

Parents role

1. The most important role a parent plays in their child's success during athletics is to provide a positive example and to be a support base for that child both when things go well and when they don't go well.
2. Parents, coaches, and players should not openly discuss other players, parents, and/or coaches in a negative manner. We are a family during the season and should treat each other as such. Be a fan of the team, not just a fan of "your child".
3. Please do not instruct your children before, during, or after a game. What you say may directly conflict with what your child is supposed to be doing. This includes yelling at your child or another player during a contest.
4. Please reinforce our alcohol and drug free policies and refrain from the use of any controlled substance before and during athletic events.
5. Remember that a ticket to a school event is a privilege to observe the contest, it does not give anyone the right to behave however they please.

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 provide greater benefit to children. As parents, when your children become 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 program.

Communication you should expect from your child's coach

1. Philosophy of the coach
2. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad
3. Location and times of all practices and contests
4. Procedure should your child be injured during participation
5. Team requirements regarding fees, equipment, off-season conditioning, etc.
6. Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation
7. How playing time is determined

Communication coaches expect from parents

1. Concerns expressed to the coach directly and an appointment set up to discuss concerns
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
3. Specific concerns in regard to a coaches philosophy and expectations

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches

1. The treatment of your child, mentally and/or physically
2. Ways to help your child improve and concerns about your child's behavior or attitude in practices and/or games

Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches

1. Team strategy, play calling, playing time, and other student-athletes

Procedure to follow if you have a concern to discuss with the coach

- 1) Have your child and the coach discuss the concern between the two of them first to determine if an agreement can be reached.
- 2) Call to set up an appointment with the coach and your child. E-mail is not a good way to communicate a concern because the tone of the concern is hard to determine.
- 3) Contact athletic director Brian Wheatley at bwheatley@northlinncsd.org or 319-361-1071 to set up an appointment with the athletic director, coach, yourself, and your child.
- 4) Please do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice! A 24-hour buffer is a good rule of thumb to let emotions calm down in the heat of the moment.
- 5) No anonymous letters or calls will be validated!