

NORTHERN YORK COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

PARENT ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATIONS

Interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the total educational program of the Northern York County School District. The goal and purpose of the athletic program is to teach the student athletes the meaning and understanding of sportsmanship, commitment, fairness, sacrifice, teamwork and hard work. Additional goals include knowing how to win and how to lose, increasing the knowledge of the sport, developing a healthy lifestyle and skill development. Our athletic fields and gymnasiums are laboratories for learning. We ask all parents to support our efforts to help teach the goals of interscholastic athletics. Listed below are the guidelines and expectations that we expect all parents to follow to ensure that our student athletes have a positive athletic experience. Parents who are unable to meet these expectations may be unable to attend future athletic contests.

1. Support your child by being a positive listener, especially after a tough loss.
2. Avoid putting pressure on your child to start, score, or be the star of the team. Do not force an unwilling child to participate in sports. Children take part in organized sports for their own enjoyment, not yours.
3. Support the coach and administration in public around other parents and fans.
4. Avoid speaking negatively about the coach in front of your child. It may create a major barrier in the child's hope for improvement in the sport.
5. Understand the ultimate purpose of athletics; it exists as an integral part of the total educational mission of the school and participation in athletics is a privilege and not a right.
6. Serve as a good role model for the students, athletes, and other fans. Children often learn best by imitating a good example.
7. Contribute to the booster club by volunteering to help with projects and committees.
8. Appreciate the educational opportunity that your athlete is receiving in the athletic program. This includes the enormous time and effort provided by the coaches.
9. Display excellent sportsmanship at all times. Teach your child to always play by the rules and to be fair and honest with you and their abilities.
10. Show respect to everyone involved in the athletic programs – the coaches, athletes, fans, other parents, officials, security and administrators. Do not publicly question an official's judgment or integrity. Don't complain or argue about an official's calls or decisions during or after an athletic event.
11. Follow the chain of command when you have a concern. Your athlete should speak to their coach first. The next step would be for you to contact the coach to set up a meeting at a mutually convenient time. If you are not satisfied after meeting with the coach, please contact the athletic director to request a meeting to discuss your concerns.
12. Express your concerns and questions in a courteous and civil manner and please do it at the right time and proper setting.

13. Avoid constant and chronic complaining.
14. Abide by the Northern York School District Code of Conduct, Drug and Alcohol Policy, Eligibility requirements and team rules.
15. Understand that the goals of the team and the athletic program are more important than the hopes and dreams you may have for your child.
16. Teach you child that hard work and honest effort are more important than winning.
17. Be loyal to the school and team; put the best interests of the team above your child's personal glory.
18. Teach your child to live and play with class and to be a good sport. An athlete should be gracious in victory and accept defeat with dignity.
19. Support the concept of "being a student first". Commit your child to getting the best possible education. Be honest with your child about the likelihood of getting an athletic scholarship or playing sports on the professional level. Reinforce that colleges and universities will not recruit student athletes who do not have a serious commitment to their education.
20. Keep athletics in perspective – family, faith, fun and education are far more important.
21. PIAA by-laws dealing with athletic courtesy provide that any spectator who continually evidences poor sportsmanship should be requested not to attend future contests.

WE/AS (A) PARENT(S) HAVE READ THE ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT AND EXPECTATION DOCUMENT. WE/I UNDERSTAND THAT A FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THIS DOCUMENT MAY RESULT IN MY NOT BEING ABLE TO ATTEND FUTURE ATHLETIC CONTESTS.

Parent

Signature _____

Date: _____

Parent

Signature _____

Date _____

A Parent's Guide to Dealing With Coaches

Communication parents should expect from the coach:

- The coach's philosophy.
- The coach's expectations for your son or daughter, as well as other players on the team.
- Locations and times of practices and contests.
- Team requirements, such as fees, special equipment needed, school and team rules, and off-season expectations.
- Procedures if your child suffers an injury during participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

- Concerns about their child expressed directly to the coach at the appropriate time and place.
- Concerns about the coach's philosophy or expectations.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with a coach:

- The mental and physical treatment of your child
- What your child needs to do to improve
- Aspects of your child's behavior.

Concerns that are NOT appropriate for discussion and must be left to the discretion of the coach:

- How much playing time each athlete is getting.
- Team strategy.
- Play calling.
- Any situation that deals with other student-athletes.