

## *Central Kitsap High School Parent/Coach Communication*

### **PARENT/COACH RELATIONS**

Both parenting and coaching are extremely challenging and rewarding responsibilities. By establishing an understanding of each role, we are better able to accept and support the actions of the other and provide better support to student-athletes. As parents when your daughter or son 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 of your child's program.

### **COMMUNICATION PARENTS CAN EXPECT FROM THE COACH**

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectations the coach has for your child as well as all the players on the squad.
- Locations and times of all practices and contests.
- Team requirements, i.e. fees, special equipment, off-season conditioning.
- Procedure should your child be injured during participation.
- Discipline that results in the denial of your student-athlete's participation.
- Any specific dress and grooming requirements that a coach may expect.

### **COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS**

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
- Specific concern in regard to a coach's expectations.

As your student-athlete becomes involved in the programs of the Central Kitsap School District they will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way you or your child wish. At these times

### **APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES AS WELL AS ISSUES NOT APPROPRIATE**

- The treatment of your child, mentally and physically.
- Ways to help your child improve both athletically and academically which may lead to more playing time.
- Concerns about your child's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your student-athlete's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches are professionals. They make judgments based on what they believe to be the best for the entire team and all students involved. As you have seen from the list above certain things can be and should be discussed with your student-athlete's coach. Other things, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

Part of the growth experience of the student-athlete is accepting the team concept. Student-athletes are often able to resolve conflicts that may arise between coaches and themselves, before parent intervention. This type of positive behavior between coaches and student-athletes is vital to the success of any athletic program.

***While we always encourage appropriate communication the following would be inappropriate:***

- Playing time only
- Team strategy which includes play calling, substitution patterns, offenses run as well as defensive strategy
- Other student-athletes

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 one another's position. When these conferences are necessary, the following procedure should be followed to help promote a resolution to the issue of concern.

### **PROCEDURES TO FOLLOW IF YOU HAVE A CONCERN TO DISCUSS WITH A COACH**

- Call or e-mail the appropriate school to set up an appointment with the coach.
- If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director. They will facilitate a meeting date and time for you.
- Meetings that are confrontational before and after any contest or practice are counter productive. Any parent meeting with a coach should be private and well thought out. A phone call or an e-mail will be the appropriate mode of communication to set up an appointment when an issue arises. Inappropriate e-mails are not acceptable and do not promote positive working relationships between coaches and parents.

**WHAT CAN A PARENT DO IF THE MEETING WITH THE COACH DID NOT PROVIDE A SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION**

- Call and set up an appointment with the Athletic Director to discuss the situation.
- At this meeting the appropriate next step can be determined.

Since research indicates a student involved in co-curricular activities has a greater chance for success during adulthood, these programs have been established. Many of the character traits required to be a successful participant are exactly those that will promote a successful life after high school. We hope the information provided within this pamphlet make both your child's and your experience with the Central Kitsap School District Athletic Programs less stressful and more enjoyable.

***Thank you for your continued support in CKHS activities!***