

Parent/ Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding of each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provided greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become involved in the school's athletic 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 program.

Communications You Should Expect from Your Child's Coach

- 1. Expectations the coach has for your child
- 2. Locations and times of all practices and contests
- 3. Team requirements, i.e., fundraising
- 4. Procedure should your child be injured during participation

Communications Coaches Expect from Parents

- 1. Communication directly to the coach
- 2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- 3. Concerns in regard to coach's expectations

Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches

- 1. The development of your child, mentally and physically
- 2. Ways to help your child improve
- 3. Concerns in regard to coach's expectations

It is very difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be best for all students involved. As you seen from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as the following must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Issues Not Appropriate to Discuss with Coaches

- 1. Playing time
- 2. Team strategy
- 3. Play calling
- 4. Other student athletes

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

If You Have a Concern with a Coach Protocol

- 1. Call to set up an appointment with the coach during school hours.
- 2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, and he will set up the meeting.
- 3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These are often emotional times for both the parent and coach. These type of interactions do not promote resolutions.

Parent Participation

Parent participation (helping/assisting the coach, student athletes, school, etc.) is a form of volunteer service. Any time a parent or family member is operating in the above capacity, they should check in on the Raptor system in the main office. It is vital data for our school's volunteer and business partner goals. Please know that the while we need and appreciate your time and support, it in no way entitles your student-athlete to special privileges.

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