



## **Hamilton High School Parent/Guardian/Coach Communication**

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 our children. As parents, when your child becomes involved in one of our programs, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coaches.

### **Communication You Should Expect From Your Child's Coach**

Philosophy of the coach.

Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.

Locations and times of all practices and contests.

Team requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment, off- season conditioning.

Procedures should your child be injured during participation.

Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation.

### **Communication Coaches Expect From Parents**

Concerns expressed directly to the coach.

Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

Specific concern in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations.

As your child becomes involved in the Hamilton High School Athletic Program he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is important to understand that there may also be times when things do not go the way you or your child wishes. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

### **Appropriate Concerns To Discuss With Coaches**

The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.

Ways to help your child improve.

Concerns about your child's behavior.

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



### **Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With Coaches**

- Playing time.
- Team strategy.
- Play calling.
- Other student-athletes.

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

### **If You Have A Concern To Discuss With A Coach**

- Call to set up an appointment.
- If the coach cannot be reached call the Athletic Director. He can set up the meeting for you.
- Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

### **What Can A Parent Do If The Meeting With The Coach Did Not Provide A Satisfactory Resolution?**

- Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
- At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

**Since research indicates that a student involved in extracurricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, this program has been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant, are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided makes both your child's and your experience with the Hamilton High School Athletic Program less stressful and more enjoyable.**