

PARENT/COACH RELATIONSHIPS

Clear guidelines that define the role of parents are essential to support both coaches and student-athletes participating in sanctioned high school sports activities. To promote a successful high school experience for their child, parents need to support crucial decisions made by coaches. Parents are entitled to know the expectations that will be placed upon their student throughout his or her high school experience. Coaches must be trusted to make ethical decisions in the best interest of their teams. It is our expectation that our coaches act as professionals while promoting character, unselfishness and team play. Collaboration between parents and coaches is essential. This process, fostered by mutual trust and respect, is initiated with open communication between both parties.

COMMUNICATIONS YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER'S COACH:

1. Philosophy of the coach.
2. Expectations and goals the coach has for student athletes, the team, and the season.
3. Locations and times of all practices and contests.
4. Specific Team requirements, including special equipment, strength and conditioning programs, lettering criteria, weekend activities, etc.
5. Injury procedures for practices and contests.
6. Team rules, guidelines, and consequences for infractions.
7. Expectations of the parents' role in athletic programs.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM ATHLETES/PARENTS

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
3. Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your student becomes involved in the Anacortes School District programs, they will experience some of the most rewarding memories of their lifetime. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way either you or your student athlete wish. During these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged. It is the first and most integral step to understanding and resolution.



Anacortes School District Athletics

Continuing a Tradition of Excellence!!!

Phone: (360) 293-1237

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACH

1. The treatment of your student athlete.
2. Ways to help your student athlete improve.
3. Concerns about your student athlete's behavior.
4. Level of competition.

It is very difficult to accept your student athlete not playing as much as you hope. Coaches are professional; they make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all student-athletes involved. As you have seen from the preceding list, certain things can be and should be discussed with your student's coach. Other things, 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 that all parties involved have a clear understanding of the other persons' position. When a conference is necessary, the following procedure should be used to help resolve any concerns.

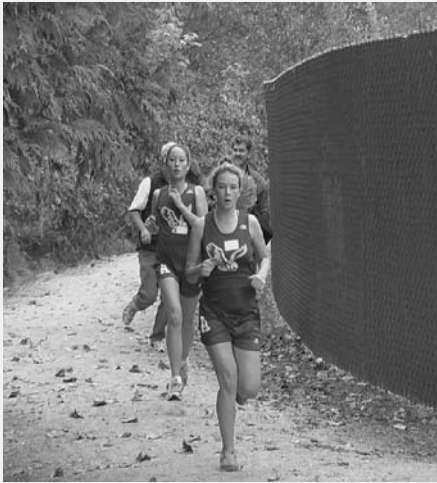


If you have a concern to discuss with a coach, you should follow the procedure listed below:

1. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
2. High School & Middle School phone numbers:

Anacortes High School- (360) 293-1237

Anacortes Middle School- (360) 293-1233



3. If the coach cannot be reached, you may call him at home.
4. 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.

Parent Code of Conduct

1. Make sure your student athlete understands that you love them whether they win or lose.
2. Be realistic about your student athlete's physical ability.
3. Help your student athlete set realistic goals.
4. Emphasize "improved" performance over winning.
5. Provide a safe environment for training and competition.
6. Don't relive your own athletic past through your student athlete!
7. Control your emotions at games and events.
8. Be a "cheerleader" for your student athlete and others on the team.
9. Respect your student athlete's coaches. Communicate with them in a positive way. Encourage your son or daughter to do the same.
10. Be a positive role model!
11. Remember our ultimate goal is to support our kids!

Be sensible, responsible, and keep your priorities in order. There is more at stake than a win or loss.



ANACORTES SCHOOL DISTRICT ATHLETICS



Parent/Coach Communication

A "Winning" Approach



ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
Rick Mergenthaler
Athletic Director/Asst. Principal
(360) 293-1237
rmergenthaler@asd103.org