Parent/Coach Communication Plan

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 benefits to children. As parents, when your children become involved in our athletic program, you have the 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. Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the team.
- 2. Locations and times of all meetings, practices and contests.
- 3. Team requirements, i.e. practices, special equipment, out of season conditioning.
- 4. Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions.

Communication Coaches Expect From Athletes/Parents

- 1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
- 2. Advance notice of any situations that may hinder participation in practice, games, or other team activities.



As your child becomes involved in the programs of the Bangor Area School District, they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. 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 The Coaches

- 1. The treatment of your child.
- 2. Improving your child's athletic performance.

At times it may be difficult to accept your child's limited playing opportunities. Please remember that coaches are professionals. They make decisions on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you can see from the list above, certain things can and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other things, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.



Issues Not Appropriate To Discuss With The Coaches

- 1. Playing time
- 2. Team Strategy
- 3. Other student-athletes
- 4 Selection of Team Leaders
 Sometimes there are situations that may require a conference between the coach and the parent. 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 of concern.

If There Is A Concern To Discuss With A Coach

- 1. Please encourage your child to speak directly to the coach.
- 2. Call the coach to set up an appointment.
- 3. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic office to assist you in arranging a meeting.
- 4. 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 rarely promote resolution.
- 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 Parent/Guardian

- 1. Support your student athlete's efforts to ward success.
- 2. Work to promote a positive environment that is conducive to the development of the student athlete.
- 3. Become familiar with and review the rules and regulations with your child.
- 4. Communicate any concerns in a timely manner according to district protocol.
- 5. Treat all coaching personnel with courtesy and respect, and insist your student athlete do the same.

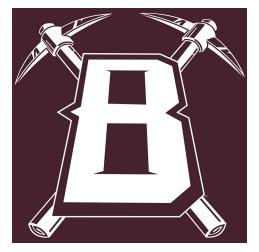
Research indicates a student involved in extra curricular activities has a greater chance for success as an adult. Involvement in athletics is an extension of the classroom where students learn the values of commitment. teamwork and pride. Development of these character traits in a competitive arena will promote success in life after high school. We hope the information provided in this pamphlet makes both your child's and your experience with the Bangor Area School District athletic program truly rewarding and enjoyable.

Suggestions for Parents Of Student Athletes

- 1. Make sure your children understand that win or lose, you love them.
- 2. Be realistic about your child's physical ability.
- 3. Help your child set realistic goals.
- 4. Emphasize "improved" performance, not winning.
- 5. Don't relive your own athletic past through your child.
- 6. Provide a safe environment for training and competition
- 7. Control your emotions at games and events.
- 8. Be a "cheerleader" for your child AND other children on the team.
- 9. Respect your child's coaches. Commu nicate with them in a positive way.
- 10. Be a positive role model..
- 11. Never communicate with the officials.
- 12. Never approach a coach or athlete dur ing a contest or coach your child from the stands.
- 13. Never enter the field of competition.

Be sensible and responsible, and keep your priorities in order. There is a great deal more at stake than a win/loss record.

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