



**Central Kitsap School District**

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**What all parents should know and follow with respect to their role in supporting their student athletes and their school teams: A CKSD Guideline**

In Central Kitsap District Athletics programs across all schools, we feel that character building is the number one objective for all student athletes. To that end, we have instructed coaches in this basic tenet, with the other important elements of skill building, participation, and winning having appropriate priority depending upon the level of competition. While the coaches, teachers, administrators, peers, officials and others play huge roles in securing growth in character, we believe that the parents are equally responsible for the development and support of team for all.

Expectations for Parents of Athletes

1. Attend the parent meeting offered by your child's coach, often held before the first contest. Parental presence at this meeting is vital to setting the tone for all athletes and is extremely influential to the success for all.
2. Encourage good sportsmanship by being a positive role model by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches, officials and spectators at every game, practice, or contest.
3. Be realistic about your son or daughter's athletic potential.
4. Remember that student athletes participate to have fun and the game is for the athletes, not the adults
5. Refrain from coaching your child or other players during games and practices. Please do not yell to position them or do things coaches have not instructed them to do. Mixed messages and a student athlete looking to their parent as opposed to their coaches compromises team success.
6. Please respect all officials, coaches, players, and other parents by cheering for all, and not booing or yelling against those involved in playing, officiating, or administering the game.
7. Please respect coaches and their authority during games and practice and never discuss or confront them at the game or practice venue. Please speak with coaches at an agreed upon time and place. Your coach's team rules (attached) explain more.
8. Never use social media to air grievances with coaches, players, parents, or school officials.
9. Know the objectives for athletes at each of the seven levels we offer inter-scholastic sports. **That priority list is on the last page of this document.**

Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult vocations. By understanding each position, we are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide greater benefits to athletes. As parents, when your child becomes involved in our programs, 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 a Coach

1. Expectations and Goals for the season
2. Location and times of all practices and contests.
3. Team requirements: special equipment, strength and conditioning programs, etc.
4. Procedures to be followed in case of an injury or emergency.
5. Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions.

### Communication Coaches expect from athletes/parents

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach, and preferably by the athlete themselves as a first level of inquiry.
2. Notification of any schedule conflict in advance.
3. Notification of illness or injury as soon as possible.

As your child becomes involved in the athletic programs in our District, he/she will experience some of the most rewarding moments of his/her life. It is important to understand that there are times things do not always go the way you or your child wish. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged. It is first and most integral step to understanding and resolution.

### Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches

1. The treatment of your child.
2. Ways to help your child improve.
3. Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept that your child may not be playing as much as you hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgement decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all student-athletes involved. We believe there are certain things that can be 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 coaches

1. Playing time
2. Team strategy
3. Play calling
4. Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and player or coach and parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important that all parties involved have an understanding of the others position, as well as knowledge of this document and the objectives for the level of competition. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedures should be followed to help promote resolution to the issues of concern.

1. Contact coach to arrange an appointment.
2. If coach can't be reached call athletic director who can also arrange meeting for you.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a practice or contest. These can be emotional times for both the parent and coach. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive resolutions.
4. If resolution can't be reached next step is to meet with athletic director and administrator at your child's school.

**Objectives for the CKSD Athletic Programs by Competition Level**

Similar objectives exist across all interscholastic programs in CKSD., Character Development, Skill Development, Participation and Winning present the four major areas for consideration. The priority of importance shifts from level to level. Because physical, emotional, developmental and maturity needs for student athletes at each level vary and change over time, it is important to be responsive to each need at each stage of competition and maturity. **Coaches are expected to adhere to these principles.**

Winning should never be the only basis for participation, even at the highest levels of interscholastic competition. For the purposes of definition, each of the following goals and objectives are listed below:

- *Participation: The amount of involvement (playing time) a student has participated in a contest.*
- *Character Development: Those qualities of a positive self-concept, a sense of responsibility, attitude, sportsmanship, loyalty, and cooperation, associated with teamwork. Aligned with the idea of Character, Commitment, and Competition.*
- *Skill Development: The learning and mastery of the skills of the particular sport or activity.*
- *Winning: Achieving victory against opponents.*

HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS	MIDDLE SCHOOL SPORTS
<u>High School “Varsity” Teams:</u>  1. Character Development 2. Winning 3. Skill Development 4. Participation	<u>Middle School “Varsity” Teams</u>  1. Character Development 2. Skill Development 3. Participation 4. Winning
<u>High School “JV” Teams:</u>  1. Character Development 2. Skill Development 3. Participation 4. Winning	<u>Middle School “JV” Teams:</u>  1. Character Development 2. Participation 3. Skill Development 4. Winning
<u>High School “C” Teams:</u>  1. Character Development 2. Skill development 3. Participation 4. Winning	