



Blazer Parent–Coach Communication



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 benefit to our student-athletes. As parents, when your son becomes involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations are placed on him. This begins with clear communication from the coach of your son's program.

Communication you should expect from your son's coach:

1. Philosophy of the program.
2. Expectations the coach has for your son as well as all the players on the squad.
3. Location and times of all practices and contests—that will be given to your son.
4. Procedure followed should your son be injured during participation.
5. Discipline that may result in the denial of your son's participation.

Communication coaches expect from parents:

1. Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
2. Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance.
3. Specific concerns with regard to a coach's philosophy and expectations.

As your son becomes involved in the program at N.E.W. Lutheran High School 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 son wish. At these times discussion with the coach is encouraged.

Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:

1. The treatment of your son, mentally and physically.
2. Ways to help your son improve.
3. Concerns about your son's behavior.

It is very difficult to accept your son's not playing as much as you may hope. Coaches will make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all players involved. As you have seen from the list above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your son'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 the parent. These are to be encouraged. 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 or concern.

Procedures to discuss a concern with a coach:

1. Call to set up an appointment.
2. If the coach cannot be reached, call the athletic director to schedule an appointment.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both parents and the coach. Meeting of this nature does not promote resolution.

The next step....

What can a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide a satisfactory resolution:

1. Call and set up an appointment with the athletic director to discuss the situation.

Our coaching staff sincerely hopes that the information provided in this section will help make your son's and your experience with the N.E.W. Lutheran Blazer Basketball Program less stressful and more enjoyable. God Bless.