



Elizabethtown Area School District

**ELIZABETHTOWN AREA ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL
PLAYER/PARENT/COACH/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
GUIDELINES**

The Athletic Department at EASD has high expectations for every student-athlete that joins our teams. This document is to provide both the student-athlete and his/her parents with a clear understanding of expectations the Athletic Director and coaching staff has for each individual player.

"Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishment toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." Andrew Carnegie

Players Agreement:

The goal of the Athletic Department is to not only make each player a better athlete, but also a better student and individual. To reach this success, the Athletic Department requires each player and his/her parents to agree to the following Guidelines:

- 1. ATTITUDE** – Take steps to learn, choose to work on being better. "Change your words, change your mindset!"
- 2. WORK ETHIC** – Endurance, comparison and drive. Work hard every day, both on and off the field, in and out of the classroom. Extra work makes a huge impact! Do your schoolwork. This comes first!
- 3. BE ON TIME and BE PREPARED** – Every role on our teams requires different levels of preparation, both physical and mental. Attend every workout, practice, scrimmage, and game. If you have a conflict, discuss this directly with your coach.
- 4. PASSION** – Have fun. You play this game because you enjoy it. Push yourself and show you want to learn.
- 5. RESPECT** – Respect is expected. UNDERSTAND that both on AND off the field you are not only representing yourself, but also your school, your community, your teammates, your coaches, and your family!
- 6. BEING COACHABLE** – Push yourself to explore new ideas, learn to adapt to new coaches, and coaching strategies. Be patient!
- 7. NO CELLPHONES** – During practice, scrimmages, games, and workouts cell phones will not be permitted. A coach must approve use of cell phones on team buses.
- 8. TRAVEL ON TEAM BUSES** – Players must travel on team buses. We are together as a team! If there is a conflict, the player must discuss this with a coach PRIOR to the event.
- 9. ENERGY** – Personal energy is like electricity. Train your mind on how you should utilize it!

10. PARENT/PLAYER/COACH COMMUNICATION:

"Your child's success or lack of success in sports does not indicate what kind of parent you are. However, having an athlete that is a great teammate, coachable, respectful, mentally tough, resilient, and tries his/her best, is a direct reflection of your parenting."

Our EASD coaching staff will need to make athletic decisions regarding your child. At times you and your child may not always agree with those decisions.

Expectations of Parent/Guardian

- Support their student-athlete's efforts toward success.
- Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of the student athlete.
- Become familiar with and review the Code of Conduct with the student athlete.
- Communicate any concern in a timely manner.
- Treat all coaching personnel with courtesy and respect, and insist their student-athlete do the same.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

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

Playing time discussions between the parent and coach have always been "off-limits" in our athletic program, as it leads down a path of a parent putting down another player.

It may be difficult when you perceive that your child is not playing as much as you hope. Coaches are professionals and they make judgments based on what they believe to be best for each student involved, the team, and the program. 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 the amount of playing time, coaching strategies, and concerns about other students should be left to the discretion of the coach.

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 other's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue or concern.

If there is a concern to discuss with a coach, the following procedure should be used:

1. Please encourage your child to speak directly to the coach. Many times the matter can be taken care of through this process.
2. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director's office. They will assist you in arranging a meeting.
4. 24 HOUR RULE - Please do not present your concerns to a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach.
5. If the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution, call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.

Expectations of the Coach

- Coaches will be on time and be prepared for training sessions, and games.
- Players and parents can expect the coaches to be fair and give an honest evaluation of players.
- Coaches will promote good sportsmanship and lead by example.
- Coaches will maintain good communication with parents and players.
- Coaches will hold players accountable who do not abide by good sportsmanship, and attendance at games and practice sessions.
- Coaches will work toward not only the development of their team, but the individual development of each player.

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 here makes both your child's and your experience with the Elizabethtown Area School District athletic program less stressful, more rewarding and an enjoyable experience.

**ELIZABETHTOWN AREA ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT
HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL
PLAYER/PARENT/COACH/ATHLETIC DIRECTOR
GUIDELINES**

Coach: _____

Sport: _____

Season: _____

By signing this document you are acknowledging that you read it and understand the Guidelines.

Player Signature: _____

Date: _____

Player – please print your name: _____

Parent(s) Signature: _____

Date: _____

Parent(s) Signature: _____

Date: _____

Coaches Signature: _____

For Office Use Only:

Date received: _____

