

Parent to Coach Communication Guide

How do I discuss a concern with the coach?

Call the coach to set up an appointment.

If the coach cannot be reached, call the Athletic Director, Jay Kirby at 304-725-8491, extension 6022. He will set up the meeting for you and the coach.

Please **DO NOT** attempt to confront a coach before or after a contest or practice. These can be emotional times for both the parent and the coach. Meetings of this nature usually do not promote a positive resolution.

Please use the 24 HOUR RULE.

THE NEXT STEP

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.

What concerns are appropriate to discuss with the coaching staff?

Treatment of your child.

Ways to help your child improve.

Concerns about your child's behavior.

It may be difficult to accept that your child is not playing as much as you expect. Coaches are professionals. They make decisions based on what they believe to be the best for the team and for all student-athletes involved. As stated above, certain things can be and should be discussed with your child's coach. Other concerns, must be left to the discretion of the coach.

What concerns are inappropriate concerns to discuss with coaches?

Playing Time.

Team strategy.

Play selection.

Other student-athletes.

WE ARE THEIR ROLE MODELS!

The critical factor in determining whether your child has a positive experience is the quality of their adult leaders – their parent and coach.

PARENT – COACH RELATIONSHIP

Both parenting and coaching are extremely difficult roles. By establishing an understanding of each role, we are better able to accept the actions of each other and provide a greater benefit to our children. Parents, when your child becomes involved in our program, you have the right to understand what expectations will be placed on your child. This begins with clear communications from the coach of your program.

COMMUNICATIONS TO EXPECT FROM YOUR CHILD'S COACH

1. Team requirements, special equipment, strength and conditioning programs.
2. Procedure if your child is injured during participation.
3. Game/practice schedule and updates.
4. Team rules, guidelines and consequences for infractions.
5. Team selection process.

COMMUNICATIONS COACHES EXPECT FROM ATHLETES/PARENTS

1. Any concerns expressed **DIRECTLY** to the coach.
2. Advance notification of any schedule conflicts.
3. Advanced notification of illness or injury – when possible.

It is the goal of everyone that each Jefferson High School student-athlete will experience some of the most rewarding moments of their lives. It is important to understand that there may be times when things do not go the way you and your child wish. When this occurs, discussion with the coach is encouraged. It is the first and most integral step to understanding and resolution.