

## IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH PLEASE FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE

- ◆ Call the coach to set up an appointment.
- ◆ Call the main number of the school and ask for the coaches extension.
- ◆ If the coach cannot be reached, call the Campus Athletic Coordinator and a meeting will be arranged.
- ◆ Please do not attempt to confront a coach before, during or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions.

### THE NEXT STEP

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution?

- ◆ Call the Campus Athletic Coordinator or the Principal to discuss the situation.
- ◆ At this point, the appropriate next step can be determined.

## PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

- ◆ Make sure your child understands that win or lose, you love him or her.
- ◆ Be realistic about your child's athletic ability.
- ◆ Help your child set realistic goals.
- ◆ Emphasize 'improved' performance, not winning.
- ◆ Don't relive your own athletic past through your child.
- ◆ Control your emotions at games and events.
- ◆ Be a 'cheerleader' for your child and for other children on the team.
- ◆ Respect your child's coaches. Communicate with them in a positive way. Encourage others to do the same.
- ◆ Be a positive role model.
- ◆ Be sensible, responsible and keep your priorities in order. There is a lot more at stake than a win or loss.

**Sportsmanship begins  
with respect for yourself  
and for others.**

Northside ISD

NORTHSIDE  
INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENT / COACH  
COMMUNICATION  
GUIDE



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## **PARENT COACH RELATIONSHIP**

Both parenting and coaching can be quite trying at times. By understanding and respecting the position of both parents and coaches, children are better served through their experience in athletics. Clear communication between parents and coaches can help all understand the position of the other and enhance the positive experience that can be gained from participation in athletics.

## **COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH**

- ◆ Philosophy of the coach
- ◆ Expectations and goals the coach has for your child as well the team and season
- ◆ Location and times of all practices and games
- ◆ Team requirements, special equipment, strength and conditioning programs
- ◆ Procedure if your child is injured during participation
- ◆ Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions
- ◆ Team selection process

## **COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS**

- ◆ Concerns expressed directly to the coach
- ◆ Notifications of any schedule conflicts in advance
- ◆ Notification of any illness or injury as soon as possible

As your child becomes involved in athletics in the Northside ISD, he or she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand there may also be times when things do not go the way your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged. It is the first and most important step to understanding and resolution.

## **APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES**

- ◆ The treatment of your child
- ◆ Ways to help your child improve
- ◆ Concerns about your child's behavior

## **COACHES ARE EDUCATORS FIRST AND FOREMOST**

It is very difficult to accept your child not playing as much as you hope. Coaches are educators. They make decisions based on what they believe to be best for all student-athletes and the educational goals of the Northside ISD. Certain concerns are appropriate to discuss with your child's coach. Other areas such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

- 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 player, or coach and parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important all parents involved have a clear understanding of the other person's position. When a conference is necessary, the procedure outlined within should be used to help resolve any concerns.