



**IASD  
PARENT-GUARDIAN  
COACH-ADVISOR  
GUIDE FOR  
COMMUNICATIONS**

## **PARENTAL-GUARDIANSHIP GUIDE FOR COMMUNICATIONS**

### **Parent-Guardian/Coach-Advisor Relationship**

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 child becomes involved in our program, you have a right to understand what expectations are placed on your child. This begins with clear communication from the coach-advisor of your child's program.

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

- Philosophy of the coach-advisor
- Expectations the coach-advisor has for your child and all players on the team/activity
- Locations and times of all practices and contests
- Team/Activity requirements, i.e., fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning
- Procedure should your child be injured during participation
- Requirements to earn a varsity letter

### **Communication Coaches-Advisors Expect From Parents-Guardians**

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach-advisor
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
- Specific concerns in regard to a coach-advisor's philosophy and/or expectations

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

### **Appropriate Concerns to Discuss With Coaches-Advisors**

- The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
- Ways to help your child improve
- Concerns about your child's behavior

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

It is very difficult to accept your child's not participating as much as you may hope. Our coaches/advisors are professionals. They make judgment decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all students involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can, and should be discussed with your child's coach-advisor. Other areas, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach-advisor.

- Participation time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other students

### **Procedures You Should Follow If You Have A Concern To Discuss With A Coach-Advisor**

- Call to schedule an appointment with the coach-advisor
- You may call the athletic director to schedule a meeting with the coach-advisor
- Athletic Office Direct line is: 724-463-3530

Do not confront a coach-advisor before or after a contest, performance, or practice, as these can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach-advisor. Meetings of this nature do not promote resolution.

### **The Next Step**

What can a parent-guardian do if the meeting with the coach-advisor does not provide a satisfactory resolution? Although total agreement may not always be reached, most often such a meeting does afford the opportunity for productive discussion and better understanding.

The Indiana Area School District, in conjunction with the extracurricular staff, will follow the five-step procedure listed below. The order of this line of communication must be followed if you elect to pursue any concern you may have with regard to the extracurricular program.

1. Head coach/advisor
2. Athletic director (if related to a sports program)
3. Building principal
4. Superintendent
5. Board of school director

The information provided in this “Communication Guide” is intended to help you and your child have a rewarding and enjoyable extracurricular experience.

**Signature Acknowledgement**

My signature below indicates that I have received a copy of the Indiana Area School District's Parent-Guardian/Coach-Advisor Communication Guide.

I understand that this guide contains information regarding the School District's policy which affects me as a parent-guardian of a student-athlete participating in extracurricular activities. I understand that a coach-advisor may also have more specific policies and procedures pertaining to their sport/activity.

I understand that IASD may revise, supplement or rescind policies described in the manual, with or without notice.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood these policies.

Parent-guardians please sign this acknowledgement page. Please use the bottom of this page if more space is needed for signatures.

Sport/Activity\_\_\_\_\_

Parent-Guardian Printed Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Parent-Guardian Printed Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Parent -Guardian Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent-Guardian Signature(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Student Printed Name\_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please tear off and return this acknowledgement page to the Head Coach-Advisor after signing and dating.