

Clarke County High School

Athletics



PARENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Clarke County High School's interscholastic athletics are an integral part of the educational program and are designed to have a positive influence on students. In addition to athletic skill development, we are charged with the responsibility of instilling proper attitudes and behaviors that reflect the ideas of citizenship, sportsmanship, and cooperation, as well as building self-discipline and self-esteem. These goals can best be achieved through a successful partnership between student-athletes, coaches, and parents.

Player/Coach Communication – We encourage the student-athlete to notify the coach well in advance of any scheduling conflict that may involve an absence from practice or a game.

If your son/daughter has a concern, encourage him/her to resolve it directly with the coach. All coaches are encouraged to maintain an open door policy for players. Players need to have confidence that their concerns will be heard and addressed with respect and confidentiality.

Parent/Coach/Player Communication – If a concern is not resolved after the student-athlete has met with the coach, the student-athlete's parent should then contact the coach directly at school via email or by phone. Leave your name, number, a short message, and the best time to call. After speaking with the coach regarding concerns, parents should communicate with the athletic director and principal, if necessary, to reach a resolution.

Please be prudent with your decision when contacting the coach. Coaches spend significant time preparing for and supervising practices and games. The post-game period can be an emotional time for student-athletes, parents, and coaches, and is often not a conducive or productive time to solve problems rationally. We respectfully request that you wait at least 24 hours after a game before contacting or discussing any concern with a coach.

It can be difficult and disappointing to accept that your child may not be receiving as much playing time as you or he/she had hoped. Coaches must make decisions about playing time based on their judgments regarding what is best for the team and all student-athletes involved. Therefore, it is not appropriate to discuss playing time, positioning, team strategies or tactics, or any discussion about another student-athlete.

Player/Parent Communication – Parents play a key role in the student-athlete's behavior while participating in athletic activities. We ask that all parents encourage and reinforce the proper ideals of sportsmanship, ethical conduct, and fair play.

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The essential elements of character building and ethics in athletes are embodied in the concept of sportsmanship and six core principles: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and good citizenship. Participants derive the greatest value from athletics when athletic competition reflects these "six pillars of character." Our parents and coaches are expected to promote and encourage character building and good sportsmanship in all school-sponsored athletic competition.

Therefore I agree:

1. I will be a positive supporter of my child's participation in athletic activities.
2. I will support the program by volunteering to assist the team in some way.
3. I will respect the integrity and judgment of the officials at sporting events and will conduct myself at all athletic competitions in such a manner that reflects positively on our athletes, our school, and our community.
4. I will refrain from public criticism of coaches as this only diminishes my child's respect for his/her coach and promotes unproductive negativity.
5. I will encourage my child to speak directly to his/her coach if he/she is having difficulties in practice or games or cannot attend a practice or game.
6. I will remember that the game is for our students-athletes and not for adults.
7. I will expect my child to treat other players, coaches, officials, and spectators with respect.

I have read and understand the Parent's Code of Conduct for all Clarke County High School's athletic events. By signing, I acknowledge the receipt of these guidelines/expectations.

Student Athlete Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Date signed: _____