

IF YOU HAVE A
CONCERN TO DISCUSS
WITH A COACH-
PLEASE FOLLOW THE PROCEDURE
BELOW.

1. Call the coach and request a time to meet.
2. If unsuccessful, call the School's Athletic Director and request for a meeting to be arranged.
3. Please do not attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for the parent, athlete, and coach. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote positive outcomes.

THE NEXT STEP

What can the parent do if the meeting with the coach does not provide a satisfactory resolution?

1. Call the school's Athletic director to discuss the situation.
2. Call the Principal for guidance regarding the next step.
3. Initiate a written complaint to the Athletic committee.

PARENT CODE OF
CONDUCT

- Make sure your child understands that win or lose, you love him or her.
- Be realistic about our child's athletic ability.
- Help your child set realistic goals.
- Emphasize "improved performance," not just winning at all costs.
- Control your emotions at games and events
- Be a "cheerleader" for your child and other children on the team.
- Respect your child's coaches. Communicate with them in a positive way. Encourage others to do the same.
- Be a positive role model.
- Be sensible, responsible, and keep your priorities in order. There is a lot more at stake than a win or a loss.

**Sportsmanship begins with
respect for yourself and others.**

**St. Patrick
Catholic School**

Department of Athletics



**Parent/Coach
Communication
Guide**

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Parent/Coach Relationship

Both parenting and coaching can be quite trying at times. By understanding and respecting the position of both parents and coaches, children are better served through their experience in athletics. Clear communication between parents and coaches can help both understand the positive experience that can be gained from participating in athletics.

COMMUNICATION YOU SHOULD EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

- Philosophy of the coach.
- Expectations and goals the coach has for your child as well as for the team/season.
- Location and times of all practices and games.
- Team requirements, special equipment, strength and conditioning programs.
- Procedure if your child is injured during participation.
- Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions.
- Awards for participation in athletics.
- Team selection process.

COMMUNICATION COACHES EXPECT FROM PARENTS

- Concerns expressed directly to the coach.
- Notification of any schedule conflicts in advance.
- Notification of any illness or injury in a timely manner.

As your child becomes involved in athletics at St. Patrick School, he or she will experience some of the most rewarding moments in his/her life. It is important to understand that there also may be times when things do not go the way your child wishes. At these times, discussion with the coach is encouraged. It is the first and most important step in a mutual understanding.

APPROPRIATE CONCERNS TO DISCUSS WITH COACHES

1. The coach's interaction with your child.
2. Ways to help your child improve athletic skills.
3. Concerns about your child's interaction with others.

COACHES ARE EDUCATORS FIRST AND FOREMOST

As a parent it is sometimes difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you wish. Coaches are educators who make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for all student-athletes and the educational goals of St. Patrick School. Certain concerns are appropriate to discuss with your child's coach. Other areas, such as those listed below, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

- Playing time
- Team strategy
- Play calling
- Other student-athletes

There are situations that may require a conference between the coach and a player, or coach and parent. These conferences are encouraged. It is important that all parties involved have a clear understanding of the other.