

Parent & Coach Communication's Plan

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult jobs. By establishing an understanding of each position we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefits to the children. As a parent, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your child's sport.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach:

1. The expectations the coach has for your child as well as all players on the team.
2. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
3. Policies and procedures that should be followed as a member of the team.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your child.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:

1. Playing time. It's very difficult to accept that your child may not play as much as you had hoped. Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe to be best for all student/athletes involved.
2. Team strategy, including play calling. This is their job. Anyone can second guess after the fact.
3. Other student/athletes.

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. These are encouraged. It is important that both parties have a clear understanding of the other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

1. Please encourage your child to speak directly with the coach. Many times the matter can be taken care at that time.
2. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
3. If the coach can't be reached. Call the athletic director. He will assist you.
4. Please don't attempt to confront a coach immediately before or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both parties. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.
5. If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.

Student/athlete's name

Signature of parent or guardian