Beth: [*He got her.*] Just a girl?

Josh: Yeah, everyone knows that girls are wimps!

Beth: Wimps?

Josh: Yeah, [*speaking slowly*] girls are just cryin' to their mother, whining because they lose, good for nothin' wimps!

Beth: [*Taking on the challenge. She begins to move in circles opposite of Josh as the two show each other their fists.*] I'll show you.

Josh: Oh yeah, what are you gonna' show me? You're just a wimpy girl!

Beth: I'll take you on. I'll show you whose the wimp around here.

Josh: Name your sport.

Beth: All of them.

Josh: All of them?

Beth: That's what I just said, all of them. Did I stutter?

Josh: I can't believe that you're doing this. I can't believe that you're stupid enough to challenge me in all of the sports that we're competing in this week, but if that's the way that you want it, that's the way that you're gonna' get it.

Beth: No, you're gonna' get it.

Josh: No, you're gonna' get it.

[The two continue to argue as Rachel comes onto stage to break them up.]

Rachel: Hey you two, break it up. What's going on here?

Beth: [Like a two year old defending herself.] Josh has challenged me in the competition tonight.

Rachel: [Looking at Josh.] And you told him that winning isn't the reason why we're having the competition, right?

Beth: Well, not actually.

Rachel: Then you must have told him that having a good attitude and playing with good sportsmanship is much more important than winning.

Beth: Well, not actually.

Rachel: You didn't tell him that being a good sport is better than winning?

Beth: No.

Rachel: Then what did you tell him?

Josh: [Like a two year old.] She told me that she was going to win.

Rachel: You did what?

Beth: Okay, okay, I got carried away. We both did. I'm sorry. But if it wasn't for Josh and the stupid way that he challenged me this never would have happened.

Josh: You didn't have to take the challenge, did you.

Rachel: She just apologized, let's not get started again. Let's decide that we know better than to get caught up in childish banter over a friendly competition. Besides, what kind of an example are you setting for the rest of the kids who are involved? Do you want them to see the two of you like this?

Beth: You're right. This is foolish. Josh, I'm sorry.

Josh: No, it's my fault. I started it. Now I'm gonna' end it. [He takes off his stupid equipment.] Let's go show the kids what this competition is all about. Good sportsmanship and playing for the fun of playing.

Beth: And let's forget about who is better than who.

Rachel: Now that's much better.

*[Beth and Josh look at each other and say...]*

Both:       Let's do it!

*[The three of them walk off of the stage together.]*

- CURTAIN -



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