

Parent/Coach Communication Guideline

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging in today's world. By providing these helpful guidelines, we believe we can best help our athletes reach their potential and allow them to enjoy their high school experience.

Communication You Should Expect from Your Child's Coach

- ◆Philosophy of the coach
- ◆Expectations of athlete and team
- ◆Location and times of all practices and contests
- ◆Team requirements- fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
- ◆Procedure to follow should your child be injured during participation
- ◆Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation

Communication Coaches Expect from Parents

- ◆Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- ◆Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- ◆Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations
- ◆Notification on any injury or illness

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coaches

- ◆Treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- ◆Ways to help your child improve
- ◆Concerns about your child's behavior

Inappropriate Concerns to Discuss with Coach

- ◆Playing time
- ◆Team strategy
- ◆Play calling
- ◆Other student-athletes

It can be very difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professional and make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be in the best interest of the team. As noted in the above lists, certain concerns can be and should be discussed with the coach. Other things like the examples on the list of Inappropriate Concerns must be left to the discretion of the coach.

What To Do if You Have a Concern to Discuss with the Coach

- ◆Contact the coach to set up an appointment
- ◆If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic department at 485-4800 ext. 4508 to leave a message
- ◆Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach and meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

The Next Step...

- ◆Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation. At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined